

**NOVA Oral Health Subcommittee on Adults**  
**Wednesday, August 23, 2017, 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm**  
**Northern Virginia Dental Clinic**

**Participants**

Tom Fonseca, Fenwick Foundation	Carmen Regan, Northern Virginia Dental Clinic
Jody Kelly, Arlington Free Clinic	Tricia Rodgers, Northern Virginia Health Foundation
Nicole Lamb, ACTS Prince William	Tom Wilson, Northern Virginia Dental Clinic
Allen Lomax, Partnership for Healthier Alexandria	Lesby Zavala, NVFS
Betty Peebles, JCB Foundation	Lauren Gray, Virginia Oral Health Coalition

**Action Items**

- Subcommittee members will coordinate between now and next meeting (October 12) within two new subgroups: 1) Data collection – Tom Fonseca & Tricia Rodgers; and 2) Community dental resources – Jody Kelly & Allen Lomax. They will provide status updates at the next subcommittee meetings.
  - Data collection team will focus on identifying existing data sources on oral health of older adults and the scope of need, determining whether more data gathering is needed, and identifying opportunities for funding additional research.
  - Community resources team will focus on creating a directory of dental care resources for Northern Virginia.
  - Both groups will assign leads and timelines for tasks as appropriate.
- Let Lauren know if you would like to be involved in either of the above listed teams.
- If you know of existing dental resource directories, send them to Lauren (running list available on [Google Drive](#))

**Upcoming Meetings**

- Full Steering Committee: TBA (in the process of rescheduling Oct. 12 meeting)
- Subcommittee on Adults: Thursday, October 12, 2 pm – 4 pm at Northern Virginia Dental Clinic

**Notes**

*Partner Updates*

- Jody: Arlington Free Clinic has a new dentist with a military background.
- Tom F.: Fenwick is continuing to expand our LTC services using the portable dentist, 8 facilities in Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun, etc. We can talk more about it down the road.
- Lesby: NVFS will have 1 more provider in Manassas.
- Tricia: I met with ED of Neighborhood Health last week. They're getting ready to get their portable equipment - that might be another potential partnership. They haven't decided yet whether or not they're going to use it for older adults. – Tom F., might be good contact for you.

*Motion to Approve Last Meeting Minutes – Approved*

*Prioritizing Target Population*

- Tom F.: If I recall, the major guidance to the subcommittees was that we should finalize our goals, set timelines, and identify leads.
- Tricia: Would it be possible to get copy of the questions from Elder BSS? Can we influence the questions?
  - Lauren: Yes, I'll look into that.
  - COPY OF ELDER BSS AVAILABLE ON [GOOGLE DRIVE](#)
- Jody: Do we want to prioritize our objectives or try to discuss all of them?
  - Consensus: Pick one to tackle initially
- Jody: What are folks' preference to prioritize?
  - Betty: My 501(c)(3) is just getting started and I've been learning a lot in the last few months that might be applicable to this group's chosen priorities
    - Handout - Oral Health America
    - OHA had a big symposium here last week, have another event in DC in September
    - One of their projects that resonated with us was their "Tooth Wisdom" project - they've been meeting with AARP, govt officials, etc. and are doing a pilot project in Orlando going to seniors and advocating for changing Medicare policy.
    - Tom: Your org is planning to focus on the public awareness of this work plan, then?
    - Betty: We're hoping to do a documentary in collaboration with schools and professionals in the community
    - Jody: Who is the audience?
    - Betty: everybody - haven't decided - probably target medical schools first; goal would be to move people to political action
    - Tom: let's get back to prioritizing - come back to it; to me it sounds like this falls within public awareness
    - Jody: Might also relate back to multiple objectives
- Tom: Is the population older adults in LTCs one of the most important areas to start tackling?
  - Allen: To me it seems like there's still a lot of data to gather on LTC; might be a long-term objective. Do we want to prioritize people who need care today who maybe aren't aware of available resources?
  - Tricia: I'm not sure it's either/or - we have to constantly make people aware of resources. Maybe what we're not doing well is focusing on older adults; we need to be more intentional about making older adults a priority.
  - Lesby: There is no service for them, really. They don't know where to get it.
  - Tom: In Arlington where I live, there is a dental clinic at DHS that many people don't know about.
  - Jody: Could we make data collection part of our effort to increase access?
  - Tom: Fenwick was able to get this off the ground in Arlington only after getting data from their DHS about the percentage of LTC resident dental utilization. Obviously, that's my interest but I want to respect everyone's preferences.
  - Betty: It seems very narrow to focus that much to me.
  - Tricia: It depends on what we choose to do - if we're doing data gathering, would want to focus on one sub-group.

