KOHC Spring Quarterly Meeting

Friday, March 29th, 2024

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Kentucky Oral Health Coalition
For a lifetime of oral health

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Housekeeping

- CEUs
- Q & A Feature
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Meeting Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- KOHC 2024 Legislative Update
- 2024 Coalition Projects and Events
- Member Updates
- Panel Discussion: *Opportunities for Increasing Access to Care in Kentucky*
- Closing
Legislative Updates

Alicia Whatley, Policy and Advocacy Director
Kentucky Youth Advocates
Legislative Session Refresher

- 2024 General Assembly: 60 working days, state budget session
- Completed 58 of 60 days, currently in Veto Period
- Sine Die: 4/15/24
- Over 1200 bills filed
2024 Policy Priorities

- Protect community water fluoridation
- Increase Medicaid reimbursement rates for dental providers
- Protect current oral health services covered in the Medicaid program
- Reduce youth initiation of tobacco and nicotine products
Protect community water fluoridation

- HB 141 filed by Representative Mark Hart
- Passed by House State Government Committee
- Received 2 readings on the House floor

- KOHC staff and members from around the state advocated to ensure HB 141 did not advance past the House
Increase Medicaid reimbursement rates for dental providers

- HB 1 and HB 6 are among bills that outline the KY state budget, including Medicaid spending
- The Senate version of HB 6 included additional investments to support rate increases for Medicaid dental services
- And included language ensuring MCOs reimburse no less than the rate outlined on the Medicaid fee-for-service program
- Final version of HB 6 removed this language, but additional Medicaid investments were made in HB 1
Protect current oral health services covered in the Medicaid program

- SB 65 advanced through both chambers, nullifying the emergency regulations expanding adult Medicaid dental services
- The ordinary regulations have been allowed to stand and are currently active
Reduce youth initiation of tobacco and nicotine products

- HB 11 included some elements that could help with reducing youth initiation of tobacco and nicotine products, but ultimately was amended to include few provisions that support better enforcement of T-21 law
- Final budget fell short of the needed increase in tobacco prevention and cessation funding
2024 KOHC Projects and Events

• Website Education Resources
• Virtual Coalition Meetings: June and September
• In-Person Annual Meeting: December
Member Updates
Panel Discussion

• Laura Brannon, Project Manager, Dental Therapy, Community Catalyst
• Dr. Whitney L. Deitz, DMD, Aspen Dental
• Dr. Stephen W. Robertson, DMD, Executive Director, Kentucky Dental Association
• Julie Smith, RDH, Director of Dental Services for Cumberland Family Medical Center, Inc.
Thank you for Joining!

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