

**Virginia Health Catalyst
Early Dental Home Committee
Thursday, October 17, 2019
1:00-3:00pm | Richmond, VA**

Attending: JoAnn Wells (VDH), Mylinda Moore (Families Forward), Jane Glasgow (EVMS - Minus 9 to 5), Chernise Harris (DentaQuest), Rich Shultz (Smart Beginnings Greater Richmond), Marcus Allen (VDH), Tonya Adiches (VDH), Ally Singer Wright (Virginia Health Care Foundation), Kristin Gillam (DentaQuest), Julie Duregger (Smart Beginnings Virginia Peninsula), Emily Keenum (Virginia Early Childhood Foundation), Jessica Mullen (Obici Foundation)

Staff: Sarah Holland and Brita Bergland

Action Items:

- Rich Schultz (Smart Beginnings Greater Richmond) will see if their newly hired community liaison can join our next meeting to talk about her recent work with families in the East End. See below for more information.
- Please [register for the Virginia Oral Health Summit](#) on November 7 if you have not already!
- Upcoming Catalyst dates:
 - Clinical Advisory Board applications open soon! See flyer for more information
 - Water Taskforce (*NEW!*): December 16, 10-12pm at VHHA
- Sign up to join the [Oral Health Progress and Equity Network \(OPEN\)](#) through Socius, its online community of over 2,000 members nationwide dedicated to improving oral and overall health. Find more information on page 4.
- Don't forget to vote on November 5!

Next meeting: TBD

Proceedings

Group Share

- **JoAnn:** VDH presenting about pregnancy and oral health at the Head Start statewide meeting in March
- **JoAnn:** VDH has a remote staff working in Henrico to work with preschool population to apply fluoride varnish
- **Rich:** Smart Beginnings Greater Richmond hired a community liaison to work with partners in the East End in order to better understand barriers to supports and services so we can more effectively advocate at local and regional levels to change outdated policies. They hope to work with legislators through this project because there is positive momentum in the early childhood issues space.
 - Rich will connect their new hire to EDH so she can present her latest findings in an upcoming EDH meeting to discuss broader understanding of barriers found in this project, brainstorm ways to connect service providers and recipients to gain an understanding of these barriers/back story.



- Opportunity to fill the gap between consumers and providers as society becomes more mindful of why things are the way they are.

Brush, Book, Bed (BBB) Program - Jane Glasgow (Minus 9 to 5)

- BBB is an American Academy of Pediatrics-developed program to educate children and families about the importance of brushing teeth. This is an example of a national program adapted on a local scale to address what is happening in the community.
 - Helps with more than just oral health: literacy, routine, attachment, etc.
- Minus 9 to 5 partnered with Old Dominion University, 13 local home visiting programs, Head Start, and 39 child care centers to implement the program in Feb. 2019 - **reached 4200 children**
 - Book and dental supply donations from DentaQuest in coordination with REACH
 - ODU students went into Head Start centers for education, activities, dissemination
- Next iteration: EVMS MPH faculty to bring on a MPH student (dentist) using minigrant from Catalyst (MCH) to coordinate the program and support systems change
 - Books for infants/toddlers, older children (\$5000)
 - Future goals include: more home visitor promotion, increase Head Start collaboration to build early dental homes, incorporate pediatricians, evaluation survey with home visitors on how to improve it moving forward
- NOVA regional oral health alliance also implementing BBB program - collaborating with MCO to educate about and incorporate fluoride varnish in pediatrician offices

Catalyst updates - Sarah Holland

- [Register for the Virginia Oral Health Summit!](#) November 7 in Richmond, VA
 - Great speakers including Tamara Lucas Copeland, US Deputy Surgeon General, Dr. Christie Lumsden
 - New this year: break out sessions covering community-level projects
 - Example: Carilion Hospital is presenting about the implementation of a project that went to practices with pediatric residents to train them on applying fluoride varnish, and tips for success
- New Catalyst workgroup: [Water Equity Taskforce](#). This stems from our community water fluoridation work and success at local levels, but fewer people are drinking tap water and not getting benefits.
 - Gathering a diverse group of stakeholders including sugar sweetened beverage, obesity, infrastructure (cost of water differs depending on your system/location)
 - First meeting on December 16, 10-12pm at VHHA
- Join our refreshed [Clinical Advisory Board](#): clinical partners help us provide faculty/training to partners, input on relevant policy and integration work, interprofessional education opportunities, networking.
 - Mylinda: community health nursing - will help distribute this through their channels
- New [Request for Proposal](#) in South Hampton Roads (SHR) area: leveraging MCH minigrants with United Way of SHR to develop systems change projects. It will fund two \$15,000 planning projects from January-September 2020 - one MUST be focused on MCH population. We will work to identify additional money to get implementing these projects in the future.

