

2014 Director's Task Force on Oral Health and Access to Dental Care

We want to hear from you.

Mr. Lance D. Himes, Interim Director of the Ohio Department of Health (ODH), has convened the 2014 Task Force on Oral Health and Access to Dental Care to make recommendations on how to increase statewide access to oral health and prevention services. In April and May, ODH will hold regional meetings in five locations to get input from consumers, providers of health care and others interested in improving access to dental care.

Each day there will be two sessions, one in the morning and another in the afternoon. Morning sessions will focus on the needs and challenges facing patients/consumers of dental services. Afternoon sessions will focus on the needs and challenges of providers, such as dentists, physicians, nurses, etc. Participants may attend one or both sessions.

A facilitator will lead each group through a series of questions and an open discussion. We are particularly interested in knowing more about the barriers that keep people from getting the dental care they need and ideas for how to improve access to dental care in Ohio.

The dates and locations for the meetings are as follows:

Region	Location	Date	Times
Southeast Ohio	Athens Public Library 30 Home Street Athens, OH 45701 740-592-4272	April 22, 2014 (Tuesday)	Patient/Consumer Focus: 9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Provider Focus: 1:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Northeast Ohio	Kent Library 312 West Main Street Kent, OH 44240 330-673-4414	April 24, 2014 (Thursday)	Patient/Consumer Focus: 9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Provider Focus: 1:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Southwest Ohio	Healthcare Connection 1401 Steffen Road Cincinnati, OH 45215 513-483-3063	April 30, 2014 (Wednesday)	Patient/Consumer Focus: 9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Provider Focus: 1:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Central Ohio	State Library of Ohio 274 E. 1 st Avenue Columbus, OH 43215 614-644-7061	May 1, 2014 (Thursday)	Patient/Consumer Focus: 9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Provider Focus: 1:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Northwest Ohio	First United Methodist Church 1526 East Wooster Street Bowling Green, OH 43402 419-353-0682	May 7, 2014 (Wednesday)	Patient/Consumer Focus: 9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Provider Focus: 1:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

For general information about the Director's Task Force, please visit <http://www.odh.ohio.gov/odhprograms/ohs/oral/oralfeatures/taskforce.aspx>.

For more information about the regional meetings, contact Chris Kloth, ChangeWorks of the Heartland, at chris.kloth@got2change.com or 614-239-1336.

If you have questions about the locations of the regional meetings, please contact Sandra.Christian@odh.ohio.gov or 614-466-4180.