A World-Class “Wow!” from San Diego

Scott A. Wolpin, DMD
President, NNOHA Board of Directors

Wow! Did you know that more than 850 health center oral health professionals attended NNOHA’s 2017 Conference, titled Waves of Change, Oceans of Opportunity?

Even more exciting, for 364 of you, this was your first pilgrimage to our world-class event. Regardless if you are a NNOHA newbie or regular patron, I hope you found this year’s conference as resourceful, relevant, and real-world as I have.

Four days of diverse offerings, from thought-provoking keynotes to advanced hands-on workshops, from friendly coffee house discussions to evening pool-side socializing, and who can forget that incredible view of downtown San Diego during a pleasant bayside stroll?

Yet, what I like best about NNOHA Conference is that it is awesome, year after year, no matter the venue. Each year brings another opportunity to exchange hugs with old friends while welcoming new members who share our passion to serve oral health care needs across America.

I would like to recognize Dr. Steve Geiermann, NNOHA Conference Planning Chair, and his committee, our wonderful NNOHA staff, Luana Harris Scott of On Par Productions, and our generous sponsors, all of whom worked so hard to assemble this exceptional meeting. I hope that everyone who was able to join us in San Diego enjoyed an enriching retreat, made new connections, and will encourage the leadership of your health centers to attend our future conferences. I cannot think of a better investment in your continued professional fulfillment and the success of your oral health program.

If you haven’t already done so, please take a few moments to share your feedback with us (send an email to info@nnoha.org), because we use your valued comments/creative thoughts to develop content and adjust the format of the conference in subsequent years. Bigger and better, next year we will bring NNOHA Conference to New Orleans, aka The Big Easy, so save the dates November 11-14, 2018, now!

Thank you for caring,

Dr. Scott Wolpin

San Diego provided the perfect setting for a meeting titled Waves of Change, Oceans of Opportunity
The NNOHA Board of Directors and the 2017 Conference Planning Committee are most grateful that nearly 900 members journeyed to San Diego to participate in what Dr. Scott Wolpin, current NNOHA president, has called a world-class event. Hopefully your expenditure of time and resources reaped a wealth of benefits, including a plethora of diverse continuing education, valuable networking opportunities, and a chance to visit “up close and personal” with some of the finest dental exhibitors whose products grace the dental offices of many FQHCs.

As your Conference Chair, I am personally thankful for the sense of joy and community that pervaded the conference. Over 30% of attendees were first-timers, but I saw very few “wall flowers.” People were engaged and enthused. You were a welcoming crowd!

We look forward to seeing you again in New Orleans on November 11-14, 2018. In true NNOHA fashion, we will strive to outdo ourselves!

Attendees really enjoyed Dr. Brian Novy’s plenary presentation on Tuesday morning!

Congratulations to all these 2017 Passport to Prizes winners!

**KitchenAid Mixer**
Mariam Hashoush
La Clinica
Concord, CA

**Ring Video Doorbell**
Peggy Hlatky
Community Health Alliance
Reno, NV

**iRobot Roomba**
Iris Lewis-Moody
City of Philadelphia Department of Public Health
Philadelphia, PA

**Bose QuietComfort Headphones**
Patricia Balcom
Cherry Health
Grand Rapids, MI

**Nintendo Switch**
Reginald Moore
Watts Healthcare Corporation
Los Angeles, CA

**Fitbit Alta**
Robert Dennison
Great Lakes PACE, LLC
Frankenmuth, MI

**iPad**
Stephanie Schmitz
Falls Community Dental
Sioux Falls, SD

**1-year Audible Subscription**
Christina Byerson
Capital Area Health Network
Richmond, VA

**Harry & David Dessert of the Month Club**
Alynn Vienot
Neighborhood Health Center
Oregon City, OR
With so many Conference attendees present, so many sessions offered, and so much going on, you can bet a lot of wonderful photographs were taken! A small sampling are shared with you here, which capture the essence of the Conference and showcase the many rich educational and networking opportunities that were enjoyed. Photos are organized by day.

NNOHA President-Elect Dr. Tina Sopiwnick is wowed by the electronic check-in process

The San Diego skyline creates a great backdrop for Conference 2017

Conference attendees show off their name badges

Conference photos courtesy of Nina Jensen Studios, San Diego CA, NNOHA staff, and various Conference attendees

NNOHA leaders facilitate a dialogue on advocacy with the National Oral Health Innovation and Integration Network (NOHIIN)
MONDAY

Dr. Nels Ewoldsen leads a hands-on learning experience in applying Interim Therapeutic Restorations (ITRs).

