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Events



**MDAC Members' Meeting
December 4, 2017**
MSDA
8901 Hermann Drive
Columbia, MD

[Society for Public Health Education 2017 Advocacy Summit](#)



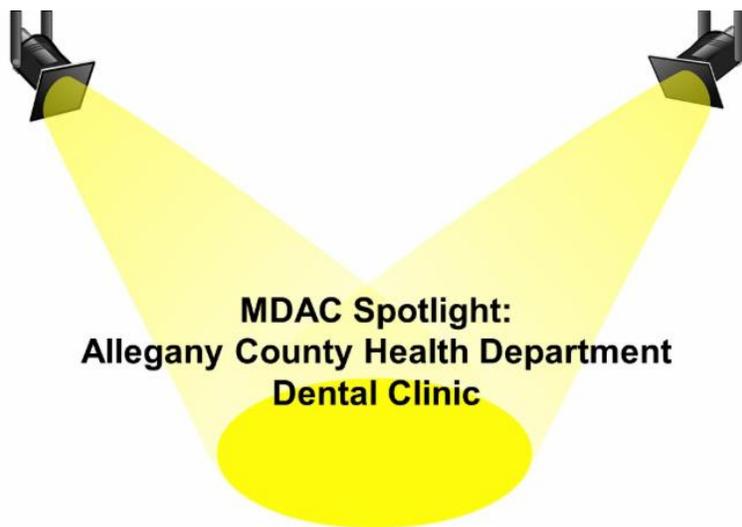
Chalmers to Present Emergency Department Study Results at December 4 MDAC Members' Meeting

Through the Maryland General Assembly's unanimous support of Senate Bill 169, the Maryland Dental Action Coalition (MDAC) is conducting a study to evaluate the cost of emergency department visits for adults with chronic dental conditions, and to assess whether state funds can be reinvested to establish an adult dental benefit in Medicaid. The study will be submitted to the Maryland General Assembly and the Maryland Department of Health by December 1, 2017.

MDAC will host a webinar on Thursday, November 9 to get member input on both the methodology of the study and how the study can support our advocacy efforts. The study is a key strategy in our collective efforts to establish an adult dental benefit in Medicaid. Its findings will likely demonstrate that Maryland should reinvest funding from ER visits into Medicaid adult dental benefits. Webinar invites will be sent out soon.

Natalia Chalmers, D.D.S., Ph.D., Director of Analytics and Publication for the DentaQuest Institute, is leading the study and will present her findings at the December 4 MDAC members' meeting, to be held at MSDA in Columbia. All members are encouraged to attend.

MDAC and its coalition partners across the state strongly advocate for Medicaid coverage of adult dental services. We hope to gain the support of Governor Larry Hogan so Maryland can ensure low-income adults have access to affordable oral health care.



MDAC is so impressed with the many efforts statewide to improve the oral health of Marylanders that we just have to share them! This month the spotlight is on western Maryland. Director of Dental Health Gretchen Seibert, D.D.S., M.A.G.D., provided this report on the Allegany County Health Department Dental Clinic:

Several new developments are under way at the Allegany County Health Department Dental Clinic. In our fifth month of MCHRC-funded Adult Urgent Dental Care initiative, we provide two innovative programs. The first is an emergency department diversion program for patients who report to the Western Maryland Hospital System Emergency Department for dental complaints. They are referred to ACHD for definitive dental care delivered within 48 hours. As of October 1, over 125 patients have received extractions for toothaches causing facial

[October 21-23, 2017](#)

[The Comprehensive Healthcare Series: The Impact Oral Health is Having on Endocrine, Cardiac and Renal Systems, October 20, 2017](#)

[National Academy for State Health Policy 30th Annual Conference, October 23-25, 2017](#)

[American Public Health Association \(APHA\) 2017 Annual Meeting and Expo, November 4-8, 2017](#)

[National Network for Oral Health Access Conference, November 12-15](#)

[Building the Case for Health Literacy, November 15, 2017](#)

[Mid-Atlantic PANDA Train the Trainer 2017, November 17, 2017](#)

[2018 National Oral Health Conference, April 16-18, 2018](#)

[2018 National School-Based Health Care Convention, June 24-27, 2018](#)

Webinars

[Network Commons: Are We Making a Difference? Tools to Measure Neighborhood-Level Health and Well-Being, October 24, 2017](#)

[How to Integrate Oral Health into School Health Using the Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child \(WSCC\) Model, October 26, 2017](#)

[Accessing Public Health Information Online: Your Guide to PHPartners, October 25, 2017](#)

[Baby Teeth Matter: Oral Health Collaborative, November 7, 2017](#)

[2016 National Survey of Children's Health, October 30, 2017](#)

