Welcome to the 2011 NPOHC:
“Envisioning a Better Future for Oral Health”
John McFarland, DDS
NNOHA President
October 24, 2011
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NNOHA’s Mission

“The mission of the National Network for Oral Health Access (NNOHA) is to improve the oral health of underserved populations and contribute to overall health through leadership, advocacy, and support to oral health providers in safety-net systems.”
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Disparities in Oral Health: Disease

- Migrant populations have 3 times the incidence of dental decay than the average population.
- The prevalence of adult coronal caries was 92% during 1999–2004. During the same time period, 28% of adults had untreated tooth decay.
- Each year over 164 million hours are missed from work and 52 million hours from school due to dental problems.
Percentage of Adults With Untreated Caries by Family Income (GAO 2000)
Disparities in Oral Health: Disease - Children

- Tooth decay is the single most common chronic disease of childhood
- **30 million** children or roughly **1 in 3** American children were enrolled in Medicaid in 2007.
- **6.5 million** children on Medicaid age 2-18 have untreated decay.
Percentage of Children With Untreated Caries by Family Income (GAO 2000)

The graph shows the percentage of children with untreated caries by family income and age group. The age groups are:
- 2-5 YO Primary Teeth
- 6-12 YO Primary Teeth
- 6-14 YO Permanent Teeth
- 15-18 YO Permanent Teeth

The income ranges are:
- $0K - $10K
- $10K-$20K
- $20K-$35K
- $35K+

The data is represented by bars, with each bar showing the percentage of children with untreated caries for each age group within each income range.
Disparities in Oral Health: Disease (Cont’d)

• Populations served by health centers are particularly at risk for oral disease and have the highest disease level.
Disparities in Oral Health: Access

- **33%** of those in poverty saw a dentist in a given year versus **61%** of those not in poverty.
- Even though states are required to provide dental care to Medicaid-enrolled low-income children, only **one in three** of these children utilized services in 2006.
- In 2004, **56.4%** of community population (non-institutionalized; approximately 294 million) did not visit dentists.
- As of September 30, 2009, there are 4,230 Dental HPSAs with 49 million people living in them. It would take **9,642 practitioners** to meet their need for dental providers (a population to practitioner ratio of 3,000:1).
Percentage of Population Who Made a Dental Visit in the Preceding Year (GAO 2000)
Disparities in Oral Health: Funding

- **120 million** Americans do not have dental insurance as opposed to 43 million without medical insurance.
- There are no dental benefits under Medicare.
- There are limited dental benefits for adults under Medicaid, and benefits vary from state to state.
- CHP+ benefits vary from state to state.
About Health Centers

Dental Users since 1992

Health Center Dental Users

NNOHA
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Increase in Medical and Dental Patients: Gaps with in Health Centers

Growth of Health Center Patients 2006 to 2010

- Medical: 13,152,687 to 19,469,467
- Dental: 2,557,003 to 3,750,481

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Gaps in Utilization

- In 2008, Health Centers provided dental care to 3.1 million patients with 7.3 million visits. During that same year, Health Centers provided medical care to 14.9 million patients.

- Among adults under 65 years of age, 51% of adults with private health care coverage had contact with a dentist or other dental health professional within the past 6 months compared with 30% of adults with Medicaid health care coverage and 18% of adults who were uninsured.
Solutions

- Expanding Oral Health Programs at Health Centers
  - Increase the number of Centers with dental programs
  - Expand existing oral health programs in Health Centers
- Use of loan repayment programs
- Strengthen Medicaid and CHP+ revenues
Health Center Oral Health Data: 2010

- 2,882 dentists (FTE)
- 1144 dental hygienists (FTE)
- 3.75 million dental patients
- 9.2 million dental visits
- 828 Health Centers with on-site dental programs (out of 1,124)
Health Center Oral Health Data: 2010 (Cont’d)

- 2,672 Visits per dentist
- 1,337 Visits per dental hygienist
- 2,672.2 Visits per dental team
  *Calculated as encounters for dentists + hygienists in the numerator, with the denominator being dentist FTEs + 50% hygienist FTEs.
- 2.46 Visits per dental user
- $156.40 per dental visit
- $384.08 per dental user

*Source: 2010 UDS Data
Thank You

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