

# ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE STATE PROGRAM FOR ORAL HEALTH MEETING MINUTES

Friday, May 30, 2025  
9:00 a.m. until adjournment.

This meeting is being held virtually. There is no physical location.

Participate Online  
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Meeting ID: 247 373 907 457

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## NOTICE:

1. Agenda items may be taken out of order;
2. Two or more items may be combined; and
3. Items may be removed from agenda or delayed at any time

### 1.) Call to Order and Roll call – Vice Chair Dr. Whitney Bryant order 9:04 AM

<i>Members Present}</i>	<i>Members Excused}</i>
Dr. Lisa Collier, Council Chair	Ben Prohaska
Dr. Whitney Bryant, Vice Council Chair	Dr. Cucalon Calderon
Ms. Terri Chandler	Dr. John Koopman
Dr. Bryce Putnam	Dr. Catherine McCarthy
Ms. Lynn Short	Dr. Tina Abatangelo
Ms. Jennifer Bradley	
Dr. Tara Van Orden	
Dr. Maryam Tabrizi	

2.) Public Comment

- No action may be taken upon a matter raised under public comment period unless the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an action item. To provide public comment telephonically, dial 1-775-321-6111. When prompted to provide the conference ID, enter 171 141 218#. Comments will be limited to three (3) minutes per person. Members of the public utilizing the call-in (audio only) number may raise their hand by pressing \*9. Persons making comment will be asked to begin by stating their name for the record, spell their last name and provide the secretary with written comments.

There was a public call from Christy Thomas, former president for the Nevada Dental Hygienist Association and a current member of the Health Equity Call to Action taskforce. The taskforce is looking to improve full body health awareness, especially in the underserved African-American populations. Lynn Short and Dr. Keith Benson provided their contact information to assist the caller in connecting with medical advisory committees.

3.) For Possible Action: Review and approve the meeting minutes from February 21, 2025

There was a motion to approve the meeting minutes of February 21, 2025, by Dr. Putnam. There was a second to the motion by Terri Chandler. Motion carried unanimously.

4.) For Discussion and Information Only: Update of Oral Health Program/Nevada Medicaid – Dr. Keith Benson, State Dental Health Officer, Division of Healthcare Financing and Policy

The Oral Health Program is currently housed with Jannette Gomez, Nevada State Dental Hygienist, at our sister division, the Division of Behavioral and Public Health. This program has been under an MOU with Nevada Medicaid; however, the program will move and be housed under Nevada Medicaid in the upcoming biennium. The Nevada State Dental Hygiene position will be funded full-time as a contractor position where it was previously funded part-time. Unfortunately, Jannette has chosen a different career path and is no longer our state dental hygienist.

The passage of Senate Bill 394 will rename the Division of Healthcare Financing Policy as Nevada Medicaid and will be under a new department, the Nevada Health Authority. This will include some of the licensing boards such as medical offices, as well as PEBP. Currently the only dental bill that has been signed by the governor is AB 202, which is Denied Dental Claims, it will now go to an external review by the Office for Consumer Health Assistance. There are several dental bills that have been enrolled and sent to the governor, including AB 334, which removes the five-year working requirement for licensure in Nevada for credential by a dental hygienist and SB-268, which requires private insurance to reimburse for services provided by a dental hygienist. Moving forward with an application to a work group centered around Medicaid providers and how to improve recruitment and retention.

- 5.) For Discussion and Information Only: Update on American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding for school based oral health programs - Ms. Lynn Short, Sealant Coordinator, Division of Healthcare Financing and Policy

ARPA funding is supporting 8 school-based programs providing sealants and fluoride varnish in all 16 counties including Carson City. Data by our programs is due by June 30th, so we will have information of the amount of youth served. There will also be the number of sealants placed as well as retention and other data that that is being collected. For the upcoming school year of 2025-2026 we will be providing support to six school-based programs. There are two programs that will not be receiving funding; however, they have committed to continuing service to the same communities. Lynn Short will monitor the sustainability of school-based programs without funding as well as documenting what the value of this funding has been through ARPA.

Working on finalizing a plan for prioritizing schools in the state that do not have a school-based sealant program while meeting criteria defined by the CDC. Finalizing first issue brief, which is going to document the impact of these evidence based preventive dental service programs during the first half of year one funding. A second issue will be produced for the entire year one.

- 6.) For Discussion and Information Only: Legislative updates from the Nevada Dental Association – Marianna Kacyra

Marianna nor a representative attended the meeting from the Nevada Dental Association.

