Missouri Action Plan
Children with Special Health Care Needs

"Show Me Your Smile"
The Missouri Coalition for Oral Health in conjunction with the Missouri Dental Association, Missouri Head Start State Collaboration Office, Missouri Department of Education (First Steps), Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (Missouri Oral Health - Preventative Services), and Missouri Primary Care Association created the planning committee for the Children with Special Health Care Needs action plan. Several attempts were made to engage Family Voices; however, they did not participate in the planning or Forum.

The Coalition held a planning meeting to formulate an agenda for the statewide forum. The planning team made the decision that only those present could volunteer themselves or their agency for participation in the CSHCN action plan. This was to ensure buy-in from all individuals and agencies in the action plan. The planning team also recognized that the entire dental landscape of CSHCN could not be addressed in one day; therefore, the focus would be only a few items that could be changed and/or completed with 18-24 months of the final action plan. The planning team wanted to ensure the action plan was relevant and the goals were achievable.

Originally, a point of input to the CSHCN action plan was the statewide community meetings being held by the Coalition. At each meeting the topic of children with special health care needs was brought up for discussion; however, there was very little expertise and very little that could be used for the action plan. One participant in the Kirksville, MO community meeting works with the special needs population and stated there were very few dental professionals that would provide services to the special needs population, especially in rural areas.

The children with special health care needs forum was held July 21, 2006. The attendance included several individuals from state departments, Head Start, oral health organizations as well as oral health professionals. (Appendix A & B)

The planning team held a follow-up meeting to make sure the ideas for the forum were concrete and focused enough for an 18-24 month project. In addition, the planning team met to discuss how the CSHCN action plan would be incorporated in the state oral health plan and possibly into the newly released Oral Health White Paper. (Appendix C & Attachment)
## CSHCN Forum Attendees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Organization</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Melissa Albertson</td>
<td>Communication Director</td>
<td>Missouri Dental Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deborah Backfisch</td>
<td>Special Needs Coordinator</td>
<td>Health Care USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karen Battjes</td>
<td>Administration &amp; Operations Coordinator</td>
<td>Department of Health and Senior Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonnie Branson</td>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
<td>University of Missouri - Kansas City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bill Connelly</td>
<td>Data Coordinator</td>
<td>Department of Elementary &amp; Secondary Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donnell Cox</td>
<td>Missouri Provider Relations Representative</td>
<td>Doral Dental USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karen Dent</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>Oral Health Network of Missouri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renee Fiquet-Freeman</td>
<td>Dental Hygiene Program Coordinator</td>
<td>State Fair Community College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shari Fleshman</td>
<td>Health Content Specialist</td>
<td>Region VII TA System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paula Goldberg</td>
<td>Health Specialist</td>
<td>CMCA - Head Start</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dorothy Lambert</td>
<td>Project Coordinator</td>
<td>Smile Mobile - Phelps County Regional Medical Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carolyn Link</td>
<td>Oral Health Program Manager</td>
<td>Department of Health and Senior Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lan-Tu Myers</td>
<td>Dental Director</td>
<td>Family Health Center of Boone County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shawntay Myers</td>
<td>Executive Director</td>
<td>Missouri Coalition for Oral Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stacey Owsley</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>Missouri Head Start State Collaboration Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annette Portell</td>
<td>Oral Health Coordinator</td>
<td>Washington County Community Partnerships</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cindy Reese</td>
<td>Social Services Manager</td>
<td>Department of Social Services Children’s Division</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Douglas Ross</td>
<td>Dentist</td>
<td>Department of Health and Senior Services Advisory Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cathy Schlotzhauer</td>
<td>Community Nurse</td>
<td>Department of Health and Senior Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diane Sexton</td>
<td>Oral Health VISTA</td>
<td>Washington County Community Partnerships</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeanean Sieving</td>
<td>LPN</td>
<td>Pettis County Health Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liz Smith</td>
<td>Child Health and Development Manager</td>
<td>Mid America Head Start</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carolyn Stemmons</td>
<td>Assistant Director</td>
<td>Missouri Head Start State Collaboration Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tina Turner</td>
<td>Parent</td>
<td>Washington County Community Partnership</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sharon Weiss</td>
<td>Dental Coordinator</td>
<td>Jefferson-Franklin Community Action Corporation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vicki Wilks</td>
<td>First Steps Consultant Project Director</td>
<td>Missouri Child Care Resource and Referral Network</td>
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Summary of Discussion

The overall group discussion was focused on the importance of keeping children with special health care needs healthy, this mean focusing our efforts on the education of the individuals surrounding the child. The forum took a look at all the individuals, agencies, organizations and caregivers surrounding the child with special health care needs. The focus was on how we, as oral health professionals, could link with agencies already providing educational materials to parents, such as Head Start, the Department of Mental Health, and First Steps. It was stressed, that the project should provide up to date education materials to the individuals and agencies surrounding the child, tapping into a working system already in place.