[Medicaid Compliance within a Pediatric Dental Practice: Utilizing a Self-Audit, November 8, 2017](#)

[Dental Care for Patients on Suboxone and Methadone, November 16, 2017](#)

[Dental Care and the Special Needs Patient, December 1, 2017](#)

[Pediatric Disease Management: The Role of the Dental Hygienist and Promotora de Salud in the Reduction of Childhood Caries, January 24, 2018](#)

[American Society on Aging](#)

swelling, temperature, extreme pain, and lost work time. We have treated over 44 patients that walked directly to our clinic from the ED. A second portion of the grant funds supports dental appointments for senior citizens who attend HRDC Senior Centers in Allegany County. Our first Elder Care Day yielded seven patients in need of denture adjustments, two in need of extractions, and one in need of a cleaning. Four patients were veterans of our armed forces that had been unable to obtain dental care for decades.

In collaboration with AHEC West's HRDC Mountain Health Alliance grant, we have provided ten sets of complete dentures to edentulous patients in less than one year. These patients report increased self-esteem and several have obtained employment after long periods out of the workforce.

Our dentists have adopted promising new techniques and procedures through frequent continuing education courses. One such technique is the use of Silver Diamine Fluoride. This new SDF procedure provides caries control, preventing unnecessary hospital-based dental care, and the ability to treat our most vulnerable patients.

We continue a robust partnership with Allegany Health Right to provide non-urgent comprehensive dental care services to adults who are uninsured or underinsured. We have provided services to 52 patients at this point only 3 months into FY18 from direct referral through Allegany Health Right.

Sugar Free Kids Looking to Make Kids' Meals Healthier

This past Monday, Council Member Brandon Scott introduced the Baltimore City Healthy Kids' Meals Bill to the Baltimore City Council. The bill is supported by Sugar Free Kids and the Baltimore City Health Department.

The proposed legislation would make water, milk, and 100% fruit juice the default beverage option for all restaurants kids' meals in the city of Baltimore. The bill will improve health for Baltimore City families by improving healthy dining options. Families would be able to order other beverage items upon request.

Busy parents with limited options are often faced with the need to eat out on a regular basis with their families. The default options for kids' meals in restaurants are almost always sugary drinks. Mayor Pugh and the Baltimore City Council have the opportunity to ensure that healthy choices will be available to city families so that their children can have better opportunities to live long, healthy lives, free of chronic disease.

The children of Baltimore City are developing chronic diseases such as type 2 diabetes, tooth decay and hypertension at alarming rates. The prime contributing factor to these problems is the over-consumption of sugary drinks.

One in four Baltimore children drink at least one soda every day, well over the American Heart Association's recommendation that children over the age of 2 only drink one 8 oz. sugary drink a week.

Sugar Free Kids looks forward to your support as they aim to make eating out a healthier experience for Baltimore families.

CHIP Funding Expires; Executive Orders Threaten Access to Care

Two executive orders announced last week and the expiration of funding for the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) threaten to destabilize the insurance markets and leave millions of Americans without access to health or dental coverage.

The following report on actions affecting health care is from Families USA, Children's Dental Health Project, Oral Health America, Community Catalyst, and Center for Medicare Advocacy:

Late last week, the administration made the decision to cease the ACA's Cost Sharing Reduction (CSR) payments and issued an Executive Order regarding the individual and small group markets, both of which could undermine our health care system and oral health coverage.

On Thursday, the President announced that the federal government will no longer fund CSR payments to reduce deductibles and out-of-pocket costs for low-income marketplace enrollees. This will increase premiums for millions of Americans, making health coverage unaffordable for many. The decision may also lead to insurers pulling out of marketplaces in states throughout the country.

The President also issued an Executive Order on Thursday that urges the Departments of Labor and HHS to issue rules that would loosen restrictions on "association health plans" and "short-term health plans". Unrestricted, these low-cost and low-coverage plans weaken market

Continuing Education

[Treating Tobacco Use in Maryland: Tools for Helping Your Patients Quit](#)

Resources

[Compendium of Rural Oral Health Best Practices](#)

[ASTHO Telehealth Resource Guide](#)

[Oral Health America Medicare Dental Toolkit](#)

[Oral Health in America: Experiences of Older Adults and Persons with Disabilities](#)

[Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Oral Health Data Portal](#)

[Unlocking the Door to New Thinking: Frames for Advancing Oral Health Reform](#)

[Trust for America's Health Special Analysis: How Healthy is Your Congressional District?](#)

[Maryland Department of Health HPV Toolkit](#)

[Updates to the ASTDD Child Basic Screening Survey](#)

[ASTDD Dental Hygienist Liaisons Webcast: Strategies to Increase the Impact of State Dental Hygienist Liaisons](#)

Legislative Contacts

[U.S. Senators \(MD\)](#)

[U.S. Representatives \(MD\)](#)

[Maryland State Legislators](#)

Contact Us

Do you have events or announcements you'd like us to post in the MDAC newsletter? Send them to info@mdac.us. We'll make every effort to include them, as space permits.

