

Module 10: Community-Based Oral Health Plan

Time: 60 minutes



Before the Community Workshop

This is your chance to present your Community Oral Health Plan. You can either design a PowerPoint presentation, or you can make a handout or poster that outlines your plan. You might want to use the POARE model to present your plan. Tell the group why you chose the interventions and how you think it will work in their communities.

I will be presenting the Community Oral Health Plan for our communities this afternoon. I developed this plan during the training I attended, but I want you to know that this plan needs to include all of your own ideas. Let me present the plan, and then we'll have a discussion about how to make this work in our communities.

Make your presentation.

Questions

1. Does this plan make sense?
2. Do you think this will work in your communities?
3. Would you like to add anything to the plan?



Training Tip: Keep in mind that the more input local community members have in the plan, the more invested they will be in carrying it out. Try to be flexible without straying from the science of what works to prevent dental caries.

Group Exercise #1: Roles and Responsibilities

Time: 60 minutes



Before the Community Workshop

Plan how you want to break into groups and what you will have each group work on. If you have multiple interventions or multiple places the interventions will occur, you can break into groups accordingly. The point here is to have each group work out the details for your community-based oral health interventions.

Additional Materials Needed

Group Exercise #1 handout

We are going to break into groups and work on the details for our oral health interventions. Each group will use a chart to take notes about what needs to be done, and who will take responsibility for the activity. You will have approximately 30 minutes to work on your plans, and then we will come back into the large group. Each group will report back on their plans.

Walk around between the groups, helping them as they work through the details involved in implementing the oral health interventions.



Again, keep in mind that the more input local community members have in the plan, the more invested they will be in carrying it out.

After about 30 minutes, bring the small groups back to a large group. Have each small group present their ideas to the large group. Collect the handouts and let them know you'll be incorporating their ideas in the Community-Based Oral Health Plan.

You have all brought up some very good ideas that I will incorporate into the Community-Based Oral Health Plan. Thank you for your input. We are working towards a comprehensive plan to improve the oral of young children in our community, and your ideas are all very useful.

Group Exercise #2: Community Oral Health Messages

Time: 30 minutes



Additional Materials Needed

Group Exercise #2 Handout

We are going to break into groups and work on the development of community oral health messages. Remember everything we learned on Day One about effective health education and the development of community oral health messages?

It is VERY important that all of us are saying the same things about oral health to the families we work with. It would be great if we had a few really effective messages that we could all pass on to everyone we work with. After your group brainstorms a list of community health messages, go the chart and start filling in how the messages might be used and who could be responsible for the next steps. For instance, you might want to get your message in a school newsletter. Who would you need to contact, and is there anyone in your group who would be willing to make this contact?



You can break into groups based on the interventions people are working on. For instance, if some people will be promoting fluoride toothpaste, let them work together to develop messages about fluoride toothpaste, and so on. If everyone will be working on the same interventions, you might just have people count off and break into groups (all #1 in one group, all #2 in another group, etc.) Small groups work best for brainstorming because you are more likely to hear from lots of different people using small groups.

After about 15 minutes, bring the groups back together. Have each group report their 3 best messages and have someone write them all on newsprint. Then, the large group can vote on 3 or more overall favorite messages.

How will we use these messages? Will we use them when we're talking to families? Should we publish them in newspapers or other publications along with short articles on oral health? Do we want to put one on a t-shirt that we could all wear when we're working with young children? (Ask groups for their notes from the "Next Steps" worksheets to decide how the messages will be used, what the next step is, and who will take responsibility for it.)



***Training Tip:** Let the group brainstorm ways to use their favorite oral health messages. Then, it will be your job to bring some closure to the discussion by suggesting some concrete ways to follow up with the oral health messages. Maybe someone could volunteer to write an article for a local newspaper, or maybe someone has a contact with a local radio station, and so on. Decide what to do with the messages and who will follow-up*