- 7.) For Discussion and Information Only: Organized dentistry update and report from the Nevada Dental Hygienists' Association – Marvelyn Navarro

There have been several CE (continuing education) training sessions provided to current members, including virtual Quarterly CE training sessions on the topics of the Role of RDH and Caries management. There is an upcoming CE training in August. Currently, the NDHA is planning The House of Delegates session which will take place on October 24<sup>th</sup> at the College of Southern Nevada Student Union. In addition, NDHA is planning the annual session, which will be an 8-hour CE training day and will also take place at the College of Southern Nevada Student Union on October 25<sup>th</sup>. Planning is taking place for the Oral Cancer Walk for Nevada that will be hosted in Reno this year.

- 8.) For Discussion and Information Only: LIBERTY dental update – Laurie Curfman

Liberty has been invited to participate in the 2026 MCO implementation and that has been kicked off. Liberty is going to be attending the weekly project status meeting to help as needed.

9.) For Discussion and Information Only: Diagnostic terms and ICD-10 Codes – Terri Chandler, RDH, Future Smiles

ICD-10 codes are used for insurance claims for school sealant programs; however not all programs perform the same services. Future Smiles, for example provides sealants and fluoride varnish as well as performing carries risk assessments. The services are very limited due to the ICD-10 codes they are restricted to. However, there are other programs that take X-rays and provide prophies in which the ICD-10 codes may differ and can vary. Having the appropriate ICD-10 code is very important.

A sub-committee was suggested to provide advice and direction for the school sealant programs, and address codes, particularly ICD-10 codes. Terri Chandler, RDH and Dr. Tara Van Orden, DMD both motioned to create the committee.

10.) For Discussion and Information Only: Term Limit and organization of officers

Dr. Tara Van Orden made a motion to reappoint Terri Chandler, RDH, Dr. Lisa Collier and Dr. Bryce Putnam to another term on the AC4OH Advisory Committee. Dr. Whitney Bryant seconded the motion. There are a couple of members whose term is up, and since they were not present at the meeting, they will be contacted to see if they seek re-appointment.

Dr. Whitney Bryant made the motion to elect Dr. Bryce Putnam as Chair of the AC4OH Advisory Committee. Terri Chandler seconded the motion.

11.) For Discussion and Possible Action: Topics to be included for the August 15, 2025 meeting

Agenda topics for the next AC4OH meeting include:

1. Vice Chair nomination and/or vote other committee members
2. Update from ICD-10 committee
3. Letter to the Administrator review
4. Opportunity for Advocates of Oral Health within Nevada and National level to present

Dr. Whitney Bryant motioned to approve topics for the next meeting. Dr. Lisa Collier seconded the motion.

12.) PUBLIC COMMENT

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No public comment.

**13.) Adjournment:** Dr. Whitney Bryant – Vice Chair

There was a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:43 am by Dr. Putnam. There was a second to the motion by Dr. Collier. Motion carried unanimously.

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**NOTICE OF THIS PUBLIC MEETING WAS POSTED AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS**

- Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health: 4150 Technology Way, Carson City, NV 89706
- Division of Health Care Financing and Policy, 4070 Silver Sage Drive, Carson City, NV
- Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health's website: <https://dpbh.nv.gov/Programs/OH/dta/Boards/AC4OH-Home/>
- Nevada Department of Administration's website: <https://notice.nv.gov/>

We are pleased to make reasonable accommodations for members of the public who are disabled and wish to call into the meeting. In the event of Microsoft Teams application has technical difficulties, the meeting may be conducted by teleconference from the same location. If special arrangements are necessary, please notify Valerie Salazar, Division of Health Care Financing and Policy, in writing please sent to, 4070 Silver Sage Drive, Carson City, NV 89701 or by calling (775) 687-3806 as soon as possible and at least five days in advance of the meeting. Written comments in excess of one typed page on any agenda items which requires a vote are respectfully requested to be submitted to the Oral Health Program at the above address five (5) calendar days prior to the meeting to ensure that adequate consideration is given to the material.

If at any time during the meeting, an individual who has been named on the agenda or has an item specifically regarding them, including on the agenda is unable to participate because of technical difficulties, please contact [v.salazar@dhcfp.nv.gov](mailto:v.salazar@dhcfp.nv.gov) and note at what time the difficulty started to that matters pertaining specifically to their participation may be continued to a future agenda if needed or otherwise addressed.

Please be cautious and do not click on links in the chat area of the meeting unless you have verified that they are safe. If you ever have questions about a link in a document

purporting to be from AC4OH, please do not hesitate to contact [v.salazar@dhcfp.nv.gov](mailto:v.salazar@dhcfp.nv.gov). Please refrain from commenting in the chat area of the meeting, unless requested to, because minutes are required to be taken of the meeting.

Supporting materials for the agenda can be found on the State Oral Health Website: <https://dpbh.nv.gov/Programs/OH/dta/Boards/AC4OH-Home> or you may contact Valerie Salazar, Division of Health Care Financing and Policy - Dental at 775-687-3806 or by email at [v.salazar@dhcfp.nv.gov](mailto:v.salazar@dhcfp.nv.gov).