



## GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING

### SOCIAL, HEALTH & ALZHEIMER'S COMMITTEE (SHAC) ORAL HEALTH SUB COMMITTEE (OHSC) MEETING MINUTES November 18, 2010

#### **Council Members & Committee Participants Present**

In attendance: Dr. Bob Birdwell OHSC Co-Chair, Larry Clausen, Mary Cosaboom, Steve Laughary. Participating telephonically: Michelle Barth, Susan Cypert, and Emma Violante.

#### **Council Members Not Participating**

Kati Bates, George Evanoff, Bernadine Hoffman, Noreen Nickerson-Cruz.

#### **Council Staff Present**

Cathy De Lisa

#### **Welcome, Introductions**

Sub-Committee Co-Chair Dr. Bob Birdwell opened the meeting at 2:31 pm.

#### **Review, Discussion & Refinement of Year Two Work Plan Goals & Objectives**

Dr. Birdwell opened the discussion and suggested the group might:

- determine what Year Two goals and objectives are still feasible; which should be placed on hold or suspended
- determine which Year Two goals and objectives will be short term (within three-to-six months) or long term (within one year)
- be ready to provide the Council on Aging with a report on the intended actions of the Sub-Committee in 2011 for their December Planning Meeting.

Recently-completed objectives of Goal 1 discussed were the oral health fact sheet, *Healthy Smiles Forever*, the updating of the Reduced Fee and AHCCCS Dental Clinic resource list and the development of a survey and cover letter by the Arizona Dental Foundation that will be distributed as outreach to Arizona's dental schools, dental hygiene programs, medical and nursing schools, skilled nursing, assisted living centers and other related programs. The delay in distribution of the survey and cover letter has been related to ensuring accuracy according to Dr. Birdwell.

After discussion, it was determined by general consensus that:

- Under Goal #1 and Goal #2, Objectives 1.1, 1.2 and Objective 2.2 would be combined.
- Under Goal #2 and Goal 3, Objectives 2.1, 2.5, and Objective 3.1 would be combined.
- Small work groups would be established to develop then recommend action steps for these combined objectives to the Sub-Committee; this will be accomplished early in the New Year.

### **Ideas on additional objectives or strategies or refinement to Three-Year Work Plan**

Dr. Birdwell and members of the Sub-Committee discussed ideas related to refinement of the Three-Year Work Plan, and it was suggested that the Sub-Committee identify the Plan's target population as vulnerable adults. The general consensus was that the Sub-Committee would be able to narrow the scope of work and focus on those at highest risk. Vulnerable adults would include frail seniors as well as developmentally, physically and mentally disabled adults. With the focus on vulnerable adults, other ideas for refinement of the Work Plan included:

- Goal #1, Objective 1.1 – Promote free-to-affordable dental care.
  - A.2 - change to focus on those who are vulnerable adults and at highest risk,
  - A.3 - invite the associations and foundations that serve most vulnerable adults to partner in achieving mutual goals, and
  - C. - consider targeting donated care for most vulnerable (example: those with AHCCCS card)
- Goal #1, Objective 1.2 – Foster early intervention and treatment of problems associated with oral hygiene.
  - A.1 – work group will consider best way to develop cost-effective awareness program on use of fluoride varnish to help stop/reverse decay at root/gum of vulnerable adults.
- Goal #2, Objective 2.2 – Facilitate oral health education opportunities for caregivers of older adults.
  - A – oral health education materials gathered would include materials specific to vulnerable populations
- Goal #2, 2.1 and 2.5 – with focus on vulnerable adults, work group would analyze information gathered from survey of Arizona's dental schools, dental hygiene programs, medical and nursing schools, skilled nursing, assisted living centers and other related programs then recommend action steps based on education and promotional/marketing efforts and opportunities already available.
- Goal #3 – Advocate for federal, state and local efforts on oral health issues affecting vulnerable adults
  - B – request that LPCC continue to monitor legislation, policies, programs and community actions affecting vulnerable adults related to oral health and establish a legislative work group within the Oral Health Sub-Committee, if needed, to support LPCC.

Additional ideas for objectives discussed included participation and/or support of veterans through the 2011 Stand Down event and other community outreach that includes dental care for vulnerable adults such as Mission of Mercy. It was suggested that the Sub-Committee might find ways to inform dental care professionals about the work of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging through articles in state-wide professional journals and newsletters.

### **Report back for the Advisory Council on Aging December 2010 Annual Planning Meeting**

The group discussed asking the Council to support continued momentum of the Oral Health Sub-Committee through the Three-Year Work Plan. Cathy De Lisa will report to the Council on the ideas for refinement of the Year Two goals and objectives as well as additional objectives or strategies or refinement to Three-Year Work Plan as outlined.

**2011 Council meeting schedule**

Cathy De Lisa distributed the 2011 Council on Aging meeting dates as approved by the Council Chair. A copy of that list is available through the Council on Aging office.

**Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 3:52 p.m. by Sub-Committee Co-Chair, Dr. Bob Birdwell.

**Next Meeting:**

The Oral Health Sub-Committee will join the Social, Health & Alzheimer's Committee on Thursday, January 6, 2011 at 2:30 p.m. Location to be confirmed and announced via public meeting notice on the Advisory Council on Aging's website: [www.azgovernor.gov/gaca](http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca) . These meetings are open to the public.