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Member Newsletter



Coalition News

2011 Legislative Action Day

Focus on Adult Dental, Healthy Kids Dental and Prevention

After the release of Governor Rick Snyder's FY 2012 executive budget, a week has not gone by without the sight or anticipation of protestors in Lansing. In the Governor's budget, Medicaid eligibility, provider reimbursement rates and optional services (including adult dental) have been preserved. Governor Snyder's budget also included a number of controversial changes that are not going quickly through the Republican-controlled House and Senate.

Thank you to those 40 Coalition members who came to Lansing March 15 for Legislative Action Day.

Our featured speaker was former Senator Tony Stamas, who currently serves as the Department of Community Health's legislative liaison. At the event, Senator Stamas received the Coalition's Oral Health Champion Award for his leadership in restoring adult dental and expanding Healthy Kids Dental.



Through scheduled visits and the Legislative Luncheon, the Coalition met with 59 legislators/staff. Thank you to the Legislative Workgroup which includes Andrea Goodwin, Chair, Community Living Services; Rick Lantz, Delta Dental; Carol Lutey, Mott Children's Health Center; Mary Middleton, Cassopolis Family Clinic; Charlyss Brandon, Michigan Department of Community Health; Lisa Darrow, Michigan Dental Hygienists Association, and Don Trobuly, Great Expressions Dental Centers for their efforts in planning the day.

Coalition Testifies on Medicaid Budget

More Advocacy Needed

Last month, both the Senate and House Appropriations Subcommittees on Community Health held hearings on the Medicaid budget. Member Cheryl Gildner, Ingham County Health Department and Karlene Ketola, executive director testified on behalf of the Coalition. For a copy of the testimony, please email kketola@mohc.org.

April 1, 2011

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Upcoming Events

April 29, 2011
12 to 1 p.m.

Severe Mental Illness
and Oral
Health Webinar

May 20, 2011
12 to 1 p.m.

Xylitol Update
Webinar

Coalition members are encouraged to contact these Subcommittee members and ask for their continued support in maintaining Medicaid Adult Dental and Healthy Kids Dental as recommended in the Executive Budget.

[Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Community Health](#)

Senator John Moolenaar, Chair
 Senator Bruce Caswell
 Senator Darwin Booher
 Senator Vincent Gregory

[House Appropriations Subcommittee on Community Health](#)

Rep. Matt Lori, Chair
 Rep. Peter MacGregor
 Rep. David Agema
 Rep. Robert Genetski
 Rep. Rashida Tlaib
 Rep. Joan Bauer

2011 Check-Up on Oral Health: A County Profile Coalition Releases New Report

Oral health is essential to overall health and quality of life. Left untreated, dental diseases can result in infection and severe pain, an inability to perform daily activities, and in very rare cases, death. In 2008, more than 1,000 Michigan residents were hospitalized due to emergency conditions related to the teeth and jaw—all of these considered avoidable hospitalizations.



The "2011 Michigan Check-Up on Oral Health: A Michigan County Profile" outlines key economic and oral health indicators for each Michigan county. The [Report](#) covers the demographics of each county's population, dental providers and the dramatic need of the uninsured and Medicaid enrollees. To order a book for \$28, click [here](#).

Coalition Education Calendar

Opportunities to Learn, Network and Earn CEs

The Michigan Oral Health Coalition offers monthly opportunities for members to learn, network and earn CEs. Mark your calendar for our next course scheduled April 29 from 12 to 1 p.m. via webinar. Participate from the comfort of your office or gather your team in a conference room--no travel required!

Upcoming Education Events

Severe Mental Illness and Oral Health: Schizophrenia, Bipolar, Depression
 April 29, 12 to 1 p.m.
 Webinar | [Register Now](#)

Xylitol Update
 May 20, 12 to 1 p.m.
 Webinar | Registration Materials forthcoming

June 9-10, 2011
 Annual Conference
 Lexington Hotel
 Lansing

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 Michigan*

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Karlene Ketola
Executive Director
*Michigan Oral
 Health Coalition*

2011 Annual Conference
June 9-10
Lexington Hotel, Lansing

Do you have an idea for an upcoming course or an interest in teaching? Would your organization like to collaborate with us, then contact Karlene Ketola, executive director at 517.827.0466.

