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Collaborative Partnerships: Examples of Head Start Oral Health Activities in Maryland and Kansas

DHL Webinar Nov.22, 2013

General Reminders



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- This webinar will be recorded and archived on the ASTDD website.
- Questions will be addressed after the speakers are finished. Please type your question into the “chatbox” that will appear at the end of the webinar and then click on the bubble to the right of where you type your question to send it to the moderator.
- Please respond to the polling questions at the conclusion of the webinar.



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Opening Comments

Harry Goodman DMD, MPH

President, Association of State and Territorial
Dental Directors

Director, Office of Oral Health, Maryland
Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
Volunteer, National Center on Health

Moderator

Kathy Geurink RDH, MA

Consultant, National Center on Health

Introduction



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Dental hygienist liaisons (DHLs) in every state are serving in **volunteer** roles to:

- Provide a **communication link** between NCH and Head Start oral health activities and programs.
- **Collaborate** with state organizations and ongoing networks (e.g., Dental Home Initiatives), including state dental directors and Head Start state collaboration directors, to address prevention and access-to-care issues.
- Assist in **promoting evidence-based preventive and educational services** to Head Start statewide.
- **Share links to resources** with Head Start and other partners to improve consistent messaging on oral health.

DHL Presenters



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Connecting Head Start with Oral Health Services: A Kansas Story

Kathy Hunt, R.D.H., ECPII
Kansas Dental Hygienist Liaison
National Center on Health
Dental Hygienist Liaison Webinar
November 22, 2013

Getting the Word Out



**It's hard to be a resource if
people don't know you're there.**



Offering Assistance

TO DO LIST

- ✓ Create a distribution list of current Head Start Directors and Health Specialists
- ✓ Send out periodic notices to list: Brush-up Newsletters, offers to assist with dental issues, topical information regarding oral health
- ✓ Offer to make oral health presentations: Head Start Conference, Parent Night at local HS program, Staff Development Day



Who Do I Collaborate With?



- **Kansas Head Start Association**
(State Head Start Association)



- **Oral Health Kansas**
(State Oral Health Coalition)



- **Bureau of Oral Health**
(Kansas Department of Health and Environment)



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Other Contacts



- **Kansas Association for the Medically Underserved (State Primary Care Association)**
- **Kansas Dental Hygiene Association (Chair for Community Dental Health Committee)**
- **Kansas Dental Association (Board Member, KS Dental Charitable Foundation)**



Making Progress



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Request #1—Increase Services



Northeast Kansas Community Action Program



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Request #2—Oral Health Education



Pine Ridge Prep



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Request #3—Increase Services



Sheldon Head Start



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Greatest Challenge

Parents' biggest hurdles

- Making and keeping appointments at dental clinics
- Signing consent forms for on-site services
- Not understanding the need for services



Strategies

- Education for staff and faculty
- Interactive, edu-taining family workshop



Maryland Head Start Dental Hygienist Liaison

Jane Casper, R.D.H., M.A.
Maryland Dental Hygienist Liaison

National Center on Health
Dental Hygienist Liaison Webinar
November 22, 2013



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Establishing Partnerships and Collaborative Relationships

- Contact your state Head Start collaboration office to discuss oral health issues around access to care, prevention, and education
- Participate in Head Start strategic planning meetings, webinars, conferences, and roundtable discussions throughout the year
- Reach out to Head Start programs to find out what information they need



Partnerships and Collaboration

- Maryland Head Start Association (MHSA)
- Maryland State Head Start Collaboration Office
Located in the Maryland State Department of Education
- Maryland Academy of Pediatric Dentistry
- Maryland Oral Health Association
- National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center



Partnerships and Collaboration

- Baltimore City Head Start Health Advisory Committee
- Maryland Dental Action Coalition
- Maryland Dental Hygienists' Association



Activities to Improve Access to Oral Health Care

- Served as oral health advisor to
 - MHSA Strategic Planning Committee
 - Baltimore City Head Start Health Advisory Committee
- Promote availability of oral health resources specifically designed for Head Start including *Brush Up on Oral Health* newsletter



Activities to Improve Access to Oral Health Care



- Provided oral health education to health managers, family service coordinators, and teachers at MHSA’s 2013 spring training conference
- Scheduled to co-present “Oral Health Resources to Support Head Start Programs” at MHSA’s 2013 Fall Networking Institute

Activities

- Participated as Maryland DHL at
 - American Dental Hygienists' Association 2013 session
 - MHSA's 2012 fall and 2013 spring meetings
 - Maryland Academy of Pediatric Dentistry's 2013 winter meeting
 - National Oral Health Conference 2013



My Challenges

- Understanding programs' organization and infrastructure
- Competing concurrent sessions at MHSA meetings
- Seeking permission to visit Head Start programs located in schools



Contact Information

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