Join MDAC!

stability, making more comprehensive coverage unaffordable. They could also undercut important Affordable Care Act (ACA) protections including Essential Health Benefit requirements, which protect pediatric oral health coverage, as well as safeguards for people with pre-existing conditions, and other standards to ensure coverage meets people's needs.

With these developments, Congress should be focusing on action to fund CSRs and to fund the Children's Health Insurance Program— the deadline for which passed over two weeks ago— and other efforts to stabilize and improve health coverage.

Resources are below to help you add your voices on these issues.

- [Social media graphic on the impact of CSR removal](#) (FUSA)
- Blog on [how ending CSR payments will hurt families](#) (FUSA)
- Blog on [how ending CSR payments will create chaos in Insurance Market](#) (CC)
- Blog on the [Executive Order](#) (FUSA)
- State numbers [on the impact of ending CSRs](#) (Center on Budget and Policy Priorities)
- CHIP resources: CDHP's [Toolkit](#), FUSA's [CHIP page](#).

MDAC encourages its members to urge Congress to work to ensure affordable health and dental coverage for all Americans.



Garrett County Receives 2017 Robert Wood Johnson Foundation 2017 Culture of Health Prize

Garrett County, Maryland is one of eight recipients of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's 2017 Culture of Health Prize, which honors communities making great strides in their journey toward better health.

Health planners in Garrett County worked with county leadership, health care and social service partners to develop MyGarrettCounty.com, a robust, data-driven on-line health planning tool focused on reducing disparities in housing, education, employment, income and health care so that all residents can thrive.

For more information on Garrett County's planning tool, [click here](#). To read more about the 2017 Culture of Health prize winners, click [here](#).

Backley Appointed to State Advisory Council on Health and Wellness

Maryland Secretary of Health Dennis R. Schrader has appointed MDAC Executive Director Mary Backley to a public seat on the Maryland Department of Health's State Advisory Council on Health and Wellness for a term of three years, beginning October 1, 2017.

The recently created Council will promote evidence-based programs for healthy lifestyles and the prevention, early detection, and treatment of chronic disease. Additionally, the Council will make recommendations to the Department related to chronic disease prevention, health, and wellness.

RFP: Building Capacity for Oral Health Fluoridation Equipment in Local Communities

The National Association of County and City Health Officers (NACCHO), in collaboration with the CDC, is pleased to offer a funding opportunity for community water systems to replace aging water fluoridation equipment or implement new equipment for the fluoridation of community water.



Join MDAC as we work to improve the oral health of all Marylanders through increased oral health promotion, disease prevention, education, advocacy and access to oral health care. To become an MDAC member, [click here](#)

Eligible entities may include state or local government agencies, oral health coalitions, state affiliates of rural water associations, and state dental associations. Applications are due November 30, 2017 by 11:59 pm ET. An informational conference call will be held October 24, 2017 at 1:00pm ET to learn more about the Request for Proposals (RFP) and to have a chance to ask NACCHO and CDC questions regarding the application and funding opportunity. Applicants are required to create a MY NACCHO account to access and submit an application. [Apply here.](#)

Charles County Approves Resolution to Increase Healthy Vending Options

The Board of Charles County Commissioners unanimously approved a resolution to increase healthy vending options on county property, joining Montgomery County, Prince George's County and the Maryland National Capital and Planning Commission in making healthy choices easier for people who live, work and play in Maryland.

The resolution, supported by Charles County wellness committee employees, will expand the availability of healthy snacks and make water available in all drink machines on county property.

Healthy vending choices help promote good health and reduce the costly effects of chronic diseases such as type 2 diabetes, heart disease and tooth decay.



2018 National School-Based Health Care Convention Call for Abstracts - Oral Health Abstracts Wanted!

The School Based Health Alliance is actively seeking oral health abstracts for its 2018 National School-Based Health Care Convention, to be held in Indianapolis, IN June 24-27, 2018.

Abstracts in this category will explore how communities, schools, and school-based health providers work together to address the unmet needs of students and their families. Submissions that highlight successful strategies in school oral health education, prevention and treatment, policy and finance, data collection and use, marketing and advocacy, parent and student engagement, outcome measures, and care coordination and integration between school and community are encouraged.