Forum Evaluation Comments:

• Forum was helpful to understand the oral health issues of CSHCN.
• Forum helped me to know and understand all the agencies surrounding the child with special needs.
• Forum provided a great opportunity to network with individuals.
• The forum provided a great groundwork for the action plan.
• The forum was good, but these small steps are not going to be the entire answer to help the oral health of CSHCN. We will need to try to find further funding for more actions later down the road.
• Good Forum. Like the facilitator.
• Forum was great. Wish we had more that one-day to deal with this issue.
Action Plan

Step 1: Develop a plan for a regional continuing education opportunity for dental professionals.

Goals:
- To educate dental professionals on the need for dental professionals working with the CSHCN population
- To help dental professionals be more prepared (comfortable) working with the CSHCN population

Needs:
- More dental professionals who feel comfortable working with the CSHCN population

Activities/Timeline:
- Research current continuing education programs for dental health professionals focusing on CSHCN (December 2007)
- Recruit dental association, dental school, dental hygiene schools to increase awareness of CSHCN (December 2007)
- Hold continuing education programs for dental professionals (2008)

Outcomes:
- To educate dental professionals about the lack of services for CSHCN
- To help dental professionals feel more comfortable working with the CSHCN population

Long Term:
  ✓ To increase the number of dental professionals who will accept CSHCN into their practice

Partners:
- University of Missouri Dental School
- Missouri Dental Association
- Missouri Dental Hygiene Association
- Missouri Coalition for Oral Health

Implementation:
The Missouri Dental Association will work with its partners and UMKC to examine the viability of this continuing education opportunity. It is believed that a continuing education opportunity focused on working with CSHCN would be well received.
Step 2: Establish dental operatories in Division of Mental Health Regional Centers (increase for 1 site to 2 sites).

Goals:
- To be able to provide oral health services to CSHCN in a setting in which the child feels comfortable

Needs:
- Additional facilities providing dental services for CSHCN

Activities/Timeline:
- State regulation may have to be changed to incorporate dental hygienist into the Mental Health Regional Center setting (unsupervised). (2008)
- Secure donated dental services (2007)
- Secure donated dental equipment (2007/currently)
- Coordination between Department of Health and Senior Services and Department of Mental Health (2007/currently)

Outcomes:
- To increase accessibility to dental services in a safe, familiar environment for CSHCN

Long Term:
- To increase the capacity of dental operatories in regional mental health centers.
- To set a model for other mental health centers to follow as they open dental operatories in other regional centers

Partners:
- Department of Health and Senior Services
- Department of Mental Health
- Missouri Dental Association
- Missouri Dental Hygiene Association
- Missouri Coalition for Oral Health

Implementation:
The Department of Health and Senior Services is currently working on this project, providing coordination and implementation this step and goal.
Step 3: Provide education and resources to individuals surrounding the child with special needs.

Goals:
- To educate parents, caregivers and individuals surrounding the CSHCN regarding the importance of oral health
- Coordinate a list of CSHCN dental resources

Needs:
- Education for caregivers and individuals surrounding the child about the importance of oral health for a child with special health care needs.
- Coordinated list of oral health resources for the Missouri CSHCN

Activities/Timeline:
- Promote availability of resources to professional organizations and agencies working with the CSHCN and his/her family. (2008)
- Work with Head Start to integrate oral health into the Memorandum of Understand (MOU) with public school systems regarding CSHCN. (2007)
- Develop a K-12 oral health curriculum (2007)

Outcomes:
- Increase caregiver and parent awareness regarding the importance of oral health for CSHCN

Long Term:
- Increase familiarity of resources to families and caregivers of CSHCN
- Early recognition of oral health problems

Partners:
- Department of Health and Senior Services
- Head Start
- Department of Social Services
- Missouri Coalition for Oral Health

Implementation:
The Coalition is currently working on an overall education campaign. Children with special health care needs will be incorporated into the campaign.
Forum Follow-Up: Additions to the CSHCN Action Plan

State Oral Health Plan:
The Missouri Coalition for Oral Health has submitted a request for funding to formally update the State Oral Health Plan. This would allow for Missouri to incorporate CSHCN into the state plan as a primary focus. It was the belief of the individuals participating with this project that the State Oral Health Plan should be inclusive of CSHCN.

