



WNC Children's Oral Health Initiative

Hello WNC Children's Oral Health Partners,

Welcome to the first e-newsletter for the WNC Children's Oral Health Initiative to keep you up to date and share resources about children's oral health. Mission Children's Hospital, in partnership with WNC Health Network and The Duke Endowment, is collaborating with parents, dental and medical providers, hospitals, universities, and public health to improve children's oral health in western North Carolina.



Save the Dates

WNC Children's Oral Health Convenings:

January 9, 2019 from 9:00 - 12:00 for Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Haywood, Jackson, Macon, Swain, & Transylvania Counties

January 16, 2019 from 9:00 - 12:00 for Avery, Buncombe, Burke, Henderson, Madison, McDowell, Mitchell, Polk, Rutherford, & Yancey Counties

We have been on the road sharing information from the WNC Children's Oral Health Needs & Services Assessment. We heard from parents, dentists, physicians, public health hygienists and dentists, school nurses, oral health hospital staff, and dental schools about the opportunities and challenges facing our children's oral health. Thanks to all of you who have provided feedback to us to help us better understand the story behind the data.

Our next step is to identify how we can promote and improve children's oral health. We want you to help us decide what are the best ways to improve children's oral health and access to oral health services. **Please plan to attend one or both regional children's oral health convenings to help us select strategies we can work on together to improve children's oral health!**

From these two convenings, we will develop action teams to work on the priorities identified to improve children's oral health in WNC. We will send more information on locations, agenda and how to register soon.

Happy 100th Birthday to the NC DHHS, Division of Public Health, Oral Health Section

The OHS works to prevent dental caries by using evidence-based data-driven decision making to

advance the oral health, overall health, and well-being of N.C. citizens. Twenty-five field dental hygienists cover the state, offering dental screenings, educational services and programs aimed to maintain oral health.

Check out their excellent [Road to Oral Health Equity newsletter](#), the Oral Health Care During Pregnancy Collaborative Practice Framework, and other great resources at their [website](#).



NC Public Health Association Annual Conference December 12-14 in Charlotte

Come celebrate 100 years of Dental Public Health in North Carolina!

[Review the Agenda & Register for the Conference Here](#)

Last day to register for the December conference is Friday, November 30th.

Highlights of the conference include:

- Dr. Robert Lustig, MD MSL, Professor of Pediatrics at the University of California, San Francisco - The Nexus between Doctors & Dentists
- Dr. Jennifer Webster-Cyriaque DDS, PhD, Professor, Dept of Dental Ecology, UNC School of Dentistry, Professor, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, UNC School of Medicine, Director, Viral Oral Infections in Immunosuppression and Cancer - Oral Health: It's Critical Link to Overall Health
- Dr. Jane Weintraub, DDS, MPH, UNC Chapel Hill - Bringing Together Oral Health, Primary Care, and Public Health
- Dr. Jane Grover with the ADA - Overview of the ADA Model of a Community Dental Health Coordinator, a new dental position developed by the ADA to help in the underserved areas
- Kip Duchon, MS Environmental Engineering, Professional Engineer, CDC National Fluoridation Engineer - History of fluoridation, its mechanism, enamel fluorosis, and public health issues related to fluoride,
- Panel discussion on water fluoridation, communicating risks, costs and benefits
- Barbara Smith, MS, RDH - Overview of NC Perinatal Oral Health Assessment

NC Oral Health Collaborative

a program of the Foundation for Health Leadership & Innovation

NC Oral Health Collaborative brings together partners from across the state to improve the oral health status of all North Carolinians. To learn more about their work and to review their excellent resources, visit their website at www.oralhealthnc.org.

A Communications Toolkit for Advancing Oral Health Reform



To elevate oral health issues, experts, advocates, and communications professionals need framing strategies that have the power to dislodge unproductive patterns of thinking and spark new, more productive ways to engage the public.

DentaQuest partnered with Frameworks to research and design a series of oral health messages that provide strategic framing recommendations and communications tools that are grounded in evidence and equip advocates to communicate more effectively with the public.

Thank you to The Duke Endowment for their support of this project.

