

Texas Oral Health Coalition 2006 Annual Report

Mission, Purpose, Vision

The mission of the Texas Oral Health Coalition (TxOHC) is to promote oral health across the lifespan. The purpose is to promote optimal oral health for all Texans through a statewide partnership. TxOHC envisions Texas as a state where every person is known to enjoy optimal oral health as part of one's total well-being through individual and shared community responsibility where:

- Education and prevention are priorities;
- Education, prevention, and treatment are available, accessible, affordable, timely and culturally competent;
- Community solutions are shared among patients, parents, providers, employers, insurers, and government; and
- Collaboration by government, higher education, public and private sector ensures resources, supportive public policy, quality care, advocacy, and patient protection.

The slogan of TxOHC is: Oral Health For Texas.

Election of new officers

The election of officers was held via email ballot in January 2006. New officers were declared:

- Alicia Grant, RDH, Chair
- Johanna DeYoung, DDS, Vice-Chair
- Anthony Bolin, DDS, At-large member
- Teresa Ladrillo, DDS, At-large member

Meetings

During 2006, TxOHC held regular quarterly meetings in February, April, and July. (Minutes are available on request of the Coalition Coordinator Sandy Tesch.) The Steering Committee will meet on November 16, 2006 to elect the officers and at-large members for 2007. The Annual Report will be presented at a general membership meeting which is also scheduled to be held during the 2006 TxOHC Summit.

In February, Alicia Grant, Ginny Hickman, and Sandy Tesch met with Bryan Sperry, President of the Children's Hospital of Texas (CHAT), to discuss the success of the CHIP Coalition and to get his guidance to help move the goals of TxOHC forward. He recommended: having a strategic plan that focuses on one or two areas; a clear, concise, consistent message; establish goals that are doable, sellable, and will increase visibility; identify partnerships; establish a system of communication among member.

In April, Rene Lavinghouze, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Project Officer, attended the TxOHC meeting. She gave an overview of her role as the CDC Project Grant Officer and Evaluation Specialist for the CDC Division of Oral Health. She discussed the coalitions role in implementing the State Oral Health Plan, the importance of action plan development and priorities, and the importance of evaluating TxOHC's effectiveness.

In July, TxOHC members completed the Coalition Effectiveness Inventory (CEI) to evaluate coalition activities and the Coalition Membership Maintenance Exercise to determine additional groups and individuals that need to be invited to participate in the coalition.

The TxOHC Workgroups, Nominations Committee and Summit Planning Committee held numerous conference calls to accomplish their tasks throughout the year.

TxOHC Priorities and Early Intervention Special Committee

The coalition voted to use “Early Intervention” as its priority for 2006. A special committee was appointed to define “early intervention” and suggest goals. The committee consisted of Dan Jones, Linda Altenhoff, Janet Bartlett, Paul Kennedy, and Dorothy Calhoun. The special committee presented its report to TxOHC. The coalition agreed to support the goals of establishing a dental home and having the first dental visit by age one (1) year. See attached report of the committee’s recommendations.

In 2007, TxOHC anticipates developing action plans to support the agreed upon priorities.

Workgroup activities

TxOHC has 5 active workgroups. Appointed chairs for 2006 included:

- Infrastructure – Johanna DeYoung
- Surveillance – Dave Cappelli
- Access to Care –Anthony Bolin
- Population-Based Prevention – Sally Hopper
- Advocacy – Janet Bartlett

See attached reports for details of their activities.

Summit Planning Committee

The 2006 Summit Planning committee was appointed. The members included: Dan Jones, chair; Jane Steffensen; Bob Peterek; Sandy Tesch, hotel logistics. The coalition established the theme for the 2006 Texas Oral Health Summit as “*Early Intervention.*” In keeping with the theme, the Summit Planning Committee, worked to establish the agenda, speakers, location, and registration process for the event as well as hosting the event. See attached registration document for details.

Bylaws Special Committee

Due to complications encountered with the original TxOHC bylaws, a special committee was appointed in 2005 to develop recommendations for bylaws revisions. The committee included: Joe Babb (chair), Noel Garza, Johanna DeYoung, Alicia Grant and Paul Kennedy. New bylaws were presented and approved by TxOHC at the July 2006 meeting. The new bylaws will become effective November 16, 2006, and will include provisions for a board, general membership, standing committees, and workgroups.

See attached bylaws for details.

Website Development

Through the efforts of Joe Babb, Methodist Healthcare Ministries has generously allowed space on their server for the TxOHC website. Dan Jones volunteered to oversee the development of the TxOHC website. The website address was established as www.txohc.org . The website was utilized to promote the 2006 TxOHC Summit including links to the registration information and forms. In addition, the website address has been added to the TxOHC logo. See the attached logo for details.

Women, Children, Infant (WIC) Collaboration

In collaboration with TxOHC, the Department of State Health Services WIC Program, produced a new video to educate pregnant mothers on the importance of oral health for themselves and their infants. The coalition reviewed the script content and made

recommendations for inclusion in the corresponding lesson plan document. The video was reviewed by TxOHC in July. The video was ready for distribution shortly thereafter. A copy of the video with a cover letter from the TxOHC chair was distributed to the participants at the 2006 Texas Oral Health TxOHC is recognized for its contributions in the credits of the video.

TxOHC supports the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) – Oral Health Group

TxOHC supports the continuation of a DSHS state dental director and the Oral Health Program that carries out oral health plans for Texas. Dr. Linda Altenhoff, Texas State Dental Director, has reported activities of the Oral Health Program at each TxOHC meeting. Her reports included updates on the Centers for Disease Control Grant that supports her department, the Oral Health Burden document, and the State Oral Health Plan.

The coalition provided support to the Oral Health Program by providing a letter of support for its Legislative Appropriation Request Exceptional Items to Dr. Eduardo Sanchez, former DSHS Commissioner.

Lastly, TxOHC provided a letter of support to accompany a proposed grant by the Oral Health Group for the HRSA Dental Health Improvement Grant. TxOHC also encouraged its members and affiliated supporting organizations to send letters of support.

National Oral Health Conference

The National Oral Health Conference was held in Little Rock, Arkansas on April 29-May 3rd. A flyer was distributed with information about TxOHC and its activities. See attached flyer.

Respectfully submitted,
Alicia Grant, CDA, RDH
Chairman
November 16, 2006