

## Advancing Oral Health State-wide and Across the Lifespan

NHOHC is the only in-state group of organizations, agencies, and individuals, focused solely on the status and impact of oral health issues facing New Hampshire.

The Coalition is representative of those involved in oral health provision, planning, policy-making and funding, including the dental and medical communities, the legislature, educational programs, advocacy groups, insurance providers, state agency leaders, and private funders.

In 2003, the Coalition developed the state's first oral health plan which was updated in 2015. Today, the Coalition serves as the backbone organization for an expanding New Hampshire Oral Health Stakeholder Network, working on equity, community-based program and work force models, medical-dental integration, prevention, timely intervention, and access. We are putting the "mouth back into the body" with a focus on its relationship to overall health and productivity.

The Coalition is recognized on a state and national level for our work on oral health access and integration, and for our ability to engage diverse partners in new, innovative collaborations to support the variety of initiatives addressing the oral healthcare needs of our state.

## **Key Priorities and Objectives**

In conjunction with our community, state and national partners, we work to achieve optimal oral health throughout the state by operationalizing our key objectives including:

- Improving and promoting medical-dental knowledge and service integration in communities
- Leading change strategies to educate, convene and sustain high quality, integrated health practices
- Promoting access to affordable and accessible oral health programs that are available for prevention and restoration across the lifespan through public and private resources and programs.

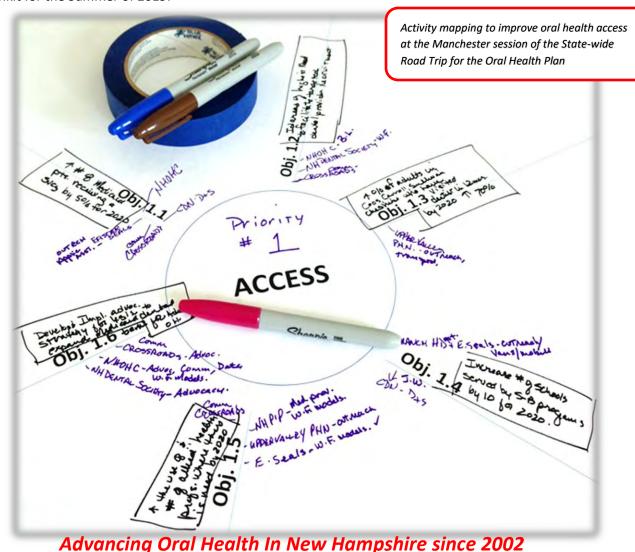
Our partners serve as advisors, advocates, and innovators to achieve our common vision through work focused on research, education, linkage creation, service provision, convening and facilitating re: integrated oral health, equity, community engagement, and advocacy.

## **Accomplishments**

Serving as an impartial advocacy voice for the oral health of the people of NH in community and legislative presentations, committees and work teams the Coalition has:

- Led collaborative efforts on oral health plan advancement, monitoring, and oral health asset mapping including the NH Oral Health Plans, NH Oral Health Baseline Survey, and the NH Oral Health Communication Plan. Documents and info at: <a href="https://www.nhoralhealth.org">www.nhoralhealth.org</a>;
- Organized and facilitated nonpartisan, informational policy summits to educate state legislators, policy-makers, and key stakeholders on Medicaid dental benefit and administrative design options to support informed policy choices in the development of a NH Medicaid adult dental benefit;
- Partnered with NH Department of Health and Human Services, Oral Health Program to implement statewide locally-hosted interdisciplinary trainings on the role of oral health in mental health, and substance use disorder and recovery; and to convene 5 NH CDC award-winning water districts for recognition luncheons for their optimal water quality outcomes relating to fluoride;

- Designed, implemented and trained on data from our statewide survey on community-based, non-traditional oral health programs identifying programs, staffing, funding, gaps, and planning opportunities;
- Coordinated and facilitated locally-hosted, statewide collaborative road trips to engage local communities and stakeholders for 2-way transmission of data and knowledge;
- Conducted ongoing research, analysis, development and presentation of policy platforms, position statements, and testimony for the Coalition to use in education and advocacy with policy-makers, legislators, and other elected officials;
- Completed a statewide survey of the 166 medical offices, both pediatric, and family physicians serving children, to identify the offices where medical personnel were doing oral health assessment and applying fluoride varnish to target gaps and future trainings;
- Implemented the NH "From the First Tooth" project in collaboration with local, state, and regional partners utilizing the national "Smiles for Life" curriculum on oral health re: the implementation of oral health risk assessment and the application of fluoride varnish in medical settings;
- Supported the ongoing expansion of NH Oral Health Network connections and participants, and collaboration with commercial and Medicaid insurers to develop oral health consumer, case-manager, community health worker, and provider training. Completed 10 consumer training sessions on #WhyOralHealthMatters with Cigna and the Velcro Companies;
- Authored a white paper on Senior Oral Health in New Hampshire and a Fluoride Varnish for the Medical Setting Toolkit for the Summer of 2019.



