



## GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING

### SOCIAL, HEALTH & ALZHEIMER'S COMMITTEE (SHAC) ORAL HEALTH SUB COMMITTEE (OHSC) MEETING MINUTES March 17, 2011

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

In attendance: Dr. Bob Birdwell OHSC Co-Chair, Mary Busch, Mary Cosaboom, Ginger Froncek, Steve Laughary, Emma Violante, Julia Wacloff.

Participating telephonically: Bernadine Hoffman, Michelle Barth, Larry Clausen, and Jay Crosby.

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

Kati Bates, George Evanoff, Anne Morrison, Noreen Nickerson-Cruz, Allison Perrin.

#### **Council Staff Present**

Cathy De Lisa

#### **Guest**

Denise McDonald, Patti Taylor

#### **Welcome, Introductions**

Sub-Committee Co-Chair Dr. Bob Birdwell opened the meeting at 2:35 pm. Dr. Birdwell shared his decision to resign from duties as Sub-Committee Co-Chair following the meeting due to work responsibilities, time commitments and scheduling then thanked the group for supporting his leadership and stated he would remain involved, as able. Members of the Committee and Council staff thanked him for his leadership.

#### **Updates from last Oral Health Sub-Committee & SHAC Meeting**

- *Posting of Healthy Smiles Forever oral health fact sheet and other vetted oral health links and resources* - Julia Wacloff reported that she had collected the oral health resource information received and submitted for approval, and once approved; it will be posted on an Adult & Senior Oral Health page at the Department of Health Service website. According to Ms. Wacloff, two resources needing further review included the link to the United Way of Tucson oral health materials (link not working) and the updated Reduced Fee Dental Clinic list. Following discussion, Ginger Froncek offered to make updates to the Reduce Fee Dental Clinics list which she has provided as a courtesy of the Arizona Dental Foundation and send to the Council staff for distribution to the Sub-Committee.
- *Discussion of incentives for dental health providers* – Mary Busch introduced Denise McDonald, Director of Continuing Dental Education at Arizona School of Dentistry and Oral Health who provided a handout and discussed research she had done to determine if the incentive of continuing education units might be provided for those donating dental

services as part of recognition from the Governor's Office on Aging and Governor's Advisory Council on Aging. According to Ms. McDonald, 24 continuing dental education credits per tri-annual licensure could be obtained for dental, dental hygiene, or denturists services in a Board-recognized charitable dental clinic or organization including service in a private office. Requirements include: 1.) service must offered as total contribution, 2.) patient information and contact hours (one credit per one contact hour) would need to be recorded, tracked and available for review, 3.) any online continuing education would be counted as part of the 24 hour maximum per tri-annual licensure. While donated service opportunities are widespread in the large metropolitan areas, Committee members stated this incentive and recognition might help promote donation of services to vulnerable populations in rural areas or provide an option for those dental care providers less inclined to pay for online courses. Potential partners with the capacity to promote the incentive, offer the credits, and gather, track and maintain the required records were discussed. Cited as a win-win situation and an opportunity to offer palliative care versus restorative care for vulnerable adults, the group, by general consensus, agreed to explore potential partnerships at the next Sub-Committee meeting. A copy of the handout provided by Ms. McDonald is available for review through the Council on Aging office.

- *Promotion of oral health training for older adults/caregivers* – Mary Busch introduced Patti Taylor, Program Manager for the Greater Valley Area Health Education Center (GVAHEC) who provided an overview of the students and the type of projects being done through five AHEC sites around the state. Ms. Taylor provided examples of ways AHEC and the students might assist with the Oral Health Work Plan Year Two goals and objectives.
- *Advocating for oral health workshop/caregiver training at Lifespan Respite conference in November 2011*- Council member Bernadine Hoffman agreed to explore with David Besst at the Division of Aging and Adult Services how oral health training and education might be a part of the November 2011 conference activities.
- *Report back on Preliminary Caregiver Training Survey responses* – Ginger Froncek and Dr. Birdwell provided an update on the responses received from the Preliminary Caregiver Training Survey. Further review indicated schools and organizations willing to consider students in training and education of caregivers and vulnerable adults are those currently engaged in activities of service to the community.

### **Completion of Year Two Goals & Objectives Review -**

**Goal #1** Improve the oral health of older/vulnerable adults.

#### **Objectives:**

- Promote free to affordable dental care.
- Foster early intervention and treatment of problems associated with oral hygiene.
- Facilitate oral health education opportunities for caregivers of older/vulnerable adults.

Members of the group agreed by general consensus that strategies and actions steps for the objective should focus on efforts to:

1. Offer incentives for donation of time and service by dentists and hygienists to provide care for older adults/vulnerable adults at highest risk.
2. Update and distribute the Reduced Fee Dental Clinic list.

**Goal #2** Increase access to educational opportunities on oral health for target populations, service providers, and the community.

**Objectives:**

- Promote seminars, workshops and conference on oral health.
- Increase promotion and marketing efforts surrounding oral health for older/vulnerable adults.

Members of the group cited educational opportunities created by new partnerships and venues such as the national conference as ways to achieve Goal # 2 objectives. The group agreed by general consensus to continue to assemble vetted links and resources and provide them to Julia Wacloff for inclusion on the Adult & Senior Oral Health page of the DHS websites.

**Goal #3** Advocate for federal, state and local efforts on oral health issues affecting vulnerable adults.

**Objective:** 3.1 Monitor, evaluate and comment on legislation, policies, programs, funding, hearings and community actions.

While the group did not outline specific steps for the objective, the discussion centered on the importance of monitoring legislation.

**Next SHAC meeting**

Cathy De Lisa reminded the Sub-Committee members that the next SHAC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 5, 2011 at 2:30 p.m. The location will be announced by public meeting notice.

**Announcements**

- Mary Cosaboom announced the *Thinking Out of the Box #1* continuing education program sponsored by the Arizona State Dental Hygienist's Association on March 25, 2011 from 9 am to 4 pm at the La Quinta Inn North, 2510 W. Greenway Road, Phoenix.

**Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 4:02 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, May 5, 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.