

Improving Access to Maryland Rural Oral Health Services



MARYLAND RURAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION

OCTOBER 21, 2010

SCOTT WOLPIN, DMD

SCOTT BURLESON, MBA, FACHE

1. Be responsive to the needs of the community



Know...

- *the lay of your land and how it affects access to care*
- *the health status of the community you are serving*
- *the demographics of your target population*
- *what resources (workforce, insurance benefits, etc) already, or not, exist*

2. Collaborate

Children's **R**egional **O**ral Health **C**onsortium



- Eastern Shore Area Health Education Center
- University of Maryland Dental School
- Choptank Community Health System
- Three Lower Counties Community Services
- Shore Health System (DGH, EMH)
- Chester River Hospital Center
- Kent County Health Department
- Maryland DHMH

“How does a community raise a CROC?”



- In 2004, a 1 year HRSA Planning Grant was used to set the table
- Eastern Shore Oral Health Action Network (ESOHAN) assembled
- In 2005, a 3 year HRSA Rural Health Outreach Grant proposal is funded – CROC 1
- In 2009, a second 3 year HRSA/RHOG grant was funded – CROC 2

3. Pursue a Shared Mission



CROC's Charge was to develop:

- a dental home for Medicaid and uninsured children of Dorchester County
- a regional hospital-based pediatric dental program for children requiring General Anesthesia
- clinical and community-based education training opportunities for dental hygiene students

4. Replicate and expanding the project



CROC 2's charge is to develop:

- **a second hospital- based pediatric dental program for Queen Anne's and Kent Counties - strengthening the oral health safety net on the Eastern Shore**
- **additional transportation services to assure children receive definitive, comprehensive dental care**
- **a targeted, culturally relevant oral health prevention program**

5. More lessons learned...



- **Stakeholders need to be identified (some are not traditional)**
- **Meetings must be well attended – have food!**
- **Strong partnerships must be cultivated then nurtured**
- **Substantial data must be collected**
- **Determine what health needs are a priority to the community**

Children's Regional Oral Health Consortium



Pediatric Dental program
at Chester River Hospital Center –
CROC 2

Rationale for development of a new hospital service



- **Unmet needs in children's oral health**
- **4 – 6 month waiting list at Dorchester General Hospital**
- **Collaboration with willing partners**
- **Multiple sources of funding –**
 - **Federal - various; KCHD grant; State via MCHRC**
- **Capacity in the Operating Rooms at Chester River Hospital Center**

Process



- **Participate in collaborative external meetings** – Nov. 2009, January, March, May, June, 2010
- **Set a goal** – May 1, 2010
- **Assemble internal team with expertise in:**
anesthesiology, biomedical engineering, billing, medical/dental staff credentialing, registration, surgery, human resources.
- **Dry run** – July 9, 2010 (postponed twice)
- **First cases** – July 15, 2010 – 2 year old; 5 year old

Challenges



- **Dentists!**
- **Dentists willing to take Medicaid**
- **Employing or not employing dentists, dental assistants**
- **“block time” in CRHC Surgery suite – needed approval by Operating Room Committee**
- **Credentialing process for providers with Chester River Hospital Center Medical Staff**
- **Anesthesiology reimbursement**

Challenges, continued



- **Regulations from Dept of Environment – NOMAD handheld radiology unit**
- **Choptank Health Services ability to assist with billing authorizations, translation services, provider time, etc.**
- **Risk Management**

Other issues



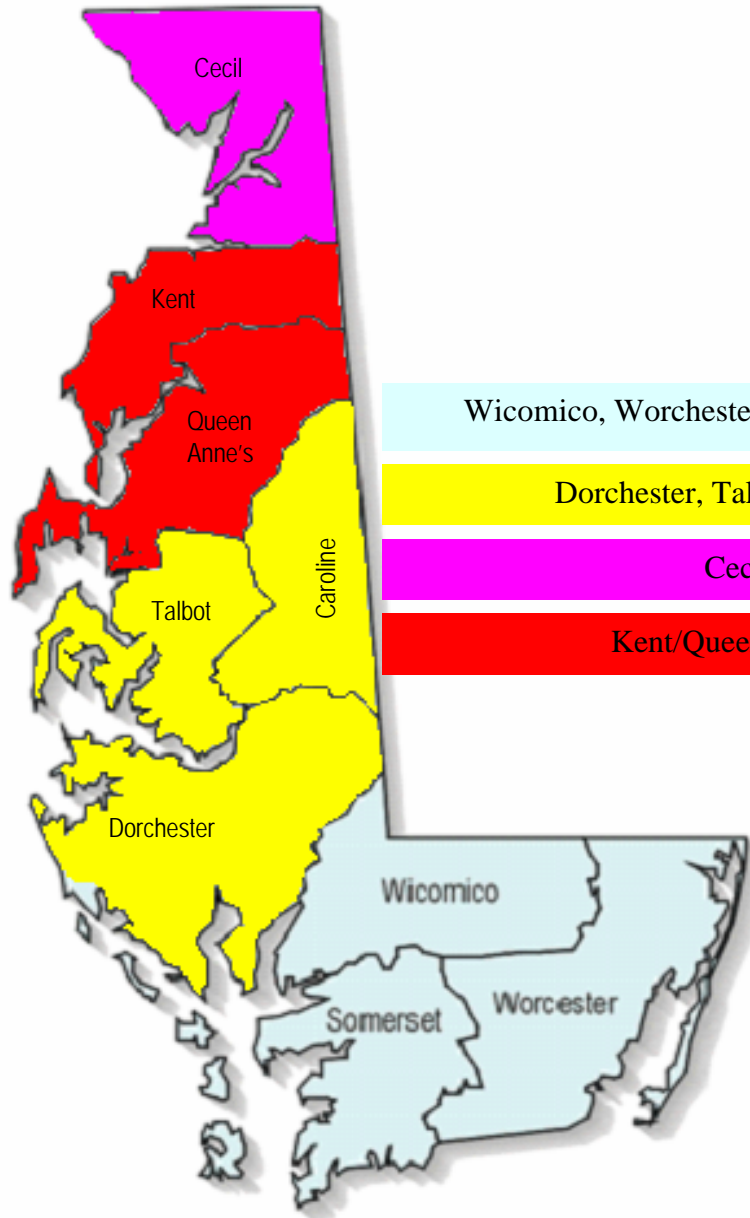
- **Patient education**
- **Patient/family comfort with the hospital location and setting**
- **Patient/family follow-up**

Activity to date – thru September 30th



- **16 patients**
- **% Medicaid**
- **56 % Hispanic**
- **3174 total surgery minutes – avg. 198 minutes/case**
- **~8.8% of outpatient surgical minutes**

Map of the Eastern Shore



Wicomico, Worcester, Somerset via TLC – 2004

Dorchester, Talbot, Caroline – 2007

Cecil – 2009

Kent/Queen Anne's – 2010

Scott Wolpin, DMD
Chief Dental Officer
Choptank Community Health System
Federalsburg, Maryland
410.754.7583
swolpin@choptankhealth.org

Scott D. Burleson
Executive Vice President
Chester River Hospital Center
Chestertown, Maryland
410.778.7668, ext. 4007
sburleson@chesterriverhealth.org

