TODAY’S SPEAKERS:

Ifetayo Johnson
Executive Director, Oral Health Progress and Equity Network

Marcia Brand
Senior Advisor,
DentaQuest Partnership for Oral Health Advancement

Libby Mullin
President, Mullin Strategies

Patrick Willard
Strategic Advisor,
DentaQuest Partnership for Oral Health Advancement

Melissa Burroughs
Senior Oral Health Campaign Manager, Families USA

Patrick Finnerty
Senior Advisor,
DentaQuest Partnership for Oral Health Advancement

Colin Reusch
Senior Advisor, Community Catalyst
WELCOME

• Colin Reusch, Senior Adviser, Community Catalyst
• Ifetayo Johnson, Executive Director, Oral Health Equity & Progress Network (OPEN)

*Reminder: Submit your questions in the chat box throughout the presentation!
There's a tremendous gap between public opinion and public policy.

Noam Chomsky
ELECTION RESULTS*

• Patrick Willard, *Strategic Adviser, DentaQuest Partnership for Oral Health Advancement*
• Marcia Brand, *Senior Adviser, DentaQuest Partnership for Oral Health Advancement*
## 20/20 Split Decision

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Democrat Winners</th>
<th>Republican Winners</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Biden/Harris</strong></td>
<td><strong>US Senate Control</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>• 75 million votes</td>
<td>• GOP 50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• 279 + Electoral Votes</td>
<td>• Democrat 48</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>US House Control</strong></td>
<td><strong>State Control</strong></td>
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<td>• 218 seats won, but fewer than in 2018</td>
<td>• Pick up one governor</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• GOP 27</td>
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<td>• Democrat 23</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Control 61 chambers to 36 for</td>
</tr>
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<td>Democrats</td>
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Senate control in the balance
Can you spot the difference?

2020 Legislatures

Preelection Partisan Control

2021 Legislatures

Postelection Partisan Legislative Control

Map is being updated as results are confirmed.

Nebraska has a nonpartisan legislature. Election results for other states in gray have not been called yet.
ENGAGING AN INCOMING OR RETURNING ADMINISTRATION

Opportunities to Advance Oral Health
Marcia K. Brand, Ph.D.
Administration Transitions*

To a 2\textsuperscript{nd} Term

• Creates opportunities for the current Administration to engage in a thorough evaluation of its governance during the first term, examine its management priorities, create plans for personnel changes as necessary, seek to improve policymaking and program effectiveness, and create and communicate a second term Agenda.

To a New Administration

• Creates opportunities for the incoming Administration to implement significant policy, program and personnel changes.

*Partnership for Public Service, Center for Presidential Transition
What Can You Do To Impact the Existing or Incoming Administration’s Oral Health Policies?

- Continue our ongoing work with the Congress, engage oral health champions and share information with current and new Congressional members.
- Continue our work with current or new State officials and legislators.
- Engage and provide information to HHS leadership (new or continuing) within the Department and in key agencies that impact oral health.
  - Ten Regional Offices – what’s happening in their region related to oral health?
  - Administration for Children and Families – Head Start
  - Administration for Community Living – older adults and people with disabilities
  - CDC – Division of Oral Health, data efforts
  - CMS – Medicaid, CHIP, Medicare, Center for Innovation, data
  - NIH – National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research
  - IHS – Division of Oral Health, direct care, early childhood caries collaborative
  - HRSA – community health centers, workforce development, NHSC, maternal and child health, HIV/AIDS, HPSAs, research and data
How: Planning an Advocacy Strategy to Engage the New (or Returning) Administration

- Identify key Agencies to target and key asks/information to share.
- Create a “team” to prepare for the meeting.
- Identify which Agency, and who in the leadership team we should meet with.
- How do we get a meeting with an Agency official? Call the office and ask about the best process (letter, email, call).
- Be prepared to explain why the official would want to take this meeting.
  - Example: OPEN is a large organization with representation from all states and many sectors.
  - Example: We represent a group of oral health providers that serve (x number of patients) across (city(ies), state(s)).
- Unclear if this meeting could be in person or virtual during COVID – and beyond.
- A couple of tips:
  - Have a 2 page “send ahead” or “leave behind” that is well referenced.
  - Be prepared to answer questions like – “who is going to be for/opposed to this?” and “how much would this cost?”
A Place to Start – Health Resources and Services Administration

• **The Agency Administrator** is a political appointee, does not require Senate confirmation.

• **Bureau of Primary Health Care** – Associate Administrator, manages all of the FQHCs. Broad bi-partisan support for FQHCs.

• **Bureau of Health Workforce** – Associate Administrator, manages oral health workforce programs, loan repayment programs, health professions shortage area designation, workforce research programs.