Even the seagulls enjoyed the food!

Illinois dental directors enjoy the opportunity to network in the sun in San Diego.

The Practice Management Committee enjoys an evening out together in San Diego.

Hands-on practice with ITRs

The exhibit hall provides many opportunities to interact with vendors.
Dr. Meshack-Hart and Dr. Ghazal Ringler stroll to the Awards Luncheon.

Dr. Brian Nový performs the Plaque Monologues at Tuesday’s plenary session.

Dr. Joe Willardsen leads a clinical session on Minimally Invasive Posterior Restorations.

Dr. Vy Nguyen of HRSA reviews the UDS Sealant Measures updates for 2017.

The early risers at the Tuesday morning NNOHA walk/run.

NNOHA staff grabs a bite at the Awards Luncheon.
Dr. Sean Boynes receives the President’s Award, presented by NNOHA Executive Director Phillip Thompson.

Dr. Lisa Kearney receives the John McFarland Outstanding Leadership Award from outgoing NNOHA President, Dr. Janet Bozzone, and NNOHA Executive Director Phillip Thompson, after being nominated by her CEO, Dr. Lee Francis (far right).

Outstanding Clinician Dr. Domenic Caluori responds to his award by reminding NNOHA providers that they are all outstanding clinicians.

DentaQuest Institute presents their annual John Rossetti Memorial Centers of Excellence Awards.

Outgoing NNOHA President Dr. Janet Bozzone passes the tiara to incoming president Dr. Scott Wolpin.

Dr. Jennifer Soh and Dr. Eugene Luna enjoy talking with colleagues at the awards luncheon.

Celebrating the contributions of outgoing board members Dr. Dan Brody and Dr. Wayne Cottam (outgoing board member Dr. Pat Mason-Dozier was not present).
Dr. Bob Russell asks ‘What’s the BIG Picture?’ at Wednesday’s plenary

31 NNOHA Conference attendees enjoyed the Gary and Mary West Senior Health Center tour

Dr. Marty Lieberman and Dr. Kishore Shetty share stories between sessions

Dr. Ariane Terlet with HRSA representatives Dr. Vy Nguyen and Chinyere Amaefule

California colleagues enjoy time together

At the end of another successful Conference, NNOHA staff lets loose
The annual NNOHA Outstanding Contribution Awards were presented during the Awards Luncheon on Tuesday, November 14. NNOHA extends hearty congratulations to each of these award winners and applauds their contributions to oral health care.

**Oral Health Champion**
Mona Van Kanegan, DDS, MS, MPH
Oral Health Director
Midwest AIDS Training + Education Center
Chicago, IL

In recognition of efforts in supporting oral health programs, commitment to patients and providers in the safety-net community, and continuing promotion of oral health as essential to overall good health for everyone

**Outstanding Clinician**
Domenic Caluori, DDS
Chief Dental Officer and AEGD Program Director
Santa Barbara Neighborhood Clinics
Santa Barbara, CA

In recognition of outstanding commitment to patients, profession, and community

**John McFarland Leadership Award**
Lisa Kearney, DDS
Clinical Director, Oral Health
Erie Family Health Center
Chicago, IL

With sincere appreciation for exemplary leadership in improving the oral health of underserved populations in the community

**Outstanding Innovation Award**
Paul Glassman DDS, MA, MBA
Professor of Dental Practice and Director of Community Oral Health
University of the Pacific Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry
San Francisco, CA

In recognition of advocacy and leadership in the development and promotion of tele-dentistry as a method to increase oral health access to the underserved

**President’s Award**
Sean G. Boynes, DMD, MS
Director of Interprofessional Practice
DentaQuest Institute
Westborough, MA

In recognition of the inspiration provided to the NNOHA membership through outstanding presentations, visionary research, and personal commitment to the underserved
Welcome to four newly elected NNOHA Board members, whose three-year terms began at Conference:

Lisa Bozzetti, DDS
Dental Director
Virginia Garcia Memorial Health Center
Aloha, OR

Beverly Foster, DDS, MHA
Dental Director
Galveston County Health District
La Marque, TX

Michael J. Fox, DDS, MS
Dental Director
Fairfax Medical Facilities
Fairfax, OK

Ryan Tuscher, DDS
Director of Oral Health
Primecare Community Health
Chicago, IL

See you next year in New Orleans!

