

THIS MEETING IS HELD VIA TELECONFERENCE/WEBINAR DUE TO COVID 19 RESTRICTIONS

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MEETING MINUTES

1. 2:00 Welcome & Introductions Terry Jones

Members Present: Katie Andrew, Robin Blanks-Guster, Danielle Cannarozzi, Julie Gallelo, Terry Jones, Cathy Levering, Dharia McGrew, Debra Payne, Jan Resler, Dorothy Seleski, Maritza Valencia, Cynthia Vanzant, Mary Jess Wilson, James Musser, Steve Heath, Hudson Graham*

Members Absent:

Jonathan Porteus, Olivia Kasirye, Darrel Kenworthy

Public Present:

Robyn Alongi, Kris Clinton, Lisa Rufo, Mira Yang, Edward Bynum, , Kelsey Reyne, Diane Bruce, Carlos Sepulveda, Gizelle Castro, Shanna Madden, Sonja Bingaman, Omar Nacakgedigi, Taryn Peters, Susan McLearn, Herb Schultz (HKS Strategies/Liberty), Janelle Thompson, Dave Meadows, Julie Tucker, Kathrina Gregana, Emely Arienza (Anthem Blue Cross), Tom Tremble, Sommer McKenna, Felicia Fondren, Lucila Meraz, Maria de los Lano, Morgan Musser, Candy Stirdivant, Dr. Bandy (HALO)

2. 2:05 **Approve April 2, 2020, Meeting Minutes (Action)** Terry Jones

A motion to approve the April 2020 minutes was made by Debra Payne and seconded by Steve Heath. Mary Jess Wilson voted “no.” All other present members voted “yes.” Minutes approved.

3. 2:30 **MoonHealth Teledentistry Project** Onur Nacakgedigi

Dr. Onur Nacakgedigi made a presentation on the MoonHealth Teledentistry Project.

- 3:00 **GMC/Governor’s Budget Update – Next Steps** Jones/Payne

Terry Jones and **Debra Payne** provided an update on GMC/Governor’s Budget and next steps.

Danielle Cannarozzi shared two letters with MCDAC (one from CDA and one from the Board of Supervisors). Liberty had many conversations with stakeholders. They have had 150 letters of support from stakeholders opposing the Governor’s proposal to eliminate GMC and have

submitted these to the legislature. Liberty is making sure providers are able to recover from COVID 19 closures.

Dharia McGrew – Recent numbers from Department of Labor and ADA surveys show a 60% unemployment in the dental field nationwide. Many offices are at risk of closing permanently. CDA advocacy focused on legislators to help them understand the situation. Negotiations will happen in the next few days and the final budget agreement is expected by June 12.

Cathy Levering – Denti-Cal and Prop 56 cuts also affect dental providers statewide.

Dharia McGrew – The proposed cuts to adult dental benefits would revert benefits back to 2014 levels – over a 40% cut. There would be no partials or periodontal benefits. The Governor anticipates 2M new beneficiaries in the next year due to COVID, causing even greater strain on the dental healthcare system.

Cathy Levering - 1,400 more providers signed up as Medi-Cal providers in the last few years and we do not want to lose that.

Danielle Cannarozzi – Liberty is willing to pay capitation in advance to providers to help providers with all of the issues they are facing. Liberty is paying a reimbursement for PPE as well.

Dorothy Seleski – Dental Plans also anticipates that budget cuts will affect the amount of funds available to pay providers.

Shanna Madden – Access Dental is working on a series of provider reliefs. They are not tied to a PPE reimbursement but offering incentives that will include the costs for PPE.

Terry Jones: How is the GMC network of providers doing?

Danielle Cannarozzi – Offices are slowly starting to open. Liberty implemented a teledentistry program to assist in the transition during COVID and beyond.

Lisa Rufo – Liberty directed members to offices that were open and willing to take patients that were not theirs. Liberty has not seen a backlog of patients waiting for care.

James Musser – Hospitals have limited reopening for dental general anesthesia cases. They are unlikely to offer time when they learn that payment for services is reduced.

Dharia McGrew – The Governor's proposal was to take \$1.2 billion of Prop 56 supplements to physicians and dentists and to eliminate future cohorts of student loan repayment (4 years) program, adult dental benefit and a few other things. These are trigger cuts – if the federal government came in with funding, the decision would be reversed. Senate and Assembly have pushed back on that. They propose not cutting Prop 56 or adult dental benefits. They want to keep those until October and then reevaluate the situation in the hope that the federal government will pass rescue legislation by August. CDA is advocating to support the legislature's recommendations.

Katie Andrew – Children Now is in support of legislature’s budget proposal. CN is in advocacy mode to make sure our positions are being heard by the Governor’s office before decisions are made.

Katie was on a DHCS call before MCDAC about the transition plan. CN asked if they have talked to dentists in the DMC program to see if there is truly overlap between FFS and managed care. DHCS is going to start reaching out to their providers in July.

Cathy Levering – The Senate hearing study showed 95% of the providers who are in DMC would continue with FFS. Cathy does not know where those numbers came from. Part of the state’s Transition Plan is to hire 12 people to manage the transition plan. These staff positions were added to the budget proposal.

Debra Payne reported that First 5 would not receive a back fill from vaping tax.

