



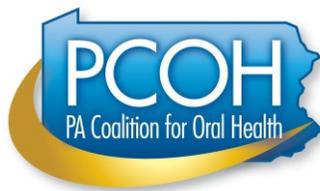
2017 Report – PA Coalition for Oral Health

Priorities of the Coalition

- **Supporting** Pennsylvania oral health workforce development
- **Improving** oral health coverage for Pennsylvania's most vulnerable populations
- **Advancing** implementation of the 2020 Oral Health Plan
- **Advocating** for community water fluoridation

Progress Within the Priorities

- Supporting Pennsylvania oral health workforce development
 - Supported successful proposal to add Public Health Dental Hygiene Practitioners (PHDHPs) to the Medicaid provider list, as well as supported proposed regulations changes to add medical offices and childcare centers to the list of practice settings.
 - Distributed materials at multiple conferences and meetings within the state to advocate for the oral health workforce
 - Collaborating with Penn HOSA (Health Occupations Students of America) to help our dental pipeline programs
 - Tracking oral health workforce prototypes developed at the 2016 Workforce Innovation Summit; final year-end report will be published in December 2017.
 - Engaging providers by a variety of different media and communications campaigns; more than 150 obstetrician offices across PA received patient materials.
- Improving oral health for Pennsylvania's most vulnerable populations
 - Led June 2017 Medicaid Advocacy Day to promote restoration of the 2011 comprehensive adult dental benefit within Medicaid
 - Supported successful proposal to add Public Health Dental Hygiene Practitioners (PHDHPs) to the Medicaid provider list
 - Continue to participate in the Medicaid Advocacy team focusing on comprehensive adult dental benefits with professional facilitators through Community Catalyst and DentaQuest Foundation
 - Implemented a joint conference between PCOH and the members of the Free Clinic Association of PA, held in September 2017. Oral health resource binders were distributed to the 63 free and charitable clinics across the state.
 - Joined the PA Provider Advocacy Coalition workgroup to progress healthcare policies in PA
 - Published MA Advocacy policy brief
 - Launched statewide television and internet campaign to provide oral health referrals to pregnant women



- Advancing implementation of the 2020 Oral Health Plan
 - Awarded sole-source provider status with the PA Department of Health (DoH) for oral health programs
 - Executed a 3-year contract with the DoH to manage the implementation of the state 2017-2020 Oral Health Plan
 - Drafted new mandated dental exam form for use statewide in schools
 - Working on various initiatives within the plan as it is being published, including a statewide surveillance project, improved school sealant programs, workforce development, etc.
- Advocating for community water fluoridation (CWF)
 - Presented testimony at Meadville community meeting in support of adding fluoride to water supply, as well as at Ebensburg community meeting as they considered fluoride removal; achieved success in both cities
 - Offered 3 community water fluoridation trainings at PCOH meetings to give technical education to health providers
 - Continue to recruit and utilize CWF Speaker's Bureau
 - Published community water fluoridation brief
 - Submitted comments to Johnstown against removal of fluoride

Other Accomplishments

- 501(c)3 status awarded in August 2017
- Vice President of the Board announced April 2017
- New Executive Director hired in March 2017
- Development Coordinator position created August 2017
- Continued work with DentaQuest Foundation as part of the PA Oral Health Collective Impact Initiative
- Submitted article to PA Dental Journal; completed numerous media interviews to assist in promoting better oral health in our communities
- Created statewide oral health listserv and increased amount of communication offered to our stakeholders
- Increased social media presence on Facebook, YouTube, and Twitter

Goals for the Future

- Identify and support local and regional oral health coalitions to improve communications and effectiveness on a local level
- Implement a biennial statewide conference to inform stakeholders and move PA Oral Health Plan forward
- Partner with the Department of Health to apply for long-term CDC Capacity/HRSA Workforce grants
- Add new collaborative partners to our statewide network
- Continue to follow and report out on workforce prototype programs, as well as the implementation of a stronger dental safety net within our free and charitable clinics in PA
- Complete mandated school dental exam form revision and implement for 2018-19 school year
- Utilize Temple Dental Public Health student to assess actual workforce access issues within PA
- Add two members to the PCOH Board of Directors