



**Statewide Oral Health Strategic Planning
Kaua'i Town Hall Highlights
Tuesday, November 21, 2017**

(Note: This summary is not a comprehensive discussion, a full report will be included in the strategic plan.)

Attendees (15): Valerie Saiki (HIPHI), Pualei Kaohelaulii (DOH CDMC), DuQuesa Padamada (DOH CDMC), Steph Moir (HIPHI), Laurie Makaneole (DOH PHN), Lori Barretto (School Health Assistant, DOE), Kurylse Hesly (DOH PHN), Radona Takahashi (Executive, Aiea – county), Steph Antonio (HDS Foundation), Reina Kunsu (CFS), Karyn Leisz-Foley (DOH PHN), Cece Kilma (GoodWill), Patricia Sanchez DDS (Kuhio Pediatric Dent.), Susan Oshiro-Taogoshi (HLH), Madeleine Hiraga-Nuccio (DOH CANCD KFGC)



Oral Health – Positive Behavior at Age 1

A big focus for the participants on Kauai was the need to educate perinatal and breastfeeding mothers on how to care for a baby's oral health needs, and to avoid early childhood cavities. This includes increasing the public's awareness of the need to see a dentist by age 1. Head Start on Kauai requires families to have a dental home for program enrollment. Upon enrollment as much as 90% do not have a dental home, but by the time children leave the program at age 3, 100% have a dental home.

Workforce Shortage

In Kauai, there is a lack of availability at dentist offices that accept Medicaid payments. Hoola Lahui Hawaii (FQHC) is a dental safety net for the community, and Tropic Care’s dental services have always been well used.

Opportunity in Schools

The meeting participants on Kauai valued incorporating oral health promotion into public schools. Dental exams could be made a requirement for kindergarten entry, similar to the new 7th grade physical; however this could be challenging due to the lack of providers on the island. Education for oral hygiene can be delivered in school by table brushing and creating a “Stop Cavities at School” program similar to “Stop Flu.” Currently some children are still rewarded with candy in schools, and many low-income kids do not have access to regular meals. After school, kids are consuming high-sugar items like soda and shave ice. The group identified the important role of teachers in modelling healthy eating and lifestyle habits.

Policies

Like on other islands, the Kauai group identified the impact of including comprehensive adult dental benefits in the Medicaid fee schedule. Also mentioned was an idea to address the workforce shortage through internships. It was inquired if the health center can provide after-hours care, which would improve convenience for parents who are unwilling to take time off from work. The virtual dental home might be more successful on Kauai if there were more dental hygienists on the island. The Kauai group was supportive of initiating a school-entry requirement involving oral health evaluation. The group was also supportive of creating a sugar-sweetened beverage tax.

Post-meeting Evaluation Results

	1 = Poor	2 = Below Average	3 = Average	4 = Above Average	5 = Excellent	NA
Format/Structure						
Overall Meeting	(0)	(0)	(0)	(3)23%	(9)69%	(1)8%
Length of Meeting	(0)	(0)	(1)8%	(2)15%	(9)69%	(1)8%
Amenities						
Meeting Room	(0)	(0)	(0)	(2)15%	(10)77%	(1)8%
Catering	(0)	(0)	(0)	(1)8%	(11)84%	(1)8%
Meeting Sections						
Hawaii State Oral Health Program Update	(0)	(0)	(0)	(3)23%	(9)69%	(1)8%
Breakout and Discussion	(0)	(0)	(0)	(2)15%	(10)77%	(1)8%
Planning & Prioritization	(0)	(0)	(1)8%	(1)8%	(10)77%	(1)8%

Comments and/or suggestions:

- Great information sharing.
- an increase awareness of the strategic plan & seek more partnership to implement the plan
- Support expansion of FQHC for adult dental care. 2) Support families to access EPSDT Quest 1 year eval + 3 year old QUEST exam

- More dentists at the table!!!
- It was great to hear others opinions
- Grant money to help community w/ community partner that's not cover by their insurance