



florida dental
A S S O C I A T I O N

FLORIDA'S ACTION FOR DENTAL HEALTH

**A comprehensive effort developed to improve the
oral health and resulting overall health
of all Floridians**

FLORIDA'S ACTION FOR DENTAL HEALTH

Objectives:

- 1. Promote attainable dental care for the uninsured and underserved in Florida.**
- 2. Collaborate to maximize use and capacity of the current dental workforce to optimally serve Floridians with preventive and therapeutic dental care.**
- 3. Expand opportunities for public health dentistry to serve Floridians.**

FLORIDA'S ACTION FOR DENTAL HEALTH

Objective 1: Promote attainable dental care for the uninsured and underserved in Florida.

Strategies:

- **Develop partnerships with other entities that serve patients who need a dental home (physicians, hospitals, nursing homes, county health departments, federally qualified health centers, advocacy and stakeholder groups).**
- **Connect patients needing care with a dental team in an appropriate facility and support a reimbursement process to cover the cost of care.**

FLORIDA'S ACTION FOR DENTAL HEALTH

Objective 1: Promote attainable dental care for the uninsured and underserved in Florida.

Strategies:

- **Increase effectiveness of the Medicaid dental program in providing preventive care & treatment.**
- **Develop and implement an elder care protocol for dental care, focusing on caregiver education.**
- **Secure state funding for coordinators to match special needs and medically compromised patients with volunteer dentists through the Dental Lifeline Network (Donated Dental Services).**

FLORIDA'S ACTION FOR DENTAL HEALTH

Objective 2: Collaborate to maximize use and capacity of the current dental workforce to optimally serve Floridians with preventive and therapeutic dental care.

Strategies:

- **Increase use of private practices, educational institutions, and state and federally supported dental programs with capacity to treat patients.**
- **Develop mechanisms for dental team members to establish dental care programs/facilities in underserved and rural areas of Florida.**

FLORIDA'S ACTION FOR DENTAL HEALTH

Objective 2: Collaborate to maximize use and capacity of the current dental workforce to optimally serve Floridians with preventive and therapeutic dental care.

Strategies:

- **Establish Community Dental Health Coordinator (CDHC) education programs at dental, dental assisting, and dental hygiene schools in Florida and incorporate CDHCs into the dental team.**
- **Provide more preventive care by expanding dental assistant duties allowed under general supervision in all settings.**

FLORIDA'S ACTION FOR DENTAL HEALTH

Objective 2: Collaborate to maximize use and capacity of the current dental workforce to optimally serve Floridians with preventive and therapeutic dental care.

Strategies:

- **Recruit and assist in dental lab technicians' education.**
- **Allow for more efficient delivery of dental care by expanding auxiliary duties to include placement and finishing of restorations (with proper training and certification).**

FLORIDA'S ACTION FOR DENTAL HEALTH

Objective 2: Collaborate to maximize use and capacity of the current dental workforce to optimally serve Floridians with preventive and therapeutic dental care.

Strategies:

- **Support and expand preventive oral care in pediatricians' offices.**
- **Establish and expand emergency room diversion programs for definitive treatment.**
- **Optimize dental care in nursing homes.**

FLORIDA'S ACTION FOR DENTAL HEALTH

Objective 2: Collaborate to maximize use and capacity of the current dental workforce to optimally serve Floridians with preventive and therapeutic dental care.

Strategies:

- **Support and expand the volunteer safety net programs, including FDA-supported Project: Dentists Care clinics and Mission of Mercy events.**
- **Educate emergency room and nursing home facility staff on available resources for definitive treatment and establish referral lists of local dentists.**

FLORIDA'S ACTION FOR DENTAL HEALTH

Objective 3: Expand opportunities for public health dentistry to serve Floridians.

Strategies:

- **Establish and adequately fund a dental student loan repayment program.**
- **Require oral health education in schools and public assistance programs.**
- **Expand funding for county health department dental programs.**
- **Increase state supported funding for community water fluoridation.**

FLORIDA'S ACTION FOR DENTAL HEALTH

Objective 3: Expand opportunities for public health dentistry to serve Floridians.

Strategies:

- **Increase Medicaid dental reimbursement rates and require 85/15 medical loss ratio for dental care in managed care programs.**
- **Expand public/private partnerships with federally qualified health centers using private practice providers.**
- **Promote the Health Access Dental License to increase the number of providers in health access settings.**

FLORIDA'S ACTION FOR DENTAL HEALTH

Tactics to Achieve These Strategies:

Legislation has been introduced since 2015 in the Florida Legislature regarding:

1. Dental Student Loan Repayment Program
2. Community Water Fluoridation Funding
3. Coordinators for Special Needs and Medically Compromised patients through Dental Lifeline Network.

FLORIDA'S ACTION FOR DENTAL HEALTH

Tactics to Achieve These Strategies:

4. **Community Dental Health Coordinator curriculum integration into Florida dental programs. The first CDHC program in our state began in the Fall of 2015 at Mattia College in Miami. Currently seeking faculty to teach.**
5. **Elder care training is now available through the ADA and several Florida dentists will enroll this Spring.**
6. **Emergency Room referral programs like in Brevard County are being expanded.**

FLORIDA'S ACTION FOR DENTAL HEALTH

What Are Community Dental Health Care Coordinators (CDHC's)?

Dental Patient Navigators Who:

1. **Coordinate care and arrange transportation**
2. **Reduce dental anxiety/support access**
3. **Encourage patients to complete treatment**
4. **Enhance cultural competency**
5. **Educate the population about prevention**
6. **Navigate Medicaid or other programs**
7. **Enhance productivity of the oral health team**

FLORIDA'S ACTION FOR DENTAL HEALTH

The Ultimate Prevention Strategy



FLORIDA'S ACTION FOR DENTAL HEALTH

Workforce Innovation Task Group

- **Dr. Jolene Paramore, Panama City (chair)**
- **Dr. Jim Antoon, Rockledge**
- **Dr. Ralph Attanasi, Delray Beach**
- **Dr. Terry Buckenheimer, Tampa**
- **Dr. Bill D'Aiuto, Longwood**
- **Dr. Michael Eggnatz, Weston**
- **Dr. Richard Huot, Vero Beach**
- **Dr. Kim Jernigan, Pensacola**
- **Dr. George Kolos, Ft. Lauderdale**
- **Dr. Rodrigo Romano, Miami**
- **Dr. Barry Setzer, Jacksonville**
- **Dr. Richard Stevenson, Jacksonville**

FLORIDA'S ACTION FOR DENTAL HEALTH

Workforce Innovation Consultants

- **Dr. Roderick King**
- **Dr. Sam Low**
- **Mrs. Connie Reed**
- **Dr. Ken Rich**
- **Dr. Cesar Sabates**
- **Dr. Tom Ward**
- **Dr. Ed Zapert**

FLORIDA CHILDREN AND YOUTH CABINET

The FDA supports the Florida Children and Youth Cabinet and would like to be involved in helping to develop policies and strategies related to improving oral health for all children.

2019 Legislative Session

- **SB 374 by Sen. Gayle Harrell**
- **HB 1017 by Rep. Patricia Williams**

Adds a dentist to serve on the Children and Youth Cabinet, to be appointed by the Governor

FDA is a proud partner of Children's Week

THANK YOU!

Contact Information

**Dr. Jolene Paramore
FDA President**

jparamore@bot.floridadental.org