Save the Date: November 11—14, 2018
The more I think about it, the more I appreciate the nautical theme adopted by NNOHA’s 2017 Conference Planning Committee, *Waves of Change, Oceans of Opportunity*. Like ocean waves on a beach, the waves of change in our safety-net world never seem to stop. Perhaps that’s just as well. I’m told if the waves on the beach do suddenly stop, it means a tsunami is on the way. Let us be thankful for the waves of change we have.

At the San Diego conference, we learned of waves of change in the public’s pattern of dental visits, changes in the science of caries prevention, coming changes in health center reimbursement, changes in the workforce, dental education, disease management, interprofessional cooperation, pain control, and data collection. I see no reason to expect the waves of change to subside any time soon.

At the same time, I am excited about the oceans of opportunity that await community health centers, and also this Association. The NNOHA Board has adopted five strategic directions to guide us in the next stage of our journey:

1. **We will develop and sustain NNOHA’s leadership** as evidenced by the election of four new board members who bring fresh perspectives and new experiences.

2. **We will develop and sustain our membership** as evidenced by NNOHA’s commitment to leadership training, low-cost conference fees, and free webinars and publications.

3. **We will continually improve the annual conference**, which is why we take your evaluations and suggestions so seriously.

4. **We will encourage member advocacy.** The need remains for continued vigilance and advocacy from all of us. “The Struggle for Oral Healthcare” is real and ongoing.

5. **We will develop and expand initiatives with external partners.** With our national partners, NNOHA will continue to lead in efforts to promote quality measurement and improvement in oral health. We will be a voice for oral health in national cooperative efforts to improve diabetes outcomes, reduce opioid dependency, decrease childhood obesity, and increase interprofessional integrated care.

If NNOHA stays faithful to these directions, it will remain a strong and relevant voice in the struggle for oral health access. I urge you to remain active in your Association to the best of your ability. Read the NNOHA News and share it with your colleagues. Attend webinars. Join a Learning Collaborative. Study the Dental Dashboard guide. Visit the archive of presentation slides on the NNOHA website. Make suggestions to a colleague on the NNOHA Listserv. Use NNOHA’s Voter Voice to contact your representatives. Volunteer for a committee.

No one promised us smooth sailing. But together we are making a difference.

See y’all next year in New Orleans.
The End is Just the Beginning

NOHLI Celebrates and Advances

National Oral Health Learning Institute (NOHLI) graduated its 5th cohort of scholars in San Diego at the 2017 NNOHA Annual Conference. A special reception for NOHLI scholars past and present, along with NOHLI faculty and sponsors, was hosted by NNOHA as a featured Conference event. Congratulations to Cohort 5, pictured below.

Matthew Allen, DDS
Clinica Family Health
Denver, CO

Manu Chaudry, DDS
Indian Health Center of Santa Clara Valley
San Jose, CA

Edward Chio, DMD
West County Health Centers
Guerneville, CA

Rebecca Cook, DMD
Mountain Comprehensive Health Corporation
Whitesburg, KY

Randolph Cross, DDS
Salud Para La Gente
Watsonville, CA

Linh DeLuca, DDS
Community Medical Centers, Inc.
Stockton, CA

Selynn Edwards, DMD
Multnomah County Health Department
Portland, OR

Andrea Eiker, DMD
Presbyterian Medical Services
Bernalillo, NM

Jonathan Hall, DMD
Neighborhood Health Center
Portland, OR

Jason Hua, DDS
The Jane Pauley Community Health Centers
Anderson, IN

Kristine Hynes, DDS
Axis Health System
Durango, CO

Sidney Lenox, DDS
Hunter Health Clinic
Wichita, KS

Eugene Luna, DDS
La Clinica de la Raza
Vallejo, CA

Regan Orr, DDS
Flint Hills Community Health Center
Emporia, KS

Krishnan Ramamurthi, DDS
Institute for Family Health, Walton Family Health Center
Bronx, NY

Harleen Sethi, DMD
Contra Costa County Health Services, Public Health Dental Clinic Program
Martinez, CA

Sue Yoon, DMD
Community Health Center of Snohomish County
Everett, WA