

**MINUTES**  
**Texas Oral Health Coalition (TxOHC) Meeting**  
**February 22, 2006**

<b>TOHC Attendees</b>	<b>TOHC Attendees</b>	<b>DSHS Staff Attendees</b>
Janet Bartlett, RN, El Paso OH Commission Anthony Bolin, DDS, Baylor College of Dentistry John Brown, DDS, UTHSCSA Dorothy J. Calhoun, Head Start David Cappelli, DMD, MPH, PhD, UTHSCSA Johanna K. DeYoung, DDS, Dental Task Force of Greater Houston Bruce A. Gilmour – Midland Community Health Alicia Grant, RDH – TDHA	Ginny Hickman, Children’s Oral Health Coalition Sally Hopper – Dental Health for Arlington Dan Jones, DDS - Baylor College of Dentistry Paul Kennedy, DDS, TAPD – Corpus Christi Teresita E. Ladrillo, UTHSC, Houston Dental Branch Robert E. Peterek, DDS Jane Steffensen, MPH, CHES UTHSCSA	Linda M. Altenhoff, DDS - Oral Health Manager Tom Napier, PE - Fluoridation Program William Gray, DDS, Regional Dentist Kathy Griffis-Bailey, MS, CSHCN Sandy Tesch, RDH - TOHC Coordinator

Newly elected Chairperson, Alicia Grant, called the meeting to order and welcomed new members-at-large, Teresita E. Ladrillo and Anthony Bolin. The agenda was amended to include the adoption of the agenda and rescheduling of the appointment Summit Planning Committee to after 2:00 pm. The minutes from the December 1, 2005, TOHC minutes were then approved as presented.

**Bylaws Revision Committee**

Johanna DeYoung discussed the recommended Bylaws revisions being made by the committee appointed in December by Dr. Mickey Vaclav. Rationales were given for each change. Members were asked for their input regarding the proposed bylaws.

The following suggestions were made:

- The general membership of the coalition should have a voice in electing the TOHC board, instead of only the steering committee members;
- Investigate the requirements for the coalition to become a 501C-3;
- Dental professionals should comprise 40% of the coalition’s composition;
- Review the CDC recommended framework for membership and consider more diversity for membership;
- Consider a membership application and commitment letter from participating agencies for all TOHC members;
- Acquire permission from partners to use their logos on TOHC’s promotional materials and web site.
- Revised bylaws do not address how state employees fit into the coalition structure.

Any additional comments regarding the bylaw revisions should be sent directly to Joe Babb by March 15, 2006. An electronic version of the revisions will be distributed to the TOHC members on 2/23/06. Chair Grant announced that Joe Babb has agreed to remain as chair of the Bylaws committee until new bylaws are adopted.

**CDC Grant Report**

Linda Altenhoff reviewed the CDC grant performance measures and discussed the funding allocated for each year’s coalition activities. She explained that the grant’s funding is

designated by CDC to be for oral health program infrastructure and capacity building, and that the next funding year runs from June 30, 2006 – June 29, 2007. She then reviewed the eleven Recipient Activities that are requirements of the grant:

1. Develop oral health leadership.
2. Describe oral disease burden, health disparities, and unmet needs.
3. Develop or update a comprehensive state oral health plan.
4. Establish and sustain a diverse statewide oral health coalition.
5. Develop or enhance an oral disease surveillance system.
6. Identify prevention opportunities for systemic change to improve oral health.
7. Develop and coordinate partnerships to increase state capacity.
8. Coordinate and implement limited water fluoridation program management.
9. Evaluate, document, and share state program accomplishments.
- 10a. Develop and implement a water fluoridation program.
- 10b. Develop, coordinate, and implement a limited school-based/school-linked sealant program.

Dr. Altenhoff reviewed the CDC grant budgets for years 2004-2007. She stated that the proposed 2006–2007 budget has allocated approximately \$115,000 for coalition activities to include: hotel for the Oral Health Summit, speaker fees, meeting room rentals, supplies, limited travel, graphic design services, printing and distribution for TOHC promotional materials, and \$30,000 has been proposed to host six additional listening sessions around the state in the areas where they had not previously conducted.

Dr. Altenhoff mentioned that she would be meeting with Dr. Sanchez, Commissioner of Health, next month to discuss the re-building of the DSHS Oral Health Program and future direction. It was proposed that TOHC write a letter of support for the program. It was also suggested the health department should explore the possibility of a 4:1 state match for fluoridation grants from CDC. The monies could be put toward fluoridation contracts, startup, equipment and replacement costs.

The coalition asked for more information to be provided to them regarding the DSHS Oral Health program and CDC grant activities. A question of when the Oral Health Burden Document will be ready for distribution was asked. Dr. Altenhoff stated that the burden document is currently being updated and revised, and should be available by this summer for distribution.

### **Web Site Discussion**

Courtesy of Joe Babb, Methodist Healthcare Ministries has provided space through their Internet Service Provider (ISP) and technical support to assist with the TOHC web site development.

The url for the web site is [www.txohc.org](http://www.txohc.org). The site will include sections titled: TOHC calendar, Photos, News, Coalition Membership, Contact Info via email, Affiliations, Facts about DSHS Oral Health Program, Funding Issues, the State Oral Health Plan, the Burden Document, Regional Oral Health Coalitions, Oral Health Summit presentations, and national, state, and regional information. Links to (to or on?) the web site will include: Head Start, TDA, TDHA, TAPD, ASTDD, CDC, HHSC and DSHS.

