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To: Clinical Partner

From: Sarah Bedard Holland, Executive Director

Re: Virginia Oral Health Coalition Seeks Health Care Providers for its Clinical Advisory Board

Poor oral health is linked to diabetes, adverse pregnancy outcomes, heart disease, childhood illnesses, even lost school and work hours -- yet oral health can be an isolated, and often too neglected, part of health care.

The **Virginia Oral Health Coalition (VaOHC)** seeks medical and dental providers to join a **Clinical Advisory Board (CAB)** to guide our efforts to integrate oral health services, education and referrals into every applicable health care setting. Specifically, members of the CAB will weigh in on practice integration guidelines, referral protocols and strategies to support integration as it relates to their clinical specialty. Members of the CAB will also have the opportunity to share their expertise in continuing professional development and speaking engagements, as their time allows.

VaOHC is an alliance of hundreds of individuals and organizational partners who believe oral health is an essential part of overall health care. We strive to improve overall health by integrating oral health services, education and referrals into all aspects of health care – enabling Virginians of all ages and abilities to achieve optimal oral health. We achieve this through advocacy, provider education and public awareness.

We invite you to become a clinical advisor to VaOHC – your expertise and knowledge can help ensure that oral health is included as a vital component of patient-centered care.

About VaOHC

VaOHC's alliance of partners strives to integrate oral health into all aspects of health care through provider education, public awareness and advocacy efforts. Specific activities include:

- Developing solutions to reduce unnecessary emergency department use for dental-related issues in Virginia;
- Educating dental providers to comfortably treat young children, pregnant women and adults with developmental disabilities; and,
- Training pediatric providers on how to integrate oral health services and referrals into their practice.

In VaOHC's short life (five years!), these efforts are making an impact. Of note, 50 percent more physicians in Virginia are incorporating oral health services in their well-child visits by applying fluoride varnish and referring young children to early dental homes, and over 1,000 future medical providers enrolled in academic institutions throughout the state are now learning to integrate oral health into patient-centered medical care. Just one of these 1,000 providers will see over 3,500 patients a year.

If you are interested in joining the CAB, I hope you will consider completing and returning the attached form; a complete description of CAB responsibilities is included on the form. The group will meet in-person once a year in Richmond and communicate via email and phone, as needed. CAB members may serve as faculty presenters for continuing education and community events, as time allows. Please contact Sarah Bedard Holland at 804.269.8721 or sholland@vaoralhealth.org with questions.



Virginia Oral Health Coalition Clinical Advisory Board

Thank you for your interest in joining the Virginia Oral Health Coalition's Clinical Advisory Board (CAB).

The CAB is responsible for providing expert guidance and collaboration as VaOHC implements strategies to improve access to and utilization of oral health services by integrating oral health services, education and referrals into all aspects of health care. The CAB also serves as a liaison between VaOHC and the provider community.

Please review the CAB Roles and Responsibilities, VaOHC's Guiding Principles and Time Commitment information on the next page before completing the form below.

Once you have read the reverse, complete this form and email it back to Sarah Bedard Holland with a copy of your CV or résumé at sholland@vaoralhealth.org. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis. Health care providers from all sectors and specialties are welcome and encouraged to join, including but not limited to: dentistry, medicine, pharmacy, nursing and physician assistant. If you have any questions, please call Sarah at 804.269.8721.

Name: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Job Title: _____ Employer: _____

Specialty/Area of Practice: _____

Are you interested in presenting at VaOHC professional development opportunities, as your schedule allows? Yes No

By signing below, I agree that I have read and understand the CAB Roles and Responsibilities, VaOHC's Guiding Principles and the Time Commitment information.

SIGNATURE: _____

Please return your completed form to Sarah Bedard Holland at sholland@vaoralhealth.org.



Virginia Oral Health Coalition Clinical Advisory Board

Clinical Advisory Board: Roles, Responsibilities and Time Commitment

- Serve as a clinical resource to VaOHC staff and board of directors to shape practice integration guidelines, referral protocols and strategies to support integration.
- Share information about oral health integration opportunities and VaOHC activities with colleagues, and relay relevant information regarding clinical practice issues and care delivery models to VaOHC staff and board of directors.
- Attend one Clinical Advisory Board meeting annually.
- Communicate via email and phone with staff, board members and other advisory members as needed.
- Participate as a faculty presenter at professional development opportunities and community speaking engagements, based on schedule and availability.

VaOHC's Guiding Principles

- Virginians know that good oral health is essential to overall health.
- The prevalence of dental disease is reduced in Virginia through prevention activities and early diagnosis and treatment.
- Medical and dental providers and educators understand the links between oral health and overall health and work to ensure Virginians receive comprehensive care.
- Virginians have access to quality, affordable, and comprehensive dental insurance coverage.
- The oral health workforce in Virginia adequately meets the needs of its citizens by working to the full extent of their education and training.

Time Commitment

- One in-person meeting per year.
- Email and phone communication throughout the year, as needed.