- **Regional minigrants:** Catalyst is identifying groups across the state to enter a contractual relationship with Catalyst to engage with community infrastructure to broaden the conversation of oral health in VA and expand the oral health network. More information to come.

Policy updates - Sarah Holland

- **Adult dental benefit in Medicaid:** VA Governor issued an executive order to direct secretaries to improve access to healthcare services and increase Medicaid enrollment. We are hopeful! Sarah is meeting with legislators and DMAS to discuss money soon. Dental benefit looks to be bundled with vision and other preventive services from ACA. There is lots of support behind this, but they are still figuring out money.
- **Medical assistants applying fluoride varnish:** Partners are behind these efforts, and Catalyst expects this should easily pass in the GA.
- **EPSDT:** In Virginia, Medicaid reimburses for fluoride varnish up to age 3 even though the national recommendation goes up to age 5. These efforts may take another year - needs more education on the importance of EPSDT, why oral health is a part of it, etc.
- **Water bottle filling stations:** all new construction of schools must put in 1-3 filling stations. This should increase access to fluoridated public drinking water because kids actually use them. We will be supporting this - deciding formally at policy meeting (10/29).
- **Partner legislation:** ADA proposed legislation about teledentistry; they want to regulate Smile Direct. Catalyst will monitor how this will affect teledentistry moving forward, as we want to avoid unintentional consequences in stymying potential teledentistry work.
- **Medicare update:** There are lots of proposed legislation that includes oral health in Medicare, so we are watching these closely. We are sad to see the passing of Rep. Cummings for many reasons, but he was always a strong supporter of oral health issues federally.

Maternal and Child Health block grant - Marcus Allen and Tonya Adiches (VDH)

See corresponding PowerPoint for all information

- Title V of Social Security Act - all 50 states, 9 territories get this
 - The [Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs \(AMCHP\)](#) lobbies on behalf of Title V. AMCHP conferences are great resources.
- Basis from the Life Course Model - promotes health along the lifespan to give healthy generations, incorporates equity
- VA receives \$12 million each year
 - Includes newborn screening implementation funding (special revenue), ex: sickle cell disease
 - Annual applications - reviewed annually
 - Income decisions made federally - why census is so important
- 60% of all funding goes to children
 - 30% must be preventive (e.g. sealants)
 - 30% must go to CSHCN (VA is 42%)
 - 10% must go to infrastructure
- Annual statewide needs assessment: based on data, surveys, KI interviews, focus groups
 - Inform plan moving forward



- Work not specific to low-income children
- MCH manages surveillance data sets - all self-reported except for VHI (hospital-reported)
- Surveillance data informs the choice for performance measures

[Oral Health Progress and Equity Network \(OPEN\)](#)

- Some of you may remember DentaQuest Foundation's Oral Health 2020 project - OPEN is the next generation! Its mission is to improve oral health and overall health for all through advocacy, leadership, and collaboration. OPEN sees the inequities across the country in regards to access to oral health care, and uses its network of active members at the local, state, and national levels to help all people thrive.
- Catalyst (and many of our partners) have been members of OPEN and its online community Socius since its inception about five years ago. Through Socius, you can find:
 - Lots of helpful resources
 - Example: Congressional matrix that lists information about each member of Congress and their contact info. for advocacy efforts
 - Webinars about various oral health topics and programs from across the country
 - Network and connect
 - Example: OPEN's Virtual Roadmap lists each oral health project happening among its members across the country. Search for specific projects (like ones focusing on child health), and connect with the team implementing it.
 - OPEN holds multiple meetings each year to connect with other members to learn about message framing, advocacy, social justice, and more.
 - Join online forums. With over 2,000 members of OPEN, there are bound to be others interested and engaged in topics surrounding oral health access issues.
 - For example: water safety, immigration health, measurement
- [Request to join Socius today!](#)