



**Statewide Oral Health Strategic Planning  
Oahu Town Hall Highlights  
Thursday, December 14, 2017**

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

**Attendees (43):** Erik Abe (Hawai'i Primary Care Association), Davin Aoyagi (American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network), Andrea Braun (Family Dental), Theresa Brown, Rachel DiPasquale, DDS, Jen Ernst (Special Olympics Hawai'i), Dan Fujii, DDS, Robert Hirokawa (Hawai'i Primary Care Association), Aly Hite (American Heart Association), Nathan Hokama, Karen Ho (Hawai'i Dental Service), Ellie Kelley-Miyashiro (Colgate Oral Pharmaceuticals), Anthony Kim, DMD (Waimanalo Health Center), Gregg Kishaba (DOH), Tercia Ku (Papa Ola Lokahi), Julian Lipsher, Debra Mapel (Dentist), Alan Matsunami (Community Case Management Corporation), Jacce Mikulanec (HMSA Foundation), Kim Nguyen (Hawai'i Dental Association), Wendy Nihoa (DOH), Melissa Pavlicek, Shere Saneishi-Kim (Hawai'i Dental Service), Robert Sherman, DMD (Hawai'i Dental Service), Kathy Suzuki-Kitagawa (Hawai'i Primary Care Association), Marjorie Ann Tayao (DOH), Anjali Vyas (American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network), Rachel Wilkinson (AlohaCare), Susan Yamamoto (Shriners Hospitals for Children), Leslie Yap (DOH), Deborah Zysman (Hawai'i Children's Action Network), Dayton Lum (HDA), Joan Takamori, RN (DOH), Shere Saneishi-Kim (HDS), Nancy Partika (UHM & GT!HI), Lia Pedrina (HIPHI), Ethan Allen (HPHA)



### General Meeting Format

The town hall meeting itself consisted a large group with multiple small-group breakouts. These notes are not inclusive of all the points discussed.

### Public and Private Payment Reform

Several participants on Oahu represented the major dental service payor networks and talked about the need for both private insurance reform and restoration of adult Medicaid benefits. The benefits of the healthcare industry moving from fee-for-service to pay-for-performance reimbursement models was discussed. Dentists would need to record and enter data related to diagnostic coding, which would be used in quality performance measurement.

The Medicaid fee schedule has not been raised in many years, and there is low incentive for dental providers to participate in the Medicaid payment program.

Data can be used to show how uncompensated hospital costs or revenue from an SSB tax could be used to fund increased adult dental benefits.

### Need for Collaboration

Another major discussion theme at the Oahu meeting was the need for inter-disciplinary collaboration and education, including information/data sharing across agencies, and provider cross-referral. Related to this, dental providers could work with navigators and community health workers as part of an interdisciplinary team. There is also a need for increased cooperation with the Department of Education, both in policy change and in student education. Oral health hygiene and school-based programs are historically effective in schools, particularly if high risk schools are targeted. Dental hygienists can also play a role in providing education in schools. Requiring a dental exam for school entry was a supported conversation piece, similar to what was observed on other islands.

### Prevention

Community water fluoridation was a big discussion point, similar to other town hall meetings. The group identified that messaging and public education is necessary, as well as calling for increased clarification of the public opinion on fluoridation in Hawaii. The meeting group suggested that currently the voices opposing fluoridation may be disproportionately loud compared to the general public opinion and may not accurately reflect the public opinion. It was suggested that the matter should be revisited at the legislative level. It was suggested that the Oral Health Coalition should work together to educate and inform the public about the facts surrounding water fluoridation, allowing for a better informed public opinion.

More activity related to reducing sugar-sweetened beverages consumption is necessary.

### Post-meeting Evaluation Results

Format/Structure	1 = Poor	2 = Below Average	3 = Average	4 = Above Average	5 = Excellent	NA
Overall Meeting	(0)	(0)	(2)8%	(8)31%	(15)58%	(1)4%
Length of Meeting	(0)	(1)8%	(2)15%	(9)69%	(1)8%	(0)

<b>Amenities</b>						
Meeting Room	(0)	(0)	(2)8%	(7)27%	(16)61%	(1)4%
Catering	(0)	(0)	(2)8%	(12)48%	(11)44%	(0)
<b>Meeting Sections</b>						
Hawaii State Oral Health Program Update	(0)	(0)	(3)11%	(9)35%	(14)54%	(0)
Discussion	(0)	(0)	(3)8%	(7)27%	(17)65%	(0)
Planning & Prioritization	(0)	(1)4%	(5)20%	(8)32%	(9)36%	(2)8%

**Comments and/or suggestions:**

- Good work, guys!
- Are you going to Prachella SOF lecture at HDA next month?
- Overall a very good meeting.
- Awesome job! I look forward to the "next steps" - website?
- I'm unable to stay til the end and will look forward to seeing progress & "next steps"
- Thank you!
- The venue was lovely; bathrooms were accessible & clean, food was excellent & parking was easy! Lovely choice!
- Thanks!
- Please note that everything said is the opinion of the person who said it. Not re mainly fact.