Governor’s Task Force On Children and Oral Health

MINUTES
JANUARY 30, 2009

On January 30, 2009, at 1:00 p.m., the Governor’s Task Force on Children and Oral Health met at the Oklahoma Dental Association building, 317 North East 13th Street, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73104. The following members were present:

(P) Richard Haught, D.D.S., Chairman
Dental Industry

(P) Sally Selvidge, Vice-Chair
Person with Special Knowledge on Children with Special Needs

(P) Representative Bill Nations, D.D.S.
House of Representatives

(P) Representative Doug Cox, M.D.
House of Representatives

(P) Monty Elder, Environmental Program Manager
Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality

(P) Barbara Sieck, Administrator
Department of Human Services

(P) Jana Winfree, D.D.S.
State Health Department

(P) Kristi Love, R.D.H.
State Health Department/Public Health Dental Hygienist

(P) Michael L. Morgan, D.D.S.
Public Health Dentist

(P) Leon Bragg, D.D.S.
Oklahoma Health Care Authority

(P) Krista Jones, D.D.S.
Dental Industry

(P) Rieger Wood, D.D.S.
Dental Industry

(P) Lisa Smith, Director
Commission on Children and Youth

(P) Kelly Sanders, R.D.H.
Private Dental Practice Hygienist

(P) Wavel Wells, D.D.S.
Pediatric Dentist

(P) Brian Molloy, D.D.S.
Pediatric Dentist
Ms. Linda Campbell, Director of the Oklahoma Board of Dentistry, was present as recording secretary. Ms. Dana Davis, Executive Director, Oklahoma Dental Association, was present to assist the Task Force with administrative needs. Ms. Gretchen Harris, Assistant Attorney General, was present to advise the Task Force on legal matters.

Observers to the meeting were:

- Dr. George Chiarchiaro, Indian Health Service
- Dr. Bob Smith, Indian Health Service
- Stephanie Casey, Delta Dental Plan
- Dr. Stephen K. Young, Dean, University of Oklahoma College of Dentistry
- Angela Craig, R.D.H., Oklahoma Dental Hygienists’ Association
- Jenny Nguyen, R.D.H., Oklahoma Dental Hygienists’ Association
- Karen Sehorn, Oklahoma Dental Hygienists’ Association
- Brent Wilborn, Director of Public Policy, Oklahoma Primary Care Association
- Greta Stewart, Executive Director, Oklahoma Primary Care Association
- Angie Dakin, Oklahoma Dental Hygienists’ Association
- Kay Floyd, Head Start

Dr. Richard Haught welcomed all present and commented on the focus of the Task Force and the two previous meetings. The Agenda was reviewed and provided.

The Minutes for the September 5, 2008 and October 31, 2008 Minutes were presented for approval. Dr. Mike Morgan moved to approve both documents as presented. Dr. Krista Jones seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Haught recognized Dr. Stephen K. Young, Dean, to address a proposed Pediatric residency at the University of Oklahoma College of Dentistry. Dr. Young advised a video conference had already taken place to discuss a recent endowment to the Tulsa program as a possible resource or an incentive to create a Pediatric residency thru the University of Oklahoma College of Dentistry, Tulsa annex. Dr. Young said another meeting is scheduled in March to explore the possibilities of a Pediatric residency program. Dr. Young said invitations would be extended to Dr. Malloy and others to ensure representation from the Task Force. Dr. Young ended by saying, as of this time there was no firm commitment to establish a residency program.

Dr. Mike Morgan presented “Recommendations for Including Dentistry in the Oklahoma Catastrophic Health Emergency Plan” for review. Dr. Morgan announced he, Dr. Jana Winfree and Dr. Krista Jones, had previously been appointed to serve on a work group to develop the plan for inclusion to the State plan. Dr. Jana Winfree disseminated a brochure about the “Oklahoma Medical Reserve Corp” and what you can do to help. Dr. Morgan pointed out dentists can do more than just “pull teeth”. Dr. Haught discussed the need for whether new
legislation is needed or if we can add the plan to rules and regulations. The work group agreed only a letter directed to the Chief, Emergency Preparedness & Response Service, Oklahoma State Department of Health, to request the plan be implemented would suffice. Dr. Haught asked for approval of the plan and authorization for him to send official letter(s) to all authorities. Dr. Krista Jones moved to approve the plan and the letter from the Task Force. Ms. Sally Selvidge seconded. After a roll call vote the motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Jana Winfree presented data on the fluoridation status of Oklahoma’s top fifty populous cities. Dr. Winfree, Oklahoma State Department of Health and Monty Elder representing the Department of Environmental Quality had gathered data as a work group previously assigned by the Task Force. The data revealed the percentage population of top fifty Oklahoma cities receiving optimal levels of fluoridation water was 81%. Recommendations were submitted to promote fluoridation of public water systems. Dr. George Chiarchiaro, Indian Health Service, discussed the assistance given to public water systems on Indian reservations.

