



## Oral Health Work Force Development

The New Hampshire Oral Health Coalition recognizes that an adequate and well-trained workforce is a key variable in ensuring access to oral health services throughout the state.

Historically, New Hampshire has been considered to have sufficient numbers of providers that were mal-distributed throughout the state resulting in unmet geographic and need categories such as the uninsured, low income adults, refugee populations and others. With upcoming health reform and economic changes, it is unlikely that supply of providers will meet our demand for service. Oral health stakeholders are exploring workforce models that can expand services into areas of unmet need.

The Coalition, a broad, diverse group, does not promote any single workforce model. We believe that development of workforce models should be done in the context of need; and be anchored in evidence-based knowledge and identified best-practices to ensure that we are meeting state need while maintaining the public health.

The Coalition recognizes its document [The New Hampshire State Oral Health Plan: A Framework for Action](#) as our guide for identifying need and developing workforce within our state.

The NHOHC recommends

- Broad stakeholder engagement in the development of revised and innovative oral health workforce models;
- The utilization of evidence-based data and best-practices in reviewing and designing potential models for consideration.

### Resources:

[Dental Services and Workforce in New Hampshire](#), New Hampshire Center for Public Policy Studies, January 2010. [www.nhpolicy.org](http://www.nhpolicy.org)

[New Hampshire Oral Health Workforce Strategic Plan](#), September 2010, New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services. <http://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dphs/bchs/rhpc/oral/documents/ohswplan.pdf>

[Oral Health in New Hampshire Background Paper](#), The Center for Health Workforce Studies, School of Public Health, University at Albany, <http://chws.albany.edu>

[The New Hampshire Oral Health Plan: A Framework for Action](#), Coalition for New Hampshire Oral Health, 2003. [www.nhoralhealth.org](http://www.nhoralhealth.org)

*The New Hampshire Oral Health Coalition is a state-wide diverse collaborative of organizations, agencies and individuals focusing on oral health education, prevention, access, workforce development, and advocacy aimed to promote optimal oral health for the people of New Hampshire. 2/15/2013*