MOVEMENT TO ADDRESS THE CRITICAL NEED FOR EQUAL ACCESS TO ORAL HEALTHCARE FOR THE DISABILITY COMMUNITY

Project Accessible Oral Health launches first-ever conference, convenes more than 100 professionals to tackle the oral healthcare crisis in the disability community.

Based on the initial event’s success, Steve W. Kess, Vice President, Global Professional Relations at Henry Schein, Inc., Dr. Mark Wolff, Morton Amsterdam Dean of Dental Medicine at Penn Dental Medicine, and John D. Kemp, Chairman of Project Accessible Oral Health, President & CEO of The Viscardi Center, present to 57 dental schools at Exan’s AxiUm Summit in Vancouver.

Project Accessible Oral Health becomes an official Doing Business As 501(c)(3) under the umbrella of The Viscardi Center network of nonprofits, and is able to accept donations.

To build on momentum, Project Accessible Oral Health convenes a meeting to determine its official infrastructure as a 501(c)(3) under The Viscardi Center network of nonprofits.

First-ever Project Accessible Oral Health page is launched.

Ways to educate people with disabilities and their caregivers about the importance of oral health and its effect on overall health are being explored. Dental schools are looking at ways to add or enhance their curriculums to train future dentists.

New Project Accessible Oral Health website and Facebook page is launched.

The New York State Dental Foundation honors the work of Project Accessible Oral Health.

Barbie Vartanian, formerly of the Pacific Dental Services Foundation, joins Project Accessible Oral Health as Executive Director.

Take “Dental Health Day” event for kids, teens and adults with disabilities held at The Viscardi Center. The focus was on dental screening, education, and help for patients to find a dental home.

The Special Care Dentistry Association secures John D. Kemp, President & CEO of The Viscardi Center and Chairman of Project Accessible Oral Health as a featured speaker.

The Special Care Dentistry Association Newsday and American Dental Association News, a regional daily newspaper, covered the event. Dr. Joe Brofsky, event organizer and a Project Accessible Oral Health supporter, ensures children with disabilities are included for the first-time. Covered nationally by American Dental Association News.

Project Accessible Oral Health presents at the American Academy of Developmental Medicine & Dentistry (AADMD) annual conference in Seattle, WA.

John D. Kemp, President & CEO of The Viscardi Center and Chairman of Project Accessible Oral Health, led by AmeriHealth Caritas Vice President, Corporate Dental at the AmeriHealth Caritas Family of Companies, and develop a potentially replicable program model to serve the disability community.

Dr. Larry Paul, inspired by his attendance at the conference, convenes a meeting of stakeholders in Philadelphia to leverage his role as Vice President, Corporate Dental at the AmeriHealth Caritas Family of Companies, and develop a potentially replicable program model to serve the disability community.

First-ever oral health disability data collection begins for creation of a future white paper to be used as a compelling road map to action.

1st Graders from Henry Viscardi School at The Viscardi Center participate in the Give Kids a Smile event. Dr. Joe Brofsky, event organizer and a Project Accessible Oral Health supporter, ensures children with disabilities are included for the first-time.

Project Accessible Oral Health on behalf of the Special Olympics NY, Henry Schein Cares, and the Golisano Foundation will co-host the “Inclusive Health Summit” in Seattle, WA.

John D. Kemp is the keynote speaker at Keystone First’s Dental Disabilities Town Hall, to announce their new program designed to help people with disabilities more easily access oral healthcare. The new program was inspired by Project Accessible Oral Health and led by AmeriHealth Caritas Vice President and Education Committee member, Dr. Larry Paul.

Project Accessible Health, Special Olympics NY, Henry Schein Cares, and the Golisano Foundation will co-host the “Inclusive Health Summit” focused on current obstacles and opportunities to resolve challenges in health disparity.