State News

Michigan Developmental Disabilities Council Coalition Member Receives Trailblazer Grantee Award

The Michigan Developmental Disabilities Council has awarded Community Living Services the prestigious Trailblazer Grantee Award for its Smiles Across Michigan project. The project initially provided dental screenings to persons with disabilities. In later years, the project employed an advocacy component. People with disabilities attended trainings where they learned how to write letters and role play on how to talk with legislators. Coalition member Andrea Goodwin, the project's director, encouraged participants to use this strategy when advocating for all issues in their life.



Michigan Board of Dentistry Upcoming 2011 Meeting Dates

The Michigan Board of Dentistry was originally formed in 1919 to regulate the practice of dentistry, dental hygiene and the authorization of dental assistants. Today, the Michigan Board of Dentistry consists of 19 voting members: 8 dentists, 2 dental specialists, 4 hygienists, 2 registered dental assistants, and 3 public members. The Board currently oversees the practice of approximately 7,830 dentists (1,095 dental specialists), 10,103 hygienists and 1,400 dental assistants.

Meeting Dates

April 14 (10 a.m.), Ottawa Building, 611 West Ottawa Street, Lansing
June 9 (10 a.m.), Ottawa Building, 611 West Ottawa Street, Lansing
August 11 (10 a.m.), Ottawa Building, 611 West Ottawa Street, Lansing
October 13 (10 a.m.), Ottawa Building, 611 West Ottawa Street, Lansing
December 8 (10 a.m.), Ottawa Building, 611 West Ottawa Street, Lansing

National News

New Arkansas Law Requires Fluoridation In Water Systems Serving more than 5,000

The Arkansas Governor Mike Beebe signed a community water fluoridation bill into law March 4, which will bring its proven health benefits to more than 148,000 Arkansas residents. The law expands community water fluoridation to all Arkansas communities with at least 5,000 residents. The Delta Dental Foundation in Arkansas has committed to

funding the equipment/capital costs that communities would otherwise incur to begin fluoridating.

Top 5 Things to Know About Medicaid

From Kaiser Family Foundation

The Kaiser Family Foundation's Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured has added a chartpack called [Top 5 Things to Know About Medicaid](#) to its many resources about how the Medicaid program works and who it serves.

The five things, presented in detail in the slides, include:

1. Medicaid is an integral part of the health care system;
2. Medicaid spending is driven by enrollment growth and by spending for seniors and individuals with disabilities;
3. Medicaid brings in federal revenue to states and helps create jobs;
4. Medicaid increases access to care using private providers;
5. The Medicaid expansion in health reform is projected to reduce the ranks of the uninsured by millions of people with the federal government picking up the vast majority of the cost.

Also newly available is the short paper, Key Questions About Medicaid and Its Role in State/Federal Budgets and Health Reform, which summarizes key issues about Medicaid, including the structure, financing and purpose of the Medicaid program, its role in the federal budget and state budgets, and how the significant expansion of the program under health reform is expected to work.

Proposed HHS Fluoridation Recommendation

Comment Period Extended to April 15

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has extended the comment period for a proposed recommendation that community water systems adjust the amount of fluoride in drinking water to 0.7 mg/L to provide the best balance of protection from dental caries while limiting the risk for dental fluorosis. The comment period on the proposed recommendation has been extended to April 15, 2011, 11:59 EST. The Federal Register notice of extension of comment period is available [here](#).

The proposed recommendation was published in the Federal Register on January 13, 2011, and is available [here](#).

New Children's Oral Health Data Available

ASTDD, CDC Release Basic Screening Survey Data On-line

The ASTDD and CDC announce availability of new children's data on prevalence of dental caries, untreated dental caries, and sealant prevalence has been posted to the National Oral Health Surveillance System (NOHSS), a collaborative surveillance system provided by the Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors (ASTDD) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

This release includes new data submitted by 13 states that conducted recent Basic Screening Surveys. States with data in this release include Arkansas, Arizona, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Nevada, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Virginia, and Washington. This is the first time that Minnesota and Virginia have submitted children's data to NOHSS; the other 11 states now have two or

more years of available data, permitting tracking of trends in children's oral health over time. The data can be viewed at <http://www.cdc.gov/nohss/>.

The Michigan Oral Health Coalition's mission is to improve oral health in Michigan by focusing on prevention, health promotion, oral health data, access and the link between oral health and overall health.

Michigan Oral Health Coalition

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