Sonya Bingaman - SCDD advocated for PPE for people with special needs because they are at higher risk for COVID. Cal OES has given millions of PPE statewide to distribute through the regional centers. CDD has disposable facemasks, face shields, and hand sanitizer pumps. Most of the day programs have been closed. Independent living programs are continuing to support individuals. One hundred and fifty people have tested positive for COVID statewide. One entire home in Southern California tested positive – residents and staff.

Kelsey Reyne – Four people tested positive and there has been one fatality in the Sacramento area. None of Alta staff have tested positive, but five services providers tested positive.

Cynthia Vanzant – Placements continue in the Foster Youth program. There are also virtual visits with families and youth and engaging them in services. Court has minimal hearings – emergency cases only.

4. 3:30 **Special Needs/General Anesthesia Work Group Update** Jan Resler

Jan Resler provided an update on the Special Needs/General Anesthesia Work Group. The group started meeting last July and have been meeting monthly. SCOHP contracted with Barbara Aved Associates to conduct a special needs study. Dr. Aved submitted data requests to DHCS, conducted key informant interviews with families and surgery centers, and collaborated with SDDS to survey area dentists. DHCS has not charged for any of the data.

A timeline was drafted showing Sacramento area stakeholder efforts over the last decade to increase access to care for the special needs population and to address issues.

The group has met several times with Dr. Glassman to identify recommendations for preventive services that may decrease the number of patients that progress to the point of needing GA. The report will go to the SN executive committee to review and then Barbara will present the report to the SN full committee at the June 24 meeting. In August, Dr. Aved will report to MCDAC.

Danielle Cannarozzi has been out in the community doing outreach and education.

Children Now cohosted a Webinar on barriers to dental care for the special needs population a few months ago and it was well attended.

DTI is developing Special Needs resources.

James Musser – I am hearing daily about dental providers that are wrongly charging patients out of pocket for dental anesthesia.

Diane Bruce with Access Dental has a call tomorrow with state to discuss the providers who are charging patients for anesthesia. They are trying to trace files through the system to see where the glitch is happening.

5. 3:35 **Dental Plans Update**

Dental Plans

Liberty Dental Plan

Danielle Cannarozzi reported:

1. Liberty is using a teledentistry program to triage patients with emergencies into a dental office.
2. Community Smile – this is a new program that works on overall health through the Aunt Bertha platform to connect and refer people to the care they need. Liberty is working to ensure they take care of the whole person. There is an Aunt Bertha platform training in July.
3. Liberty is still doing outreach to members through an online platform.
4. Staff will be riding the bus in Robla School District to provide oral health education.

Maritza Valencia – Sacramento Covered presented on the Aunt Bertha platform last year. Sacramento Covered is not transitioning out of Aunt Bertha at this time but they are exploring the Unite Us platform. They are different platforms and direct competitors. Aunt Bertha is more focused on community resources. United Us is more focused on collaboration between community partnerships. With Aunt Bertha, anyone can look up a resource for a client. Each platform offers different features.

Health Net Dental Plan

Felisha Fondren reported:

1. HealthNet released an application for funding to allow FQHC's to extend telehealth. \$13.4 million was given to 138 providers. Funds were released in May.
2. HealthNet is working on a transitional full capitation payment proposal intended to give providers predictable income during COVID.

Debra Payne asked what providers in Sacramento County were offered funding through the telehealth program. Felicia will provide that information via email.

Access Dental Plan

Shanna Madden reported on financial relief:

1. Access is making sure they are making connections to providers.
2. They are helping providers by continuing to pay the capitation rate even though patients are not being seen.
3. They are working on a grant for providers and enhanced incentives.

6. 3:40 **California Dental Association Update**

Dharia McGrew

Dharia McGrew reported that CDA obtained several million pieces of PPE (gowns, KN95, face shields, etc.) and assembled 20,000+ kits that were provided free of charge to California dentists regardless of membership. CDA is requesting additional supplies from the State and will continue to try to obtain supplies.

Katie Andrew – AB 2007 did not move forward. The language was incorporated into another telehealth bill, AB 2164, and has since moved out of assembly appropriations. The intent of the language is to allow FQHC patients to be established via telehealth versus requiring patients be established via “in-person” visits.

DTI – the DHCS requested a one-year extension of the 1115 waiver. CMS has not yet responded.

7. 3:45 **Housekeeping**

All

a. Agenda Items for August 6, 2020 MCDAC Meeting

All

b. [Boards & Commissions Requirements](#)

Jan Resler

Jan reminded everyone that every 2 years board members need to do ethics training and every year complete the Form 700. Due to COVID, the deadline for submitting Form 700 is June 1.

c. **Announcements**

All

Katie Andrew – CN has a webinar on June 18 that will focus on integrating behavioral health into dental clinics. On June 23, Dr. Kumar (CDPH-OOH) will review CDPH guidance on resuming dental care in dental offices and Dr. Le (Asian Health Services, Oakland) will share an action plan and practical tips for reopening dental clinics.

Debra Payne – SB 1029 (Pan) is looking at transitioning the Sacramento County Medi-Cal Managed Care Advisory Committee into a commission. Currently, most seats are assigned to medical healthcare providers. Sierra Health Foundation has asked for input on the bill, Debra has asked that language to include a dental seat on the commission be added to the bill.

Terrence Jones – Thanked the group for their commitment to improving oral health in Sacramento County and for their patience during changing and challenging times.

8. 4:00 **Adjourn**

All

MCDAC adjourned at 4:01 p.m.