Kay Floyd, Head Start Program, presented data on trends from 2003-2004 on enrollment and dental treatment. Dr. Chiarchiaro also presented data on the American Indian Head Start (pre-school) dental services. Members agreed the program had been successful. Dr. Haught said he was surprised by the statistics and publically thanked the dental community for the care provided.

Dr. Leon Bragg, Dental Services Specialist, Oklahoma Health Care Authority, addressed the Fiscal year 2008 statistics. Copies were presented reflecting county percentages for those eligible members participating. Dr. Bragg said Oklahoma is the number 1 state in recipients who received a dental service (56%). An annual report for the Oklahoma Health Care Authority was distributed. Dr. Bragg pointed out those who qualify for Medicaid and how Sooner Care is financed. Dr. Bragg said the Oklahoma Health Care Authority is expanding dental services.

Dr. Chiarchiaro and Ms. Kay Floyd commented on the Oklahoma Head Start model. Ms. Floyd said it should be understood that parents can opt out of the program. Ms. Floyd and Dr. Chiarchiaro agreed parent education is vital to establish a dental home. Ms. Davis discussed the “Adopt a Dentist” program and the need for mandatory dental screenings for children.

Greta Stewart, Executive Director, Oklahoma Primary Care Association, informed the Task Force about the twenty-eight qualified community health centers in Oklahoma and their locations. She said only ten sites offer dental care. Eighteen facilities contract for dental services or have patients seek treatment out of the county. Ms. Stewart said anyone can go to a health center for treatment. The fees are on a sliding scale. Each center does triage according to need. Dr. Haught appointed Ms. Stewart, Mr. Wilborn, Dr. Leon Bragg and Ms. Kelly Sanders, R.D.H. to serve on a work group to develop recommendations to implement in the final report. Dr. Haught asked for recommendations by March 13, 2009.
Ms. Davis presented the 2009 Legislative Agenda for Children, Youth and Families. It was noted the plan requires health education for grades 6-8. Dr. Morgan presented a survey conducted by the University of Oklahoma Colleges of Public Health and Dentistry, with funding from the Oklahoma State Department of Health, reflecting the statewide prevalence of total dental caries experience in Oklahoma for third graders is 71.5% which is higher than the year 2010 objective (42%). It was also noted the prevalence of active decay in Oklahoma (32.3%), defined as untreated caries in at least one permanent or primary tooth, is also higher than the year 2010 objective (21%). Additionally, the proportion of children with protective sealants is low in Oklahoma 39.7% compared to the year 2010 objective (50%). It was noted the Indian Health Service data is more than ten years old, but the Centers for Disease Control does have data the Task Force might want to secure.

Dr. Wavel Wells, a Pediatric Dentist from Lawton, Oklahoma, presented a power point on early childhood caries. Dr. Wells focused on prevention as the key. Early intervention by the first birthday is essential. Dr. Wells described how education to the parents and even the dental profession on how to do an adequate examination on a two year old is important. Dr. Wells said Oklahoma should promote fluoride varnish early and it would reduce caries significantly. Everyone agreed to a public campaign, or public service announcements, to focus on early childhood caries as a great tool to education. Dr. Haught announced he would appoint a work group to develop recommendations for the final report on early childhood caries. Dr. Haught appointed Dr. Wells, Dr. Reiger Wood, Ms. Kelly Sanders, and Ms. Kristi Love to the group. Dr. Haught asked for recommendations by the March 13, 2009 meeting.

Ms. Campbell announced a dental hygiene survey had been funded by the Oklahoma Board of Dentistry, but the survey results for existing volunteers including locations were developed and presented by the Dental Hygiene Advisory Committee, Chaired by Ms. Louenda Nesbit, R.D.H. Ms. Kelly Sanders, R.D.H. presented the survey results. Ms. Sanders apologized for the clarity of the report reflecting numbers by county. Dr. Haught suggested Ms. Sanders provide the report for presentation at the March 13, 2009 meeting.

Ms. Dana Davis proposed the utilization of the public affairs office of the American Dental Association to provide assistance to generate a final report. Ms. Davis said she had previously explored a request for assistance. Ms. Davis said the expertise of the public affairs office had the ability to filter all accumulated data and focus findings for specific goals. Dr. Haught said the assistance would not interfere with the recommendations agreed to or the approval of the Task Force. Dr. Haught said the Task Force would have total control of the final report.

Ms. Sally Selvidge addressed a new brochure to instruct public on oral health education for those patients with special needs. Ms. Selvidge said a simple pocket guide is being printed that would provide needed education. Ms. Selvidge said she would bring the documents to the next meeting for review.
There being no further business, the Task Force adjourned at 4:10 p.m.