



5th Annual New England Rural Oral Health Conference



“Improving Access Through Advocacy and Public/Private Partnerships”

September 24, 2010

Westford Regency, Westford, MA

8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Presented by:

The New England Rural Health RoundTable

In Collaboration with:

Connecticut State Office of Oral Public Health

Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Oral Health Program

Massachusetts Dept. of Public Health, Office of Oral Health

New Hampshire State Oral Health Program

Rhode Island Office of Oral Health

Vermont Department of Health, Office of Oral Health

Up to 5.5 CEUs will be available through the NH Dental Society for this event

PROGRAM

7:30 – 8:30 **Registration and Continental Breakfast**

8:30 – 8:45 **Opening Welcome: Dr. John Fisher, President, Massachusetts Dental Society**

8:45 – 9:45 **Keynote Address:**

Finding Hope in a Maryland Tragedy: Lessons for New England

Laurie Norris, Esq., State Campaign Manager, Pew Foundation, Children's Dental Campaign

Ms. Norris' presentation will briefly recap Deamonte Driver's story and review what Maryland (advocates, state agency officials, lawmakers, organized dentists and dental hygienists, the dental school, community clinics and public schools – a wide array of collaborating stakeholders) was able to do to improve access to oral health care for children in the aftermath. She will outline the proven policies Pew Children's Dental Campaign is recommending to states, the gaps that still exist in the New England states and offer some recommendations.

9:45 – 11:00 **Panel: Oral Health and New England's Rural Seniors**

Rural areas have a higher percentage of seniors and their oral health needs are becoming more apparent. This panel will discuss recent findings and programs that focus on bringing oral health services to seniors in rural settings.

Panelists:

Lynn Bethel, Director of Oral Health, Massachusetts

Paula Friedman, D.D.S., M.S.D., M.P.H., Director, Geriatric Dentistry Program, Boston University School of Dental Medicine

Judith Jones, D.D.S, DScD, MPH, Chairperson, Department of General Dentistry, Boston University Goldman School of Dental Medicine

11:00 – 11:15 **Break**

11:15 – 12:15 **Concurrent Sessions**

Session 1 – Closing the Revolving Door: Redirecting Dental Patients Away From Hospital Emergency Departments to Enhance Patient Care and Outcomes

Hospital emergency departments are expensive settings for managing dental needs and usually cannot provide definitive dental care. Presenters will discuss data and opportunities for changing existing patterns, highlighting how a creative partnership between a critical access hospital and an oral health provider was able to impact the use of the hospital's emergency department for oral health services while also improving patient care coordination and the integration of oral health with overall health.

Lisa Kavanaugh, CEO, Community Dental, Portland, Maine

Judith Feinstein, Director, Maine Oral Health Program

11:15 – 12:15 Concurrent Sessions (cont.)

Session 2 – Meta-Analysis and Review on the Effectiveness of Different Xylitol Products in Caries Prevention

Jehan Al-Humaid, BDS, Mohamed Bamashmous, BDS, and Ana Karina Mascarenhas, BDS, MPH, DrPH Department of Health Policies and Health Services Research, Boston University Goldman School of Dental Medicine, Boston, MA

Session 3 – Creative Community Health Partnerships expanding oral health services

This session will feature activities by Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) and other community organizations to provide oral health services in rural New England, including creative partnerships and relationship building

Sarah Kuh, MPH, Director, Vineyard Health Care Access Program and Vineyard Smiles, West Tisbury, MA; Gail Auclair, CEO and Nancy Metz, Director of Community Relationships and Development, Little Rivers Community Health Care, Bradford, VT
Gator Grins, Hilltown Community Health Centers Inc., Huntington, MA

12:15 – 1:15 Lunch

1:15 – 2:30 Panel – Oral Health Legal Activity in New England

This session will focus on what we have learned from state legal actions and what have been their impacts on oral health in rural New England.

Jamey Bell, J.D., Executive Director, Connecticut Voices for Children
Catherine Hayes, D.M.D., Chair, Department of Public Health and Community Service,
Tufts University School of Dental Medicine
Kay Drought, New Hampshire Legal Assistance

2:30 – 2:45 Break

2:45 – 4:00 State Oral Health Directors' Forum

Representatives from each of the six New England state oral health offices will discuss efforts to improve access to oral health services.

Panelists:

Nancy Martin, Oral Health Program Manager, NH
Judith Feinstein, Director, Oral Health Program, ME
Linda Ferraro, Program Coordinator, Office of Oral Health, CT
Patrick Rowe, Office of Oral Health, VT (Invited)
Lynn Bethel, Director of Oral Health, MA
Office of Oral Health, RI

4:00 Adjourn