• **Maternal and Child Health Bureau** – Associate Administrator, manages Title V (MCH in all states), pre-natal care programs, a maternal oral health research center.
HRSA Continued

- HIV/AIDS Bureau – Associate Administrator, manages all HIV/AIDS programs, including dental care.

- Federal Office of Rural Health Policy – Associate Administrator, is the rural health policy lead for the Department, manages grants to support increased access to health care in rural communities, reviews HHS’s regulations for their impact on rural providers, supports research.
Other Opportunities to Engage the Administration Around Oral Health

- Surgeon General’s oral health report – when released… seek implementation of recommendations? Engage the new (or returning) SG.
- New HHS oral health strategic plan? (last one expired in 2017); Assistant Secretary for Health? Perhaps work with the Oral Health Coordinating Committee?
- President’s budget (and in the Congressional Appropriation) – seek increases for health centers, oral health workforce programs, CDC programs.
- HHS Office of Minority Health – oral health through an equity lens.
- Community-based care – community health workers!
CMS Opportunities – Not contingent on the Administration!

- **Medicaid expansion** – opportunities for oral health initiatives in some states around waivers.

- **Medicare “medically necessary coverage”** for dental work. Families USA, Justice in Aging, CMA, Santa Fe Group have been working with CMS – encourage the Agency to examine Medicare coverage for dental procedures in more cases?
OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENGAGEMENT

• Melissa Burroughs, Senior Oral Health Campaign Manager, Families USA
• Libby Mullin, President, Mullin Strategies
• Patrick Willard, Strategic Adviser, DentaQuest Partnership for Oral Health Advancement
• Ifetayo Johnson, Executive Director, Oral Health Equity & Progress Network (OPEN)
### Issues to Watch & Oral Health

Congress, the White House, and state governments will have to respond to key inflection points

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>issues</th>
<th>details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Health Care Repeal Lawsuit</strong></td>
<td>• Decision in June</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>COVID-19 Relief Legislation</strong></td>
<td>• Lame duck and in 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>State Budget Crises</strong></td>
<td>• On-going, though some states seeing better outlook</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Increased need for Medicaid defense w/ new federal regulation</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Other Medicare/Medicaid/Health Care/Appropriation legislation?</strong></td>
<td>• Possible areas for compromise: some appropriations, maternal health, Rx pricing, surprise medical bills</td>
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Biden Transition Priorities

COVID-19
- Financial support to state & local governments; PPE; Public Health Service Job Corps

Economic Recovery
- Extend unemployment & other economic supports to individuals and businesses; focus on job creation

Racial Equity
- Closing racial wealth & educational gaps; police reform; housing access

Climate Change
Where Congress is Headed Now

**House**
- New member orientation 11/12
- Leadership elections 11/8 and 11/19
- Committee Chair races week of Nov 30
- Committee assignments begin week of Dec 7
- Continuing Resolution expires 12/11

**Senate**
- In session next week for orientation and leadership elections. Also in session 11/16, 12/30, 12/7 and 12/14.
- Committee assignments will wait until Georgia run-off elections
- Omnibus spending/appropriations & COVID relief unclear
WANTED

Oral Health Champions

Seeking lawmakers ready to advance access to quality, affordable care for consumers. All parties may apply!
Next Steps for OPENing Doors

- Examine our policy statements
- Expand our reach in a new environment
- Build new relationships across all political groups
- Find/cultivate new champions for oral health
- Extend our work beyond the oral health arena — everyone has a mouth
TOOLS & RESOURCES

• Colin Reusch, Senior Advisor, Community Catalyst
• Patrick Finnerty, Senior Adviser, DentaQuest Partnership for Oral Health Advancement
## CONGRESSIONAL MATRIX

- Accessible on: [communities.openoralhealth.org](http://communities.openoralhealth.org)
- Direct Link [Here](http://communities.openoralhealth.org)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Member Information</th>
<th>United States Senate Committees of Jurisdiction</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(CC = Committee Chairman; CRM = Committee Ranking Member; M = Member; SC = Subcommittee Chairman; SRM = Subcommittee Ranking Member; SUM = Subcommittee Member)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senator</td>
<td>State</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alexander, Lamar</td>
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<tr>
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Stay Up to Date

• November 13th @ 3pm EST
  • OPEN Take 30: Post-Election Update on State Legislatures
    – Presented by Erik Skinner from National Conference of State Legislatures
    – Meeting URL: http://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/2899995396

• February 10 & 11
  • OPEN Policy Summit

• Join OPEN at communities.openoralhealth.org & subscribe to Policy/Advocacy Forum
THANK YOU!

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