# The Mouth Matters: Coalition Overview

Presentation to the Legislative Commission on Pathways to Oral Health

New Hampshire Oral Health Coalition
New Hampshire Oral Health Coalition

Convened in 2002 by DHHS – Public Health and the Endowment for Health

- State-wide multidisciplinary group of oral health organizations and individuals
- Explore the oral health status and needs of NH residents
- Develop a plan of action to guide oral health advancement within the state
Mission

To promote optimal oral health for the people of New Hampshire
New Hampshire Oral Health Plan: A Framework for Action

- Published 2003
- Serves as a roadmap for in-state oral health program development, policy and practice
- Currently being updated by Healthy NH Foundation, the Endowment for Health, and Northeast Delta Dental. Expected: June 2015.
New Funding Opportunities

2012 new funding with a focus on building oral health in-state leadership and networks for local and national impact. Local projects could be focused on one or two of six priority areas.

- Medical and Dental Integration
- Prevention and Public Health Infrastructure
- Oral Health Literacy as a Pathway to Health Equity
- Metrics for Improving Oral Health
- Financing Models for Oral Health
- Strengthening the Dental Care Delivery System
NHOHC reached out for in-state partners and 14 organizations and individuals joined the pre-planning call and follow-up process.

Explored ways to expand access into underserved communities and populations.

Created a core planning team to develop a vision and plan to determine in-state needs, opportunities and resources.
Our Purpose

To improve oral health access and outcomes for the underserved by increased deployment of registered dental hygienists working under public health supervision, by means of statewide deployment through an existing public health infrastructure.
Agreement

Early Planning Participants

- Nancy DuMont, Alice Peck Day Memorial
- Steven Chapman, Dartmouth Hitchcock
- Jean McPheters, Northeast Delta Dental
- Margaret Snow, DHHS – Medicaid
- Hope Saltmarsh, Greater Derry Oral Health Collaborative
- Greg Norman, Dartmouth Hitchcock
- Jim Williamson, NH Dental Society
- Margaret Ray, Concord’s Community College - NHTI
- Stephanie Pagliuca, Bi-State Primary Care Association
- Helen Taft, Families First Health and Support Center
- Nancy Martin, DHHS – Public Health

Goals

- Submit a successful funding application to the DentaQuest Foundation
- Build leadership and relationship amongst the NH OH stakeholders
- Focus on identifying an existing infrastructure to support statewide deployment of NH registered dental hygienists, working under public health supervision, into underserved areas and populations
The Plan...

- 5 Colloquia statewide hosted by local oral health leaders
- Learn and teach about the role of the RDH under public health supervision
- Examine existing public health infrastructure systems for applicability
- Explore local innovative programs, and
- Identify barriers to expanding access to preventive oral health services
Working together...

Creativity and Innovation

Respectful Relationships

Integrity and Transparency

Shared Values

Comprehensive Approaches

Forward-looking Solutions
## Rules of Engagement

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Build an atmosphere of trust</th>
<th>Deep listening; encourage dialogue and consideration</th>
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<tr>
<td>Honor differences in perspective</td>
<td>Put own perspective into the bigger context</td>
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<td>Always strive for common ground</td>
<td>Consistently seek to clarify and understand other points of view</td>
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<td>Thoroughly explore an issue before assuming knowledge</td>
<td>Promote mutually reinforcing activities and collective impact</td>
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We Talked

- Public health hygiene
- Community-based oral health services
- Innovation
- Resources
- Needs
We Asked

Questions about existing infrastructure
- Public Health Networks
- Community Health Systems
- Hospitals
- Counties
- Community Action Programs
We Listened

- Ideas
- Needs
- Barriers
- Strengths
- Resources
We Learned

No existing public health infrastructure ready to assume statewide deployment

AND

Needed more **information/knowledge** on the role of the hygienist

Needed to understand current and potential **reimbursement/funding**

Needed a **strong network** to receive those who need follow-up restorative dental work.
IMPROVED ACCESS AND ORAL HEALTH OUTCOMES FOR THE UNDERSERVED

INCREASED DEPLOYMENT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH HYGIENISTS

TRAINING MODULES ★ MARKETING COLLATERAL ★ LEADERSHIP ★ COLLABORATION ★ ADVOCACY

J. Goodman
State-wide Baseline Inventory Survey

Query

(1) Community-based oral health/dental programs, and

(2) Oral Health Prevention in Medical Settings

In order to

- Create an inventory
- Identify geographic and service gaps
- Identify best practices
- Inform Work Teams, program planners, policy-makers, and others

- Oral Health services provided
- Population served
- Location and service areas
- Work force
- Reimbursement and funding sources
- Dental and health record systems
- Current capacity
- Future planning
Baseline Inventory Timeline

JAN
- Define scope
- Form advisory
- Identify targets

FEB
- Kick-off
- Question design

MAR
- First Advisory
- Select technology
- Final Instrument

APR
- Send letter
- Conduct survey

MAY
- Conduct Survey
- 2nd Advisory

JUNE
- Conduct Survey

JULY
- Survey collection complete
- 3rd Advisory

AUG
- Data to State for mapping

SEPT
- First Draft
- Review
- K & I team
- 4th Advisory
- NHOHC Steering

OCT
- Final Draft

NOV
- Release of report
Thank you

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