

Read below and www.HappyTeeth.org for info that's good to know and to share:
OHC/ ABCD Coordinator, Maggi Kriger, is on vacation 7/16-7/31; back in office 8/3.

B'ham Technical College (BTC) Dental Hygiene Clinic has current appointment slots.

This is a *great new affordable reduced-fee resource* for preventive dental care for all ages! Check-out the Info Card (includes fees) or a summary on double-sided- resource sheet. (They don't yet accept insurance or DSHS/Medicaid coverage.) 752-8679

OHC Summer Social; Come have fun & build connections (with no agenda).

Thursday August 13th 5:30-8pm @ Elizabeth Park, Bellingham; Save the date!

Live blue grass music from 6-8pm (as part of a Thursday concert series).

All are welcome to come solo or to invite family, friends, colleagues, & any significant others.

Come for the whole evening or drop-in for a bit; bring your own food if you want.

A picnic dinner will be provided for all who wish w/ RSVP by 8/11 & a \$5 per person donation.

Bring a lawn chair or just sit on the grass, or maybe dance the evening away...

To RSVP or for more info, contact maggi @ mkriger@co.whatcom.wa.us or 676-6762 #32022

There will be an alternate location in case of rain.

Interfaith CHC Dental Clinics in B'ham & Ferndale welcome appointment scheduling

for new and/or existing child patients, 0- 19yrs of age. Both sites have immediate openings for preventive and/or restorative care for children. See below for more info on adult care @ ICHC.

Bellingham Interfaith CHC gets \$645,395 in federal stimulus funds which will be used

for needed maintenance on its Unity Street building and to buy new dental equipment.

See 7/6/09 Bellingham Herald article @ HappyTeeth.org

Seeking HappyTeeth Station Volunteers @ KidsFest on Saturday 8/1

Help our OHC intern, Diva, run the OHC HappyTeeth Station for a two-hour shift between 11am - 3pm @ Bloedel Donovan Park in Bellingham. There will be hundreds of families participating in this festival and our booth is always a big hit!!

Contact Diva @ dmenketh@co.whatcom.wa.us or 676-6762 #50873

DSHS Dental Program;

Cuts, reimbursement reductions, and updates.

As directed by the Legislature, DSHS has decreased the biennium budget for reimbursements for dental Medicaid providers by about \$8 million. Some covered services, such as endodontic treatment for adults, were eliminated. Others received cuts up to 15 percent. Fees for ABCD services for children under six were not cut. The remaining fees for children's services were reduced by 3 percent; adult services by 4 percent. Memo #: 09-27 Issued: June 30, 2009 summarizes the changes and includes links for providers to more information about updated fee schedules, billing instructions, & operating budgets, **effective for dates of service on and after July 1, 2009**. Please forward this as appropriate to DSHS Dental Providers. Some other state programs got hit harder than dental, but it's a sad day for dental patients & providers affected. Policy questions may be directed to Dr. John Davis.

New WA DSHS Medicaid payment processing system (called *ProviderOne*) will replace

the current WA Medicaid Management Information System later in 2009. When fully operational, *ProviderOne* will pay about 100,000 providers who serve one million people qualifying for DSHS services each year. DSHS providers are encouraged to visit <http://hrsa.dshs.wa.gov/ProviderOne> for more information. Along with changes for providers, clients will have their paper medical coupon replaced by a plastic swipe card. More details to come....

Dental Listing Updated 7/09 for children & adults w/ DSHS medical coupons or reduced fee.

Current double-sided dental resource listing for children & adults can always be down-loaded @ www.happyteeth.org , click "Looking for Dental Care" (or the right-hand news-box).

Interfaith CHC Adult Urgent Walk-in Dental Care:

Adults with pain or swelling should arrive by 7:45 a.m. M-F to access a limited number of openings (with no guarantee to be seen that same day) on a first-come, first-served basis to:

1. Schedule an appointment for the next day (there are only 4 next-day app'ts available) **or**
2. Wait as "stand-by patient" & be worked-in if there is an opening due to a late cancellation or "no-show". The number of patients waiting for these appointments is limited to 4 per day.

Interfaith CHC Adult Specialty Populations:

Developmentally disabled; people living with HIV/AIDS, or pregnant women in the WCHD "WIC Program".
For more info call dental reception @ 676-6177

Meridian Dental Access Program is not scheduling appointments this summer, but plans to schedule appointments starting again in October '09.

Children, 0-19 yrs, with DSHS medical coupon can be scheduled directly with:

Interfaith (Ferndale & Bellingham) or Sea Mar. Additionally children 0-6 yrs with DSHS medical coupon can be scheduled directly with Piper Pediatric Dentistry, who also accepts 6 -12 yr olds with a referral from doctor, dentist or social service provider.
As always, Dr. Bisese's office can be contacted if a child has a dental emergency and children with complex medical or developmental needs will be considered for new patient status if they have a detailed written referral.

While I'm gone, if you have questions or need more info about:

- > Interfaith CHC Dental Access, Katie @ Katie.Meehan@interfaithchc.org or 676-6177 x1102
- > Oral Health Coalition, Jenny Shuler @ ohc_jenny@yahoo.com ;
- > Access to Baby & Child Dentistry(ABCD), Kelly @ 676-6762 #32026/ kmolaski@co.whatcom.wa.us
- > OHC HappyTeeth Station or ABCD/ dental access, contact Diva Menke-Thielman (OH Program Intern) dmenketh@co.whatcom.wa.us / 676-6762 # 50873

Messages left on my voice-mail will be returned 8/3 - 8/7.

Best wishes to All,
Maggi

Whatcom Oral Health Coalition is a broad-based coalition working to improve oral health among community members of all ages through prevention, education, and increased access to dental care.

www.HappyTeeth.org

To subscribe / unsubscribe, please reply w/ "subscribe / "unsubscribe" as subject title.

Maggi Kriger

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