

Indiana Oral Health Coalition (IOHC) Minutes
Friday, March 8, 2013
Hosted by the
Indiana State Department of Health

Mission: The IOHC is a collective voice of individuals, groups, organizations, and businesses working together to promote, protect and provide for the oral health of the residents of Indiana.

PRESENT:

Frances Brooks
Diana Buyer
Toni Elzy
Chuck Gillespie
Art Logsdon
Hannah Maxey
James Miller
Patty Morris

Ed Popcheff
Holli Seabury
Armando Soto-Rojas
Brenda Valliere
Roger Valliere
William VanNess

WELCOME

Dr. Buyer, Chair IOHC opened the meeting at 10:11 a.m. welcoming everyone and thanking them for coming.

She introduced Dr. Jim Miller, Vice-chairman. Then she allowed everyone to introduce themselves and who they represented.

REVIEW MINUTES

Dr. Buyer asked if there was a motion to accept the minutes from the last meeting. A motion and second were offered and the Indiana Oral Health Coalition minutes for the December 7, 2012, meeting were approved as submitted by a unanimous voice vote.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. James Miller made the following announcements:

- He is interviewing candidates for the position of the Oral Health Educator.
- The Indiana Oral Health Plan is now published on the government website under "State Plans".
- The recent IOHC election for Chair and Vice-Chair resulted in keeping Dr. Buyer and Dr. Miller in their respective positions for two more years (2013-2015).

BUSINESS MEETING

Old Business:

- Dr. Buyer reported that when Virginia Hudson was asked what calculation the state uses to determine whether a county does not have enough dental providers, Dr. Hudson answered that according to the HRSA website, the threshold is 3,000 citizens to one dentist.

There was a group discussion and disagreement about this ratio. Hannah Maxey has been working with the Bowen Research Center and the School of Medicine and reported that data on this ratio is now available thru their website. She will send a link to everyone when it is published in April. She is also working to update the statewide dental database that is sent to HRSA for shortage designation activities, as well. Ms. Maxey reported the Dental HPSA underserved ratio is 5,000 citizens to one dentist and as for Medicaid providers, they actually look at the percent of the dental practice that serve Medicaid patients or they go by client counts.

New Business:

- Dr. Buyer reported that I.U. Hospitals is pulling all soda, sport drinks, and juices from their vending machines starting with Riley. She is trying to persuade the Dental School to do the same.
- Ed Popcheff shared his concerns over the future of adult dental care if Senate Bill 551 is passed. It contains language that concerning the Affordable Care Act for adult oral health care that could adversely impact the access of low-income adults to dental care.
- Mr. Popcheff also reported that the pathway for a DDS graduate to pursue licensure from an unaccredited institution can now be achieved after completion of specific exams.

INTRODUCTIONS OF DISTINGUISHED GUESTS

Dr. Buyer introduced Dr. Bill VanNess, the new State Health Commissioner and Art Logsdon, the new Assistant Health Commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission.

Dr. VanNess presented his biography and medical experience. His biggest challenge now is reducing infant mortality in Indiana. Indiana has higher infant mortality than most states and ranks 47th out of the 50 states. He is trying to bring different coalitions together to help work on this challenge. He wants to involve IOHC in educating citizens in Indiana about the risk factors during pregnancy such as prenatal smoking, drinking, and taking drugs. His plans are to find out where the biggest risks are by county and then to build coalitions in those high risk areas to educate the community.

Art Logsdon is the new Assistant Commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission. Mr. Logsdon said that he plans to include IOHC in their efforts to prevent infant mortality. He spoke about his responsibilities over the Health and Human Services Commission that include: the Children's Special Health Care Services division, the Women's Health division, the Minority Health division, the Women, Infant and Children (WIC) division, the Trauma and Injury Prevention division, the Chronic Disease division, the Maternal and Child Health division and the Oral Health program.

TOPIC 1-Delta Dental Foundation Community Mini-Grant Project Results

Dr. Miller reported the results of a pilot project on the surveillance of the oral health status of children in three local communities in Indiana that was funded by the Delta Dental Foundation. The Oral Health Program collaborated with three pediatric dentists in these communities selected a sample of the dental records of eight and nine years old children in their practices and abstracted these records. These practices were in Hamilton, Hendricks, and Marion counties. In total, the dental records of 550 children were abstracted.

Dr. Miller is working on another project to collect statewide data on the oral health status of children, the *Survey of the Oral Health and BMI Status of 3rd Grade Children in Indiana*. This survey will start in the summer.

TOPIC 2 - Brush: A New Literacy Based Program for Preschooler and Parents

Holli Seabury, CEO for the McMillen Center for Health Education serves Fort Wayne, Indiana and the surrounding areas. Their program covers preschoolers to senior citizens.

Their *Brush* program focuses on the dental care for children in the preschool years. They teach the children, teachers, and the parents how to brush the child's teeth, wash their hands, and eat well. The goal of this program is not exclusive to low income children. She plans to educate preschools and their teachers on the importance of establishing a daily habit of dental hygiene, nutrition, and regular dental visits among their students to get kids ready to start school and ready to learn without the adverse effects of dental decay. They are trying to change the health status for preschoolers by providing the parents with educational materials and a monthly newsletter. Their newsletters come in Spanish and English and are reinforced in simple words.

Ms. Seabury stated that the primary teeth are important to a child's development. The front teeth are needed to speak properly and to chew healthy foods. Tooth decay is painful and can affect the permanent teeth underneath. Dr. Miller added that if

baby teeth are extracted, it can impact the way that teeth erupt and the need for orthodontic care.

Ms. Seabury said that although dental professionals recommend that children see a dentist by age one, a lot of dentists will not see children under five years old. This is a huge issue with access to care. Dr. Miller added that the current curriculum at IU Dental School includes training students how to perform dental examinations on one year olds. Basically, dentists decide whether to provide or not provide these examinations after they are in practice.

Ms Seabury suggests a dental sheet be included in the well-baby package. The regular physician visits for the first five years could include talks about the eruption of teeth, brushing, dental decay, and sealants.

The McMillen Center Health Education has written a children's book about brushing teeth. Ms. Seabury explained that each page contains something educational material and there are parental prompts in the back of the book to help the parents educate their children about oral health and the importance of routine dental care.

She also reported how their *Family Table Project* promote families eating meals together because research shows that this improves family bonding and that families that are bonded take better care of their children. Also, a regular bedtime routine should include tooth brushing and getting enough sleep.

There is a direct link between dental health and school success.

ADJOURNMENT

There were no other updates and so the meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

May 17, 2013 @ 2:00 p.m., at the IDA Annual Session,
Hyatt, Room-Studio Five

Future IOHC Meetings

September 6, 2013 @ 10:00 AM Rice Auditorium, ISDH
December 6, 2013 @ 10:00 AM Rice Auditorium, ISDH