

January 23, 2020

Danielle Cannarozzi, Community Outreach Manager, LIBERTY Dental Plan has been an active member of the Medi-Cal Dental Advisory Committee. During 2019 a subcommittee was established to identify barriers and develop strategies to address the barriers of children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (ID/DD) having access to preventive, routine, as well as hospital and general anesthesia dentistry, when needed. One issue highlighted in this workgroup was the need for basic dental care training and desensitization training with individuals with ID/DD. Ms. Cannarozzi offered to bring the trainings she provides to school children, adapt the curriculum, and offer it to adults with ID/DD. To date, she has provided 3 trainings to 20 adults each. These 60 adults have learned the 2-2-2 philosophy – brush 2x a day, for 2 minutes, and see your dentist twice a year! We are in the process of scheduling many additional trainings to adults with developmental disabilities in the Sacramento Region. We appreciate Ms. Cannarozzi's expertise in helping to train this population on improved oral hygiene.

Ms. Cannarozzi is collaborating with Alta California Regional Center and The State Council on Developmental Disabilities to provide additional trainings to adults with disabilities, their family members, and care providers who operate residential facilities and day programs. These trainings will greatly increase the focus on improving oral health for this population.

During one training, Natalie, an adult with an intellectual disability, who lives independently in the community, informed Ms. Cannarozzi that she was told by her dentist that she would need to pay \$800 for a crown. Natalie could not afford this treatment. Natalie happened to be on Liberty Dental insurance. Ms. Cannarozzi was able to connect Natalie with another plan dentist who understood that this benefit was covered and Natalie is now scheduled to receive appropriate care. This quick and caring action by Liberty Dental will prevent Natalie from going without appropriate treatment and from being in pain and possibly ending up in the emergency room at some point.

During one training, Ms. Cannarozzi, was able to provide individual instruction to one adult with developmental disabilities who stated that all her teeth had been pulled and now she had dentures. She did not know how to clean or care for her dentures. Ms. Cannarozzi was willing and able to help her.

We hope that Ms. Cannarozzi and Liberty Dental will continue to be available for this support.

Sincerely,

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Sonya Bingaman, MSW
Sacramento Regional Manager
State Council on Developmental Disabilities

See following pages for images of trainings provided 1/21/2020