# Our People are our Strength

## Staff



Gail T. Brown, Director, has been with the Coalition since 2009. She brings a health, oral health, and social justice background. Trained as a graduate social worker and an attorney, Brown works with the Steering Committee, members, community, and policy-makers to advance oral health statewide and across the lifespan. Additionally, Brown is a member of the Oral Health Progress and Equity Network (OPEN), serving on their National Oral Health Connection Team. She serves as a steering committee member for the Alliance for Healthy Aging and is on the Board of the American Network of Oral Health Coalitions.



Regina Blaney, Administrative and Data Coordinator, joined the Coalition team in 2014. Her background and experience in department management, technology, and coordination serves as the driving force in organizational convenings, information dissemination, and member connectivity. Ms. Blaney is active in the national OPEN network and in-state legislative events.



Judith Nicholson, Project Coordinator, works with the Coalition during special projects. As a former DHHS Bureau Chief, she is knowledgeable and effective in communicating with network members and organizations. Nicholson coordinated the implementation of the NH Oral Health Baseline Survey <a href="https://www.nhoralhealth.org">www.nhoralhealth.org</a>.

## **Steering Committee**

Our Steering Committee reflects a broad and strong scope of interest and engagement in the oral health sector. Each member brings incredible knowledge, commitment, and experience. Representing the public, private, and at-large communities, they engage monthly to guide the Coalition staff in the implementation and fulfillment of the NH State Oral Health Plan.

Our team includes dental and medical providers, policy-makers, health and equity partners, professional and provider associations, and philanthropists.



2018 Strategic Planning Summit Participants

L-R front row: Regina Blaney, New Hampshire Oral Health Coalition, Francine Morgan, North Country Health Consortium, Stephanie Pagliuca, Bi-State Primary Care, Pamela Delahanty, NH Dental Hygienists Assoc., Judith Nicholson, New Hampshire Oral Health Coalition;

L-R 2<sup>nd</sup> row: Michael Auerbach, New Hampshire Dental Society, Helen Taft, Chair, New Hampshire Oral Health Coalition, Sarah Finne, NHDHHS, Dental Director, Chandni Jivani, (student) Mass College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, Gerri King, Facilitator; L-R rear: Hope Saltmarsh, NH Division Public Health, Oral Health Program, Mary Vallier Kaplan, Kelly Perry, Midstate Health Care Dental Center, Elizabeth Mitchell, New Hampshire Nurse Practitioner Association.

# The Coalition in Action

## **Policy Team and Oral Health Champions**



L-R: Laural Dillon, Div. Public Health Services, Oral Health Program, Susanne Kuehl, NH Dental Hygienists' Association, & Hope Saltmarsh, DHHS, Oral Health Prog.



L-R: Gail Brown, NH Oral Health Coalition, & John P. Ahern, DDS, Past President, NH Dental Assoc.



L-R: Gail Brown, NH Oral Health Coalition & Jim Rivers, Dir. Communications/Policy NH House of Representatives

## **Community & Organizational Partners**



Celebrating with the Water Treatment Division, City of Concord for receiving a CDC Water Quality Award



At the State House with Dr. Earl Simpson Jr., and Tammy Talbot, Saving People's Smiles Dental Center, nonprofit community access

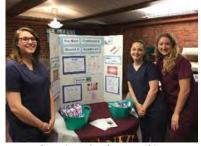


Partnering with the Division of Public Health Services to educate on the role of oral health in addiction, treatment & recovery

## Students and Educational Partners



Sameer Panesar, John G. Winant Fellow, Carsey School of Public Policy



NHTI Dental Hygiene Students Jackie Mountain, Sarah Simoneau, and Virginia Pyburn



UNE MPH Student, Robert Sheik

## National Connections



Fall Forum Keynote, Yasmi Crystal, DMD, NYU College of Dentistry



L-R: With Nursing Leadership: Judith Haber. NYU Nursing, Maria Dolce, Stony Brook Univ, & Erin Hartnett, ONEP, NYU, and Liz Cote, Univ. Vermont, Stephanie Pagliuca, Bi-State Primary Care, and Hope Saltmarsh, NH DHHS.