Oral Health Summit 2007:
The Annual Oral Health Summit in September 2007 will have a keynote speaker addressing the topic of a community approach around oral health, including CSHCN.

Education Campaign:
The Missouri Coalition for Oral Health is currently rolling out an oral health education campaign. Through our education website we will have a section dedicated to CSHCN. This will be a space where individuals surrounding the child with special health care needs can go to find links and information about their child’s oral health. This space will include both national and state resources for CSHCN.

Head Start Oral Health for Children with Special Health Care Needs:
The Missouri and Kansas oral health coalitions, as well as Head Start associations have teamed up to provide an educational opportunity for Head Start. In December of 2007 Head Start representatives from both KS and MO will be invited to a forum on CSHCN at the UMKC Dental School. This forum will be directed to Head Start Directors, Disability Coordinator and Health Coordinators.
Budget

<table>
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<th>Items:</th>
<th>ASTDD Monies Expended</th>
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<tr>
<td>Facilitator</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Coordination of Grant</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printing/Distribution of Materials</td>
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<tr>
<td>Forum Meeting Space Rental</td>
<td>$350.00</td>
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<td>Meeting Expenses</td>
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<td>Travel</td>
<td>$650.00</td>
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<td>Total:</td>
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Budget Narrative:

Facilitator/Co-Author Action Plan: $3000.00
Travel Stipend: $650.00
The facilitator led the planning meeting, the CSHCN Forum and the follow-up meeting.

Grant Coordination: $3000.00
MOCOH will in-kind the time of the MOCOH Executive Director to coordinate the grant.

Printing Materials/Supplies: $1200.00
MOCOH: $200.00/ ASTDD: $1000.00
The CSHCN action plan was printed and distributed to stakeholders, Coalition Members and individuals participating in the CSHCN Forum. Each participant of the Forum received printed materials as they registered including: name tags, agenda brochure, participant list and handouts. These were an in-kind donation from MOCOH. Handouts provided by Maternal and Child Health were also provided.

Meeting Space: $350.00
A large convention room was used for Forum. The planning meeting and follow-up meetings took place at the MOCOH office; therefore, no additional space was needed.

Meeting Expenses: $1500.00
Meeting expenses include: food and beverages and AV equipment: LCD Projectors, Screens, AV carts, poster paper.

Travel: $125.00
The individuals attending the Forum used additional in-kind travel money.

Potential Barriers:
- Agencies involved in the action plan are large bureaucracies which often times require multiple levels of approval before the agency can sign on to a statewide action plan.
- Educating parent and caregivers regarding the importance of oral health for CSHCN and then Missouri not having the capacity for their children to be seen by an oral health professional due to a lack of access.
- No interest from dental professionals to work with the special needs population.
Appendix A

Date: July 2, 2007

Subject: Invitation to Children with Special Health Care Needs Forum

You or a representative of your agency is invited to participate in Missouri’s first statewide forum designed to create an action plan to improve oral health for children with special health care needs. The event will be held on July 21 from 9:30 am – 3:30 pm at Stoney Creek Inn, 2601 S. Providence Road, Columbia, MO 65203.

The Missouri Coalition for Oral Health, with funding from the Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors (ASTDD), is creating an action plan for the oral health of children with special health care needs (CSHCN). The CSHCN population has a variety of programs, agencies and individuals to give them support and guidance. The Coalition’s goal is to convene these statewide decision makers from such agencies and organizations as state departments, Head Start, children’s advocacy groups and parents to discuss education and prevention of oral disease in CSHCN.

The Coalition is seeking to educate agencies, organizations, service providers and parents on the importance of oral health and the impact oral health has on the overall health of an individual.

If you are able to participate, please fill out the enclosed registration form and return it to the Coalition office by July 17. We ask that you attend ready to participate and prepared to share your knowledge of oral health services your agency or organization has already implemented. Once the action plan is written, each agency participating will be sent a copy of the action plan and will be asked to buy-in to the action plan and participate in the implementation. The Coalition will rollout the CSHCN action plan at the Annual Oral Health Summit September 28 & 29.