Submit abstracts [here](#) by November 6, 2017. A separate application must be completed for each submission. All applications must adhere to the guidelines. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Address questions to Donna Behrens (dbehrens@sbh4all.org) or Nataki Duncan (nduncan@sbh4all.org). Notification of applicants' status will be made in January 2018.

Federal Office of Rural Health Policy Now Accepting Applications for Rural Health Services Outreach Program

The Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP) is accepting applications for its Rural Health Care Services Outreach Program through December 6, 2017. Successful awardees

will receive up to \$200,000 a year for three years to improve healthcare access in rural communities by implementing evidence-based or promising practice models.

Applicants may apply under the regular Outreach track for projects that focus on any health-related topic, or under the newly created track addressing cardiovascular disease called Health Improvement Special Project (HISP).

For information on how to apply, click [here](#) or contact the Outreach Program Coordinator, [Meriam Mikre](#), with questions about the Program or Notice of Funding Opportunity.

ASTDD Seeks State Activities Submissions for New Best Practice Approach Use Report

The Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors (ASTDD) Fluorides and Best Practices Committees are calling for State Activity Submissions from state/territorial/community oral health programs and their partners for a new Best Practice Approach Report (BPAR) Use of Fluoride: School-Based (K-12) Programs. The new BPAR report will address the various fluoride products used in school settings.

The intent is to create a useful resource for state oral health programs and stakeholders that includes a collection of promising and best practice examples from state/territory programs including guidelines, recommendations, evidence, and field examples. ASTDD is looking for examples that provide "real" and "practical" information about programs in K-12 schools that provide topical fluorides such as fluoride varnish, silver diamine fluoride, and fluoride mouth rinse; fluoride supplements; fluoridated school water supplies; and brushing programs using fluoride toothpaste.

All State Activity Submissions will be posted on the Best Practices State Activities page on the ASTDD website. Those that exemplify best practices will be asked to submit a Descriptive Report, a more in-depth description of the dental public health activity/program, which will be included in the new Use of Fluoride: School-Based (K-12) Programs Best Practice Approach Report.

Please use the [ASTDD State Activity Submission Form](#) to submit information about your program's school-based fluoride program by no later than Friday, November 17, 2017.

Mission of Mercy Seeks Dental Director for MD/PA Program

Mission of Mercy, Inc is seeking an experienced dentist to become the first Dental Director of its faith-based, mission-oriented, volunteer-centered, health care ministry to poor and vulnerable families. A dentist with at least three years of general practice dentistry and a strong commitment to service is needed.

The ideal candidate will be excited to lead the expansion of Mission of Mercy's current modest program (1 chair portable dental equipment) that provides 650 patient visits per year, to a new 2 chair mobile dental vehicle capable of providing 2,400 patient visits annually. One of the primary responsibilities of the newly hired Dental Director will be to finalize the plans for construction of a new specialty built vehicle. In addition, the Dental Director will work to increase volunteer support at the current clinic locations and identify new locations for expansion of our mobile dental program in central Maryland and south central Pennsylvania.

The Dental Director is the primary representative of the mobile dental program, serving as the lead dentist at the clinic sites working directly with patients. The Dental Director sets the example for all dental volunteers (lay and professional) as to appropriate conduct and methodology for treating our patients, staff and volunteers with respect and dignity.

Mission of Mercy offers a generous salary and competitive benefit package including health insurance, life insurance, flexible spending plan, retirement plan, four weeks paid time-off, nine national holidays and three floating holidays.

Founded in 1994, Mission of Mercy is an independent nonprofit 501 (c)(3), nonsectarian community-based organization that utilizes active and retired licensed health professionals to provide free medical and dental services and free prescription medications to the uninsured and under-insured working poor, homeless and economically disadvantaged people through mobile health clinics at six clinic locations throughout central Maryland and south central Pennsylvania. Mission of Mercy provides all healthcare services regardless of race, color, creed, national origin or religion.

For more information, [click here](#), or contact Michael Sullivan, MD, to request a complete job description.

To apply, e-mail a cover letter to rsmith@MissionofMercy.org with resume/curriculum vitae attachment addressed to Dr. Michael Sullivan, Chief Medical Director, or send to: Michael Sullivan, MD, Dental Director Search - MD/PA, 22 S. Market Street, Suite 6D, Frederick, MD 21701.



MDAC Welcomes New Members

MDAC is pleased to welcome the following new members:

- Alissa Brooks, RDH
- Wendy Frosh, Healthcare Management Strategies

Join us! For information about MDAC membership, click [here](#).

The mission of the Maryland Dental Action Coalition is to develop and maintain a statewide partnership of individuals and organizations working together to improve the health of all Marylanders through increased oral health promotion, disease prevention, education, advocacy and access to oral health care.