Patrick Finnerty, Senior Policy Advisor, NH Legislative Briefling and NH Policy Summit on Medicaid Adult Dental Benefits

# 2018 - 2023 Strategic Plan

## Mission Statement

To advance and promote oral health for the people of New Hampshire

## **Vision Statement**

Through improved oral health the people of New Hampshire will have enhanced quality of life and opportunity

## Values and Approach

We use an equity lens to:

- 1. Help remove barriers that exist between people and oral health services.
- 2. Promote the use of the best available scientific evidence to improve oral health for everyone.
- 3. Use public-private partnerships to improve oral health in New Hampshire, especially for the underserved and those at greater risk of oral disease.
- 4. Change perceptions about oral health and disease.
- 5. Promote an effective health infrastructure that integrates oral health into overall health, so that oral health is recognized as a component of general health.
- 6. Advocate for oral health in all health-related policy.



Regina Blaney, NH Oral Health Coalition engaged in strategic planning activity

## Strategic Intentions

We will be recognized as the voice of Oral Health of New Hampshire by

- Being the "go to" resource for oral health
- Functioning as the key advocate for oral health with elected officials, policy makers, and public
- Participating at all tables where oral health should take part
- Facilitating the expansion of oral health knowledge

# We will promote and enhance access to care by

- Supporting the improvement of interdisciplinary and inter-professional work force development and training
- Establishing payment reimbursement for oral health workforce models
- Promoting and actively engaging in developing and implementing a Medicaid adult dental benefit
- Exploring and supporting coordinated deployment of community-based oral health services for all populations

# We will expand collaborative networks and partnerships by

- Facilitating a community-based workforce
- Partnering with schools and students to expand oral health opportunities
- Developing a larger network of oral health champions
- Engaging in public/private partnerships to strengthen, integrate, and promote oral health

#### We will be financially sustainable through

- Optimizing the business and governance structure of the NH Oral Health Coalition
- Developing partnerships to improve our financial standing to gain leverage in the funding arena
- Identifying and implementing diverse revenue streams
- Exploring membership dues and structure

# Member Benefits: How can you participate, join and support the Coalition?

## **General Members**

The NH Oral Health Coalition views all interested individuals and organizations as general members of the Coalition and our NH stakeholder network. General members are on our mailing and distribution lists and we provide information on current programs, educational offerings, and recent oral health research and articles. You can sign up as a General Member on our website at: <a href="https://www.nhoralhealth.org">www.nhoralhealth.org</a>.

## **Program and Advocacy Partners**

In addition to General Membership, Program and Advocacy Partners will receive copies of public policy platforms, position statements, testimony, and local, state, and national legislative alerts. We see advocacy as a reciprocal relationship and look forward to working collaboratively with our partners.

## **Event, Training, and Organizational Sponsors**

We actively develop program, training, and event sponsorships with organizations and funders that are aligned with our mission and vision to help defray the costs of trainings, educational programs, program preparation and event expenses. Opportunities range from event co-sponsorship including national speaker and program component specific sponsorships, as well as general sponsorship of the Coalition as a statewide organization. Benefits include a level-specific package with verbal and written acknowledgement on signage, registration and promotional materials, website, and displays. Events sponsorships are available in single- and multi-event opportunities. Organizational sponsorships are also available in single- and multi-year opportunities.

## **Private and Public Grant Opportunities**

The NHOHC, in partnership with our fiscal sponsor the NH Public Health Association, maintains an aggressive grant funding search to ensure financial strength and future sustainability of the work of advancing oral health statewide and across the lifespan. We seek local, regional and national operational and project funding that aligns with our mission of "optimal oral health for the people of New Hampshire" and that further serves to leverage our current and future goals, objectives, and strategies.

### **Donations**

Donations are welcome and can be for a designated purpose or general support. We would be happy to talk with you about your interest and priorities in advancing oral health in NH.

Contact us at: (603) 415-5550

## **Steering Committee**

#### Helen Taft, Chair

Member-at-Large

#### Stephanie Pagliuca, Secretary

Bi-State Primary Care Association

### **Michael Auerbach**

NH Dental Society

#### **Suzanne Boulter**

NH Pediatric Society

## Elizabeth "BJ" Brown

NHTI, Concord's Community *College Educator* 

#### Patrick Capozzi

NH Academy of Pediatric Dentistry

#### **Pam Delahanty**

NH Dental Hygienists' Association

#### Laural Dillon, ex-officio

Department of Health and Human Services – Public Health

#### Sarah Finne, ex-officio

NH Department of Health and Human Services, Executive Representative

#### LeaAnne Haney

Northeast Delta Dental Dental Insurance Carrier

#### Sophia Johnson

NH Public Health Association Fiscal Sponsor Liaison

#### Sarah Kelsea, AARP

Member-at-Large

#### **Francine Morgan**

NH Area Health Education Center

#### **Elizabeth Mitchell**

NH Nurse Practitioner Association

## **Kelly Perry**

Mid-State Health Dental Center Community Dental Center

#### Mary Vallier-Kaplan

Funder

#### **Catrina Watson**

NH Medical Society