We all know the importance of good oral health as it promotes good overall health throughout our lives.
Working Together for Good Oral Health in Palm Beach County

- **Our Vision:** To Have a Healthy Community
- **Our Mission:** To improve the oral health of all residents in Palm Beach County in order to improve overall health
- **Our Principal Goal:** To engage community groups and organizations, in order to work together in a collaborative and coordinated manner to improve the oral health of our community
Oral Health Coalition Members

- Allegany Franciscan Foundation
- Area Agency on Aging
- Boys and Girls Town
- Caridad Center
- Child and Family Connections
- Children’s Services Council
- Florida Community Health Centers
- Florida Dental Association
- Florida Dental Hygiene Association
- Florida Public Health Institute
- Foundcare Community Health Center
- Community Voice
- The Children’s Coalition
- Health Care District Palm Beach County
- Nova Southeastern University
- Palm Beach County Health Department
- Palm Healthcare Foundation
- Palm Beach State College
- Palm Beach County Medical Society
- Quantum Foundation
- The School District of Palm Beach County
- Vita Nova, Inc.
- DentaQuest Foundation
- Palm Beach County Dental Hygiene Association
- City Manager of Riviera Beach
Why do we need to work together?

**Reason # 1 - The need is great!!**
National, State, and Local information show the need

**Reasons # 2 - Oral Health Disparities**
Surgeon General’s Report on Oral Health
Significant health disparities still exist among disadvantaged groups: Low income populations, minority groups, the disabled, the young, and the elderly
When we hear Palm Beach – There is not the realization that we have a high percentage of low-income residents and other disadvantaged groups facing disparities.

Of the approximately 1.3 million residents in PBC (2009)

- 329,660 26% residents live below 200% of the poverty level
- 139,918 10% residents live or below 100% of the poverty level
- 182,065 14% residents were eligible for dental care through Medicaid

Of the 182,065 residents eligible for dental care through Medicaid

- 24,630 16% Accessed dental care (all ages)

Of the 102,249 children eligible for dental care through Medicaid

- 21,861 24% Accessed dental care (children)
Key Statistics: Provider Demographics

The percentage of providers accepting Medicaid or volunteering for Project Dentist Care is low.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>#</th>
<th>Provider Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>986</td>
<td>Active Florida Dentists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>861</td>
<td>Florida Dental Hygienists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7%</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>Dentists - Active Medicaid providers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.6%</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>Pediatric Dentists - Active Medicaid providers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13%</td>
<td>158</td>
<td>Volunteer Dentists – (Project Dentist Care)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7%</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>Volunteer Dental Hygienists</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Key Statistic: Medicaid Access

- Let’s do the math…..
  - On average each Active Medicaid Provider would have a patient load of 2,312 patients
- But, with children representing 2 of every 3 individuals eligible, the number becomes:
  - Every Active Pediatric Medicaid Provider would have to manage 6,390 patients

Sounds like a challenging situation! What’s the problem?
- Medicaid reimbursement – Florida is one of the lowest in US
- Administrative barriers - Enrollment, claims, payments, etc
- Patient Management – Patient etiquette, finding specialists, etc
OHC Strategic Plan - Goals

Goal 1 - Increase public and governmental awareness of oral health issues.

Goal 2 - Improve access to school and community-based oral health education programs, including the integration of oral health as part of general health.

Goal 3. Improve access to oral health care for the dentally underserved in Palm Beach County.
OHC Strategic Plan – Current Projects

Goal 1
• Water fluoridation
• Oral Health Coalition Presentation
• Community Oral Health Surveillance

Goal 2
• Resource guide of oral health education and prevention programs
• Age-appropriate oral health education curriculum components
• Support efforts to engage medical providers in providing health preventive services now reimbursable through Medicaid
• Oral health education and training for the general population and for community groups

Goal 3
• Compile resource guide of oral health care programs
• Expand the volunteer dentist network
• Increase the number of oral health care access points
## Access Points

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dental Resources</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>% Access&lt;sup&gt;3&lt;/sup&gt; below 200% of FPL&lt;sup&gt;4&lt;/sup&gt;</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Private Practitioners</td>
<td>NA&lt;sup&gt;1,2&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>62.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dental School Facilities/Clinics</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dental Hygiene/Dental Assistant Schools</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital-Based Dental Clinics</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County Health Department Dental Clinics</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>33.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FQHC Dental Clinics</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community-Based Low-Income Dental Clinics</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faith-Based Low-Income Dental Clinics</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School-Based Dental Clinics</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Profit Corporations for Research and Training Dental Clinics</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Dentists Care Volunteer Clinics</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<sup>1</sup>NA = Data Not Available  
<sup>4</sup>FPL – Federal Poverty Level  
At or Below 100% FPL is usually Medicaid eligible  
At or Below 200% FPL is considered low income
Access Measure:

Access to Dental Care by Low income Persons (<=100%)

Source: PBC Health Department – Oral Health Status Indicator
Access Measure:

Access to Dental Care (<=200%)

- State Goal
- State Total
- Palm Beach
Fluoridation

Percent of the population on community water systems receiving fluoridated water

- PALM BEACH
- HILLSBOROUGH
- STATE

Source: PBC Health Department – Oral Health Status Indicator
BRFSS – Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System “is a system of health surveys that collect information on various parameters. Oral Health Questions are part of the survey system – Another survey will occur in Florida in 2009. Source: Florida Charts
### Indicators of Oral Health

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Baby Teeth (%)</th>
<th>Permanent (%)</th>
<th>HP 2010 (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Existing Decay</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Untreated Decay</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treatment Needs</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children &lt; 200% PBC</td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Community and School Oral Health Prevention

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prevention</th>
<th>Florida (%)</th>
<th>HP 2010 (%)</th>
<th>Florida (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fluoridation</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sealant 09-10 (SP)</td>
<td>23 Title 1</td>
<td>&gt; 1,500 Exam</td>
<td>&gt; 4,200 sealants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students in SP</td>
<td>17% exiting</td>
<td>79% placed</td>
<td>96% sealants</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What is the next step?
Oral Health Coalition

What can you do?

Join the Coalition

Educate decision-makers, the community, or those you serve about:

- Oral health as it relates to overall health
- Early prevention measures
- How to access care.

We welcome whatever support you can provide!
Together we can make the difference!
Palm Beach County Oral Health Coalition

For further information visit the Florida Public Health Institute at

www.flphi.org

Or contact

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