

Medi-Cal Dental Advisory Committee Meeting



Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 18, 2024 – 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Sacramento County Public Health Education Programs
9616 Micron Avenue, Suite 900 – Conference Room 1
Sacramento CA 95827

Zoom Meeting ID: 160 870 1067

Facilitator: Jonathan Porteus, Chair

Scribe: Jennifer Fitzpatrick

Members Present:

- James Musser
- Olivia Kasirye
- Jonathan Porteus
- Roshani Mehta
- Sunanda Bandyopadhyay
- Cathy Levering
- Julie Gallelo
- Monica Montano
- Vanessa Stacholy
- Timothy Martinez
- Robin Blanks-Guster
- Cynthia Stuart

Members Absent:

- Bilee Hernandez
- Shannon McConnell

Members Called in:

- Rachel Shafer
- Mary Jess Wilson
- Darell Kenworthy
- Michelle Monroe

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Public Present in person or teleconference: Adrienne Sawyer, Adrienne Sammut, Annaly Quintero, Adrianna Alcalá-Beshara, Amanda Morgan, Ann Cadoret, Bre Stark, Brian Jones, Brittany Vacura, Chris Llamas, Cynthia Smith, Debbie Blanchard, Danielle Cannarozzi, Debra Payne, Destiny Rockwood, D Ferber, Dorothy Seleski, E Cruz, Felicia Fondren, G. Simington, Griselda Zamora, Helen Pham, Jeanette Diaz, Jennifer Duong, Jennifer Fitzpatrick, Jill O’Dell, K. Morrill, Judy Lema, Linh Le, Liz Bishop, Margaret Delmore, May Saeturn, Morgan Musser, Paul Glassman, Paula Lee, Peter Mendoza, Robin Muck, Rosanna Jackson, Cherag Sarkari, Susan McLearn, Tiffany Turner, Tracy Ngo.

12:00	Welcome and Introductions	Meeting called to order at 12:05 pm by Jonathan Porteus.
12:09	Approve Meeting Minutes (Action)	December 7, 2023 minutes reviewed by the Committee. Moved to approve: Cynthia Stuart Seconded: Cathy Levering Motion Carried.
12:10	Approve new MCDAC member (Action)	Committee approves new member-Cherag Sarkari (Dental Plan Representative- Liberty) Moved to approve: Cathy Levering Seconded: Dr. Bandyopadhyay Motion carried.
12:15	Review of MCDAC Goals and Accomplishments for 2022 and 2023	Review of MCDAC Goals and Accomplishments for 2022 and 2023 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Updated Sacramento County Needs Assessment which helped to inform MCDAC work plan and resulted in the formation of two subcommittees in 2023: the Comparison County/MCDAC Fact Sheet workgroup to provide analysis of fact sheet format and county level data comparison and make suggestions for improvement based on demographics and other population variables and the Work Plan workgroup to create an action plan to address the seventeen recommendations made in the Assessment. b. Coordinated response to actions taken by DHCS in 2023. c. Increase in partnerships with managed care plans. d. Charter changes to expand membership and allow greater community level representation. e. DCHS is requesting report from 2022 and 2023; 2022 is overdue and DHCS would like to get ahead of 2023 reporting period. MCDAC will approve report for submission to DHCS at next meeting in February.

