



Smart Bites
Spring 2009

Thanks to all that participated in the March executive council, networking and membership meetings.

2009 could prove to be an exciting and productive year for the coalition. Despite economic circumstances, the coalition continues to grow. Funding has been secured for a managing director, communications specialist, advocate and lobbyist, which are all working hard to carry out the mission of OHAC!

Planning continues with "community conversations" throughout the state with a variety of partners. On April 16th, OHAC! will partner with Colorado Rural Health Center and participate in Progressive 15's pre-conference in Burlington. The conversations are designed to discuss the needs and services of the community, and how OHAC! might assist.

The merger between OHAC! and Colorado Oral Health Network (COHN) is complete with COHN acting as the safety arm of OHAC!

In the coming year the coalition will be implementing tools to strengthen and increase membership diversification.

A strategic planning session will be lead by Marcy Frosh, Project Director for Children's Dental Health Project out of Washington, D.C. on May 15th, exact time and place is yet to be determined.

The following reports were discussed at the March meeting. The coalition will assist in disseminating this information to providers and interested parties.

The link below is the Provider Bulletin outlining a revised list of dental procedures that are benefits for Colorado Medicaid clients effective January 1, 2009.

<http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite?blobcol=urldata&blobheader=application%2Fpdf&blobkey=id&bloptable=MungoBlobs&blobwhere=1229570861480&ssbinary=true>

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
2008 NATIONAL DENTAL SUMMARY
January 2009

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicaidDentalCoverage/Downloads/natdensum011209.pdf>

Medicaid Dental Coverage

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicaidDentalCoverage/>

With additional links to:

[Town Hall Forum on Access to Dental Care for Medicaid-Eligible Children; April 6, 2009](#)

[Guide to Children's Dental Care in Medicaid \[PDF, 624KB\]](#)

[Dental Contacts \[PDF, 199KB\]](#)

[Policy Issues in the Delivery of Dental Services to Medicaid Children and Their Families \[PDF, 55 KB\]](#)

[National Dental Summary Report 2008 \[PDF, 346 KB\]](#)

[State Reports 2008 \[ZIP, 1630 KB\]](#)

Increased Demand for Services Announcement Number: HRSA-09-218

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA or Recovery Act), signed into law February 17, 2009, provides \$500 million in grants to support new sites and service areas, increase services at existing sites, and provide supplemental payments for spikes in uninsured populations to health centers that receive operating grants under section 330 of the Public Health Service (PHS) Act, as amended (42U.S.C. 254b).

Additional information on the Recovery Act can be found at <http://www.recovery.gov>.

Information on activities related to the Recovery Act at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services can be accessed at <http://www.hhs.gov/recovery>.

Funds made available by the Recovery Act will support health centers in their efforts to address the increased demand for services nationwide as well as create employment opportunities in underserved communities over the next two years. Strategies to expand services may include, but are not limited to, adding new providers, expanding hours of operations, and/or expanding existing health center services. As one-time awards, there is no expectation for ongoing support of IDS activities after the end of the 2-year project period.

Please send newsletter information to c.groves@beasmartmouth.com