

2 January 2023

To: Carlos Bertot, Southeastern Trustee, American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry

From: Michael A, Ignelzi, Jr., President, North Carolina Academy of Pediatric Dentistry

Re: Status Update, North Carolina Academy of Pediatric Dentistry

Executive Summary

In 2022 the North Carolina Academy of Pediatric Dentistry (NCAPD) was very active and very productive. Membership is strong and growing. The fiscal health of the organization remains excellent. There was a change in NCAPD leadership as Mike Roberts, NCAPD Secretary-Treasurer for the past 3 years, turned over the reins to former NCAPD President Kerry Dove. NCAPD Leadership met in April 2022 and October 2022. Our most recent Annual Business Meeting, held early on the Saturday morning the day after a continuing education program sponsored by the University of North Carolina Adams School of Dentistry, was well attended. At the end of that Business Meeting, all NCAPD members were given the opportunity to attend a state-mandated course on Opioids either in person or virtually. Attendance was free for NCAPD members. In 2022 the project funded as a part of the NCAPD Improving Pediatric Oral Health grant program, "The Front Porch", began delivering dental treatment to the most vulnerable children of Montgomery County. In 2022 the NCAPD entered into a partnership with the Center for Creative Leadership, based in Greensboro, North Carolina, to create a leadership development program for 10 of our most promising leaders. In 2023 we plan to continue the NCAPD-CCL Leadership Development Program and utilize funds allocated by the Southeastern Society of Pediatric Dentistry (SSPD) to support our advocacy, including White Coat Day, in the halls of the North Carolina State Legislature. The relationship between the NCAPD and the North Carolina Dental Society, the most effective advocate for dentistry in North Carolina, has never been better.

NCAPD Leadership

President	Michael A. Ignelzi, Jr.
Vice President	Judy Laxer
Parliamentarian	Nikki Tucker
Secretary-Treasurer	Kerry Dove
Board of Directors	Mike Webb (1 year) Jennifer Crisp (2 years) Jeannie Ginnis (3 years)
Immediate Past President	Jenny Jackson
Medicaid Liaison	Bryan Cobb
NC-AAP Liaison	Martha Ann Keels
SSPD Liaison	Anne Baker
Public Policy Advocate	Gentry Byrd
Ad hoc Ethics Committee	Erica Brecher (Chair) Gentry Byrd

Resident Representatives Rocio Quinonez
Christopher Adams (UNC) and Caitlin Ferguson (ECU)

Meetings

April 2, 2022	Board of Directors	Virtual
October 7, 2022	Board of Directors	Chapel Hill
October 8, 2022	Annual Business Meeting	Chapel Hill

Officer Election

October 8, 2022

Continuing Education Courses (all sponsored by the UNC Adams School of Dentistry)

April 8, 2022

Title: Tongue Tie: Nursing, Breathing and Speech. Treatments to Outcomes

Speakers: Dr. Anna Meyers, Dr. William Chambers, Ms. Cambria Stephens, Ms. Lillian Gray Scott

October 7, 2022

Title: "I was on the internet last night..." and "Aren't they just baby teeth?"

Speaker: Dr. Gregory Psaltis

Who collects NCAPD dues?

American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry

Number of Pediatric Dentists in North Carolina

~300

State Legislation/Advocacy

In February 2022 The North Carolina Board of Dental Examiners (NCBDE) proposed new rules and regulations related to sedation. Many in the dental community viewed many of the proposed changes, including the requirement that Dental Assistants who assist during moderate conscious pediatric sedation would need to become PALS certified, as onerous and burdensome. This effort by the NCBDE was undertaken in response to a tragic death of a Cardiologist in Wilmington, North Carolina. The Cardiologist died as a result of a mishap during dental treatment while under general anesthesia. The Cardiologist who died was good friends with a very influential State Senator. The NCBDE investigation determined that the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon who rendered the dental treatment failed to adhere to several rules and regulations related to sedation, failed to rescue the patient and was under the influence of prescription medications at the time of the surgery. The proposed revisions to the rules and

regulations related to sedation were subject to a period of public comment. Dave Olson, former NCAPD President, represented the NCAPD at the public hearing. The revisions were roundly criticized and the NCBDE withdrew the proposed changes to the rules and regulations regarding sedation. Later, the NCBDE reported that the proposed changes to the rules and regulations regarding sedation garnered more comments than any other proposed change by far. In late Summer/early Fall the NCBDE proposed modified revisions to the rules and regulations regarding sedation. During the period of public comment, NCAPD President Michael Ignelzi represented the NCAPD. The NCAPD and the North Carolina Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons did not oppose the modified proposed changes to the rules and regulations regarding sedation. These modified proposed changes to the rules and regulations regarding sedation are expected to be adopted and take effect in 2024.

In February 2022 the North Carolina Institute of Medicine and the North Carolina Oral Health Collaborative convened a task force, underwritten by the Duke Endowment, to “transform” the NC Medicaid Dental Program. The intent of the Task Force is to inform legislators and policy makers as they consider switching the existing Medicaid Dental Program to a managed care model. The Task Force is comprised of many individuals who work for companies that administer managed dental plans. The NCAPD is represented on this Task Force by Martha Ann Keels, Jessica Lee, Bryan Cobb, Frank Courts and Michael Ignelzi.

In December 2022 the North Carolina Dental Society (NCDS) convened The NCDS Professional Relations Group meeting. The purpose of this meeting was to “bring representatives from the various dental state dental organizations, schools or interested parties together to learn what the NC Dental Society is doing for the dental professionals and to learn how the NCDS can help further with providing access to care for the citizens of North Carolina.” NCAPD President Michael Ignelzi represented the NCAPD.

Despite the best lobbying efforts of the dental community, in 2022 the State of North Carolina mandated that dentists who participate in the Medicaid Dental Program or State Employees Dental Plan, must be in compliance with the “Health Information Exchange”, or HIE. Many in the dental community, including the NCAPD, were opposed to this mandate because it would add significant costs to those who participate in the Medicaid Dental Program. The HIE mandate is being promoted by one very influential State Senator. The best that organized dentistry could achieve to blunt the effects of this mandate was to secure language in the bill that would not allow penalties to be assessed against any dentist who is not in compliance with the HIE mandate. The NCDS was the primary driving force in advocating to prevent HIE from taking effect.

Medicaid Issues

In December 2022 NCAPD President Michael Ignelzi and former NCAPD President Frank Courts, along with representatives of the North Carolina Dental Society and North Carolina Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons, met with the Deputy Director of the NC Department of Health

and Human Services (NCDHHS), Dave Richards, to discuss reimbursement rates in the NC Medicaid dental program. This effort represented a growing closeness between the NCAPD and NCDS.

Individuals who should be considered for roles on Councils or Committees

Anne Baker (suzldvs@gmail.com)

Meredith Davis (meredithdavisdds12@gmail.com)

Jennifer Crisp (jndurham@gmail.com)

Naomi Lane (drnaomi@greensborokidsdentist)