

# NOVA Oral Health Alliance Advocacy Meeting & Workgroup Breakout Sessions

Thursday, November 1, 2018 | 11:00 am – 1:00 pm

## Desired Outcomes:

- Adult workgroup: Consensus on dental resource guide and focus area
- Children's workgroup: Determine next steps in pediatrician outreach

## Agenda:

### **Advocacy Meeting with Senator Barker** **11:00 am – 11:30 am**

Update from Senator Barker on 2019 legislative priorities

- Q&A with Senator Barker

### **Lunch** **11:30 am – 11:45 am**

### **Coalition Updates for full Alliance** **11:45 am – 12:00 pm**

- Microgrant opportunities
- Virginia Oral Health Summit

### **Workgroup Breakout Sessions** **12:00 pm – 12:45 pm**

- Adult workgroup: Discuss status of dental resource guide, opportunities in long term care, next steps
- Children's workgroup: Pediatrician outreach responses and next steps

### **Next Steps** **12:55 pm – 1:00 pm**

- Scheduling next meeting

## **Participants**

Lydia Allen, Northern Virginia Family Service

Girish Banaji, Banaji Pediatric Dental Specialists

Rachel Lynch, Inova

Ondrea McIntyre-Hall, Northern Virginia Family Service

Patricia Moreno, Anthem Health Keepers Plus

Barbara Nowak, Alexandria City Public Schools

Tricia Rodgers, Northern Virginia Health Foundation

Eva Starrak, Medical Care for Children Partnership Foundation

## **VaOHC Staff:**

Sarah Bedard Holland, Chief Executive Officer

**NOVA Oral Health Alliance Workgroup Meeting**  
**Thursday November 1, 2018 | 11:00 am – 1:00 pm**

Lauren Sawyer, Communications Manager  
Quan Williams, Program Manager

**Highlights and Next Steps**

- **Senator Barker Advocacy Meeting**
  - Senator Barker shared insights from the 2018 session related to Medicaid expansion, detailing how expansion was passed.
  - Alliance members and Coalition staff discussed ways to engage with legislators, including taking part in the Coalition's legislative action day in January, and visiting local elected official's offices to share the importance of a dental benefit.
- **Adult Workgroup:**
  - Adult workgroup to discuss in next meeting opportunities to repurpose dentist survey, specifically, reaching out instead to dental hygienists or staff at long term care facilities.
- **Children's Workgroup:**
  - Children's workgroup to continue pediatrician outreach through November-December. Coalition to share updated cover letter and will mail pediatrician resource packets pending additional responses.
- **Next Workgroup Meeting:**
  - Adult's Oral Health Workgroup TBD, January 2019 – adult group to regroup with VaOHC in January 2019 on next steps in possible outreach.
  - Children's Oral Health Workgroup: TBD, January 2019 – children's workgroup will meet in January and discuss feedback from pediatrician outreach and next steps.

**Meeting Summary**

**Action Items**

- Children's workgroup: Continue with pediatrician outreach in NOVA, due to busy schedules outreach is extended through the next meeting to secure additional responses
- Adult's workgroup: Brainstorm alternatives to outreach survey, potentially to dental hygienists, or medical staff at nursing or long term care homes.

**Proceedings:**

*Advocacy Meeting with Senator Barker*

- Sarah Holland introduced Senator Barker, to discuss his work in Medicaid expansion, his upcoming legislative priorities, and how alliance members can reach out and advocate for a comprehensive dental benefit in Medicaid with legislators.

**NOVA Oral Health Alliance Workgroup Meeting**  
**Thursday November 1, 2018 | 11:00 am – 1:00 pm**

- Senator Barker shared insights from the past 2018 session and detailed the steps taken to pass Medicaid expansion.
- Alliance members spoke with Senator Barker on the best ways to engage with legislators during office visits.
- Senator Barker shared the update that most Northern Virginia legislators will support a comprehensive dental benefit, the best way to advocate is to reach out to legislators in other areas of the state that are more likely to need convincing.
- Following the conversation with Senator Barker, Sarah Holland led a detailed discussion on policy next steps and the role the Coalition can play in helping alliance members advocate through one pagers and advocacy materials.

*Coalition Updates*

- Moving into the alliance meetings Coalition staff began with an update on upcoming events and initiatives.
  - Sarah Holland shared an update on microgrant opportunities for alliance members, and shared an update on timing for a more detailed microgrant discussion, tentatively early 2019.
  - Lauren Sawyer shared a reminder for the upcoming Virginia Oral Health Summit.

*Discussion: Adult Oral Health Workgroup*

- Tricia Rodgers began the adult workgroup discussion with an update on past efforts, focusing on the dentist survey proposed early in 2018 that did not receive support from outside groups and the resource guide. Discussion began on what the adult workgroup could do instead.
- Alliance members discussed if the survey could be updated and sent to dental hygienists instead of dentists, Tricia will discuss optics of switching the survey at the next VaOHC board meeting.
- Alliance members also proposed surveying nursing home or long term care facility staff given the adult workgroup's interest in focusing on older adults. Survey could reach out to medical staff to learn oral health practices.

*Discussion: Children's Oral Health Workgroup*

- Lauren Sawyer recapped children's workgroup pediatrician outreach to-date, four responses received, pediatrician packets on hold until there are a few more responses.
- Alliance members shared busy schedules for themselves or dentists had caused a slowdown in responses. Patricia Moreno shared October is a busy month for dentists, and alliance members agreed to pick outreach back up in November and December.

**NOVA Oral Health Alliance Workgroup Meeting**  
**Thursday November 1, 2018 | 11:00 am – 1:00 pm**

- Lydia Allen shared response from dentist asking for survey faxed, Coalition agreed to update outreach letter to work as fax cover letter.

*Final Wrap Up*

- The group agreed to hold for the next workgroup meetings until January, after the holidays.

*Adjourned at 1:00 pm when the workgroups were done meeting.*