Dan Jones is overseeing the web site's development. A suggestion was made by Sandy Tesch, Coalition Coordinator, to change the TOHC logo to match the new web site url, to TxOHC, instead of TOHC. Coalition members supported the change. Another suggestion was made to

add the url ([www.TxOHC.org](http://www.TxOHC.org)) under the logo text. Sandy will make these changes and bring a mockup of the new logo to the next meeting.

### **Meeting with CHIP Coalition/Advocate**

Ginny Hickman reported that she, Alicia Grant, and Sandy Tesch met with the President of the Children's Hospital of Texas (CHAT), Mr. Brian Sperry to discuss the success of the CHIP Coalition activities and gather input. CHAT was a co-convenor of the CHIP Coalition along with the Children's Defense Fund. The CHIP Coalition focuses on health care to low-income children, targeting their message mainly toward the legislative arena. The Coalition has a less formal structure than TOHC.

Recommendations from Brian Sperry for TOHC were: have a strategic plan that focuses on one or two areas, have a clear, concise, consistent message, be sure goals are doable, sellable, and will increase visibility, identify partnerships, look for natural partners, then look for friends outside of the oral health arena, such as school nurses, social services, case management, nursing homes, United Way, pediatricians, policy makers, media, etc. Mr. Sperry emphasized the importance of a communication avenue such as a listserv, website, newsletter.

### **Dental Video Collaboration**

Sandy Tesch, discussed the opportunity that TxOHC has been given to collaborate on the production of an oral health video for the DSHS Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program. WIC will handle the production, duplication, and distribution of the video. The video will be utilized in all Texas WIC programs and will be accompanied by an oral health lesson plan. It will focus on oral health care during pregnancy and oral health care for infants up to one year of age. The script will be developed within the next month, and TxOHC will have the opportunity to give feedback at the next TxOHC scheduled meeting. This is a great opportunity for TxOHC to promote their advocacy messages and gain visibility for the statewide coalition. Discussion included the development of promotional and educational materials (poster, brochure, flier) to mirror the video graphics and oral health messages. The video will contain the name and logo of the Texas Oral Health Coalition.

### **Early Intervention Workgroup**

Dr. Kennedy and Dr. Altenhoff distributed a handout containing a draft definition of Early Intervention developed by the workgroup, and draft goals and activities associated with the promotion of Early Intervention. The coalition members discussed the 9 goals and the activities associated with each goal. The handout is attached. The Coalition must now narrow down the message(s) before proceeding.

### **State Oral Health Plan**

Alicia Grant pointed out the need to prioritize and develop action steps for the activities listed within the State Oral Health Plan. She stated that these action plans could be divided into 3 areas: Assessment, Policy Development, and Assurance. Chair Grant appointed a special committee with the following members to revise the State Oral Health Plan into a more concise format: John Brown, Jane Stephenson, Linda Altenhoff, Dan Jones, and Paul Kennedy. This committee is asked to draft an action plan, (utilizing the existing State Oral Health Plan for guidance), to align with the Early Intervention Workgroup's recommendations.

Questions were raised regarding what the Coalition's priorities and messages were. Are they: "to establish a dental home" and "first dental checkup by age one"? Dr. Kennedy stated that clarification is needed before the committee can proceed.

Jane Stephenson discussed how it would be important to collect data on the children that will be seen. Dr. DeYoung agreed and talked about Return On Investment (ROI). The data collected will allow cost comparison between early access and early intervention. Dr. Altenhoff stated that data is currently available for Medicaid eligible regarding number of children enrolled, number of Medicaid providers, and number of oral health encounters. Direction from the Chair was provided for the Early Intervention workgroup to revise the draft goals and activities, and bring back to TxOHC at the next meeting.

### **WorkGroup Reports**

The workgroups have not been meeting since last summer. Attached are copies of their last reports submitted to the Coalition Coordinator.

A request was made for the TOHC's past chair, Dr. Vaclav, to write an annual report summarizing the coalition's activities for 2004 - 2005. Chair Grant will contact Dr. Vaclav regarding writing this report.

Dental Benefits for CHIP will resume on April 1, 2006. Dr. Kennedy briefly gave an overview of the benefits and reimbursement rates. The new administrator for the CHIP Dental Program will be Delta Dental. Provider enrollment began on January 1, 2006. For more information, visit Delta Dental web site at <http://www.deltadentalca.org/gov/>.

### **Workgroup Chair Appointments**

Chair Grant appointed the following members as Chairs to the workgroups:

Infrastructure – open

Surveillance – Dave Cappelli

Access to Care –Anthony Bolin

Population-Based Prevention – Sally Hopper

Advocacy - open

The following members were appointed to the planning committee for the next Oral Health Summit in the fall of 2006: Dan Jones (Chair), Jane Stephenson, Bob Peterek, and Sandy Tesch (hotel logistics). A suggestion was made to investigate the Hilton Hotel near the airport for easier accessibility.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, April 13, 2006, at the Omni South Park Hotel in Austin.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:15 pm.