

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR

ACTION REFERRAL

TO <i>Giese</i>	DATE  <i>5-29-12</i>
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DIRECTOR'S USE ONLY	ACTION REQUESTED
1. LOG NUMBER  <i>00449</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for the Director's signature DATE DUE _____
2. DATE SIGNED BY DIRECTOR  <i>Claude 6/21/12, letter a Hache D.</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for appropriate signature DATE DUE <i>6/17/12</i>  <input type="checkbox"/> FOIA DATE DUE _____  <input type="checkbox"/> Necessary Action

APPROVALS (Only when prepared for director's signature)	APPROVE	* DISAPPROVE (Note reason for disapproval and return to preparer.)	COMMENT
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			

# SOUTH CAROLINA DENTAL ASSOCIATION

*Organized 1869 • A Constituent of the American Dental Association*



May 23, 2012

Ms. Melanie "BZ" Giese, Deputy Director  
Department of Health and Human Services  
PO Box 8206  
Columbia, SC 29202-8206

MAY 29 2012

**RECEIVED**

Department of Health & Human Services  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Dear Melanie:

During the last Medical Care Advisory Committee (MCAC) meeting, you discussed a new initiative called HeART (Health Access at the Right Time). It was explained that the goal of this initiative was to identify alternative methods and providers of healthcare delivery and allow providers to practice within their full scope of practice.

I do not recall dental specifically mentioned during the conversation, but would like to inquire if dental is included in the agency's initiative plan and if so, how do you see it working?

You may recall, but I wanted to remind you that the SCDA had legislation passed in 2011 that called for the creation of a Community Oral Health Coordinator (COHC). This individual would be similar to the medical model community health worker and able to provide a variety of functions including:

- community oral health education and training
- coordinate transportation and other non-clinical support to patients and their families
- link dentists who provide Medicaid services or would provide free or reduced-cost care to children identified by the screening that do not have a dental home
- help ensure that parents understand the importance of not missing appointments and the need for follow-up care
- provide a connection people in local communities with the tools they need to improve oral health

Due to state budget constraints, the bill was passed without any monetary funding. Since that time, many key stakeholders in the state have been involved in securing grant money to get a COHC started in two to three areas of the state.

The SCDA strongly feels this is one answer to many oral health barriers in South Carolina.

We would be happy to discuss this legislation and the HeART program in more detail with you.

I have also enclosed a copy of the SCDA's Position Paper on Oral Health in our state that you may find useful.

I look forward to hearing from you.

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Dept. of Health  
& Human Services

Sincerely,

Phil Latham

SCDA Executive Director

MAY 25 2012

Medical and

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E-MAIL: latham@scda.org • WEBSITE: www.scda.org



SOUTH CAROLINA DENTAL ASSOCIATION  
120 STONEMARK LANE • COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29210

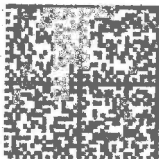
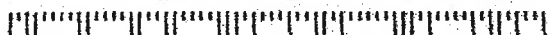
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MAY 29 2012

Department of Health & Human Services  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Ms. Melanie "BZ" Giese, Deputy Director  
Department of Health and Human Services  
PO Box 8206  
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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR

ACTION REFERRAL

TO <i>Greene Williams</i>	DATE  <i>5-29-12</i>
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DIRECTOR'S USE ONLY		ACTION REQUESTED	
1. LOG NUMBER  <i>101449</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for the Director's signature DATE DUE _____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for appropriate signature DATE DUE <i>6/7/12</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> FOIA DATE DUE _____
2. DATE SIGNED BY DIRECTOR  _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Necessary Action		

APPROVALS (Only when prepared for director's signature)	APPROVE	* DISAPPROVE (Note reason for disapproval and return to preparer.)	COMMENT
1. <i>EG Shaw</i>	<i>6/21</i>		
2.			
3.			
4.			

June 21, 2012

Mr. Phil Latham  
Executive Director  
South Carolina Dental Association  
120 Stonemark Lane  
Columbia, South Carolina 29210

Dear Mr. Latham

Thank you for your letter inquiring about the Health Access at the Right Time (HeART) initiative. As you stated, the goal of the initiative is to identify alternative methods and providers of healthcare delivery.

As part of HeART, we have been evaluating the Community Healthcare Worker (CHW) and the rolls they could have in supporting the healthcare providers for our recipients. We would like to extend an invitation to you to join us at these meetings.

We appreciate your continued support of the South Carolina Medicaid program as we strive to provide the best healthcare to the citizens of the State. If you have any questions or concerns please contact Mr. William Feagin, Division Director, Office of Physicians, Pharmacy and Enhanced Care Services at 803-898-3079.

Sincerely,



Melanie "BZ" Giese, RN  
Deputy Director

MG/mf