A registration packet will be prepared for each participant and will be given out upon arrival at the Forum. More information about the oral health of CSHCN can be found at http://www.mchoralhealth.org/SpecialCare/

A limited number of travel stipends are available for parents of CSHCN to attend the Forum. The travel stipends will be given on a first come first serve basis. If you are interested in a travel stipend please check the appropriate boxes on the registration form.
Appendix B

Children with Special Health Care Needs
Oral Health Forum

Please return this registration form to MOCOH by July 17
(Fax: 573.884.0598)

Name: _______________________________________________________________
Title: _______________________________________________________________
Organization: ___________________________________________________________
Address: __________________________________________________________________
City/State/Zip: __________________________________________________________________
Phone: __________________________ Fax: ____________________________
Email: ________________________________________________________________

A limited number of travel stipends are available for parents of CSHCN to attend the Forum. The travel stipends will be given on a first come first serve basis. If you are interested in a travel stipend please check all the boxes below that apply.

☐ I am interested in receiving mileage reimbursement
☐ I am interested in receiving one (1) night hotel reimbursement
Appendix C

MISSOURI COALITION FOR ORAL HEALTH
CSHCN PLANNING PROCESS

This grid is designed to help you examine each of the 12 recommendations in the white paper against the steps and goals written into the plan. Please review not only the goals but also proposals about needs, activities, timeline, outcomes, participants and implementation. Feel free to jot notes in the empty spaces of the grid to ensure that we collect all of your ideas.

| Oral Health White Paper Statewide recommendations | **STEP:** Establish dental operatories in DMH Regional Centers (from 1 to 2 sites)  
**GOAL:** To be able to provide oral health services for CSHCN in a setting in which the child feels comfortable | **STEP:** Develop a plan for a regional continuing education opportunity for dental professionals  
**GOALS:** 1) To educate dental professionals on the need for dental professionals working with the CSHCN population  
2) To help dental professionals be more prepared (comfortable) working with CSHCN | **STEP:** Provide education and resources to individuals surrounding the child with special needs  
**GOALS:** 1) To educate parents, caregivers, and individuals surrounding the CSHCN about the importance of oral health  
2) Coordinate list of dental resources for CSHCN |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Increase Medicaid reimbursement rates for oral health services  
Is there an interest in adding increased Medicaid reimbursement for dental care for CSHCN to the state plan? Does Medicaid have a category for behavior management fees that can increase |  |  |  |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>the amount paid for CSHCN?</th>
<th>Can dental students rotate through the operatory?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Increase dental student slots for Missouri residents at UMKC School of Dentistry AHEC: Identify students who can shadow dentists serving CSHCN. Encourage students interested in CSHCN to explore dentistry as a profession.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Develop oral health workforce distance learning educational programs that can provide opportunities and educational services statewide</td>
<td>Incorporate existing online and published curricula and workshops into dental professional continuing education.</td>
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<td>Expand the number of section 330-funded Community Health Centers and FQHC’S</td>
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<td>Financially encourage the establishments of contracts between FQHC’s and willing community dentists throughout the state</td>
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<tr>
<td>Increase funding for PRIMO supported loans and scholarships</td>
<td>Explore loan repayments for dentists treating CSHCN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offer dental continuing education to medical health care professionals</td>
<td>Publish information about MO oral health student PowerPoint’s in association newsletters. Publish information about the <a href="http://www.mchoralhealth.org">www.mchoralhealth.org</a> online workshops. Identify hygienists and dentists who will</td>
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such as pediatricians, obstetricians, extended care facility caretakers, social service personnel and school health personnel

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Create and distribute new and existing oral health materials to all schools, early childhood programs, long term care facilities, and other agencies</th>
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<tr>
<th>Fluoridate all Missouri water</th>
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<tr>
<th>Implement a statewide comprehensive sealant and varnish program</th>
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<tr>
<th>Include adult-dental services in the Medicaid program</th>
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<tr>
<th>Consider sealant program for CSHCN. Maybe even target CSHCN for the new prevention program. The hygienists can start with First Steps and Part B pre-K in schools</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

| Consider writing in dental “transition planning” for CSHCN who move into adulthood |
Continuing Education Products


*Overcoming Obstacles to Dental Health. University of Pacific, School of Dentistry, Center for Oral Health for People with Special Needs. A training program for caregivers of people with special needs. 4th ed. 1998(workbook and video)

*Addressing Dental Care for Individuals with Autistic Disorders: Information and Techniques for the Professional. David Tesini, DDS and Clive Friedman, DDS, Special Care Dentistry Association. 2006.

Special Care: An Oral Health Professional’s Guide to Serving Young Children with Special Health Care Needs. [www.mchoralhealth.org/SpecialCare](http://www.mchoralhealth.org/SpecialCare)