- Betty: we could data very quickly from people who are already doing the work serving this population (e.g., ProHealth or other facilities serving older adults).
  - Jody: I think it's better for us to educate community members about what benefits and services exist than to try and influence policymakers to change Medicaid dental benefit.
  - Tom F: Let's not forget that local gov'ts may be able to finance some programs.
- Tricia: If the group is in agreement about doing some data gathering, let's have a couple folks do a subcommittee and research options and funding.
- Jody: What would the subcommittees be?
  - Data gathering
  - Community dental resources/public awareness
  - Pilot project (Jody) - could we combine data gathering with an onsite program in a LTC?
    - Tom: Is what you're getting at referring to researching existing models of care?
    - Jody: I'm not sure
- Tom F: Medicaid incurred medical expense (IME) benefit and CCC+ roll out will both impact accessibility of care for seniors
  - Betty: Can you describe that for me?
  - Tom F: We have been very encouraged by the reception from local Medicaid offices and providers to use IME as a back-door to getting care for seniors.
- Tricia: can you tell the group about the Hunger free program? (to Allen)
  - Allen: There's been an effort to get providers of emergency food services around the table to find out who they were, exactly what food and how much they were providing, and then assess what the need was. We had city government, school systems, etc. who all had different lists that didn't match up. This group sat down and created a consolidated list, and update it periodically. That took quite awhile. They actually created two lists, one for providers and one for consumers. The city's not that big, but there are a number of services; so, if you think about this area, we need one list that people can trust.
  - Nicole: ACTS started a resource list in Prince William County of orgs that offer various resources, including dental, food services, etc.
  - Tricia: Is that kind of like what dental link was?
  - Lesby: [couldn't hear]
  - Tricia: I thought it was a dental provider, is that something different?
  - Lesby: We did the eligibility and then connect them to providers (?)
  - Allen: One other thing - we're now doing a GIS maps of all the food pantries and discovered that no food services are available on the weekends, and that there are large pockets of west Alexandria that are barren. So now we're using that info. This work was done mostly by volunteers and some staff.
- Could we make that [creating a resource directory] the goal of a public awareness subcommittee?
  - Consensus: yes
  - Seems to be a need
  - Would include anyone who is offering dental care to low-income services to
- Other subcommittee would be data gathering?
  - Consensus: yes

- They would decide whether to use existing data or collect new data
- Tom W: NOVA Regional Commission puts out these reports with a dental section; lists a good 15-20 resources. That might be a good place to start. Contact Michelle Simmons.
- Other existing online search engines (to inform what the subcommittee could do):
  - <https://oralhealth.acl.gov/find4>
  - <http://www.toothwisdom.org/care/state/virginia/dental>
  - <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/livewell/findadentist/>
- Timelines
  - Tricia: Will the subcommittees decide the timelines to match their objectives?
- Meetings tied to steering committee
  - Consensus: no
  - Do we need another meeting of this group prior to steering committee meeting?  
Consensus: Yes
  - Go ahead and have subcommittee meeting on 10/12 even if we don't have full steering committee meeting: 2-4 pm, here at NVDC
- Look for other community dental resource directories

*Adjourn at 3:30 pm*