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12:30	MCDAC Subcommittee Updates	<p>MCDAC Subcommittee Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Comparison County/Medi-Cal Dental Fact Sheet Workgroup: Discussion about DMC to FFS comparisons—Alameda, Contra Costa vs. Fresno County comparisons. Sacramento is uniquely diverse and transportation needs are different in Sac County. Both FFS and DMC provide transportation, but not all members are aware of the benefit. Transportation for individuals with disabilities is primarily with Paratransit, but there can be accessibility and availability issues. DCHS reports that because members can use the benefit for medical or non-medical, data may be hard to track. Committee opts to propose following the Needs Assessment recommendation for comparison to Alameda and Contra Costa counties. Committee will vote to approve proposal at next meeting. b. 2023 MCDAC Work Plan Workgroup—progress has been slowed by other concerns. The subcommittee will reconvene to address recommendations in 2022 Sacramento County Oral Health Needs Assessment and report progress at next meeting. c. Letter to DHCS in Response to RFP Workgroup—committee letter in response to the RFP process was set aside to address the DHCS announcement of Plan Parity Waiver and changes to enrollment effective 12/1/2023. Letter in response to those changes went to county leadership, DCHS, and County Board of Supervisors in November 2023. d. FFS Provider Network Adequacy Subcommittee-- Debra Payne, Adrienne Sammut, Cherag Sarkari, Cynthia Stuart, James Musser, Jonathan Porteus, Robins Blanks-Guster, Roshani Mehta, Timothy Martinez volunteer for the subcommittee. Will provide an update at the February meeting.
12:46	Public Comment	<p>Medi-Cal beneficiary invited by Dr. Musser to vocalize the challenges she faced when her grandson was switched from DMC to FFS without authorization. The child was referred to Dr. Musser with an active infection. There were many challenges to appoint him for sedation until Dr. Musser’s staff intervened and he now has an appointment for treatment this month. There are concerns that misinformation or incomplete information is being provided to members. Current DMC clients should know they are not required to switch to FFS. What kind of training is provided to the call center representatives? DHCS requests that instances where members are misled be reported to dental@dhcs.gov. They will respond quickly. Is there a way to communicate to clients that if they change to FFS, there is no easy way back to DMC? Only in the case of an access to care issue, a review will determine the return to DMC. Those cases are added to a cumulative list to inform DCHS of an access to care issue. When providers are facilitating workarounds to the problem, DCHS won’t know the problem exists. It is important to reach out to DCHS so they know there is an access to care issue in FFS.</p>

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1:23	Center for Oral Health/Early Smiles Sacramento Update	Presented by Rachel Shafer From July to December 2023, COH screened just under 15,000 students. E-consents were rolled out successfully this week. The goal is to pilot e-consent in some schools this spring before going paperless next year. 10,000 wristband reminders went out to students in Twin Rivers along with consents to help increase consent return rates.
1:25	CDA Update	Presented by Monica Montano Funding for the \$50 million grant program to expand dental clinics for those with special health care needs is delayed.
1:26	Dental Plan Updates	<p>Presented by Dr. Sarkari (Liberty), Tim Martinez (Health Net), Elizabeth Bishop (Access)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Between December 2023 and January 2024, Access attended a SETA Health Services Advisory Committee parent involvement meeting where Dr. Meta presented on oral health and teledentistry and participated in 3 workgroups regarding diagnostic terminology, codes, volunteer and clinical workgroups. The provider relations team has continued to do in-person (100) and webinar visits (2) in the last two months. Access has added 73 new Medicaid providers and 2 new pediatric locations for GMC. Education to the network on a new portal and its enhanced features to go live this month. A new member incentive starts this month. Access has just finalized an MIS system migration that will help support more efficient processes. Teledentistry is the first line defense for emergencies and navigation support. • Health Net attended 59 events in Q4, and in Q1 3 events are scheduled. Health Net is awaiting DHCS approval for new member incentives. Outreach calls to over 20,664 members and 193 appointments were coordinated by the Health Net member call center. 8 DMC providers were added in 2 offices, 14 health plan providers, 2 specialists and 4 GMC providers were added on the medical side. • Liberty has been working with partners: Greater Sacramento Urban League, Sacramento Education Council, Early Smiles Sacramento, family resource centers, Next World City Net, Twin Rivers Unified, San Juan Unified, the international rescue committee, Sac State and the Mexican Consulate. Liberty continues to attend events mostly in person. Liberty continues to explore new opportunities and has added 2 new offices in Sacramento County which represents 11 new providers in Sacramento and 2 in Yolo County. Liberty continues to verify access to care. Liberty was able to roll out a self-service teledentistry platform in December, accessible on the website, and clients can request an emergency dental consult with staff clinicians. Liberty is tracking how soon they access care after the teledentistry visit.

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1:36	Announcements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• SDDS shared an announcement that some member dentists are selling a dental van, fully equipped and never used. The selling price is \$185,000. If interested, please contact Cathy Levering for more information.• Agenda items for February 1 meeting:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Vote to approve proposal of new comparison counties for MCDAC Fact Sheet○ Vote to approve report of MCDAC accomplishments and goals for 2022 and 2023
1:37	Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Meeting adjourned at 1:37 pm by Jonathan Porteus.• Next Meeting February 1, 2024 2:00 -4:00 pm