

# Oral Health State Plan

**2013 – 2018**

## Access

**Goal 1: Increase access to quality, comprehensive, and continuous oral health services for all Louisiana citizens throughout their life stages.**

<b>Objective 1.1: By July 2018 provide guidance, support, and expertise to organizations/programs to Increase access to dental services.</b>
Strategy 1.1.1: Increase the number of FQHC providing school-based dental services by one new provider annually.
Strategy 1.1.2: Increase the number of school-based health centers with dental services by 1 new SBHC annually.
Strategy 1.1.3: Increase the number of dentists/schools/organizations participating in Give Kids A Smile Day activities by 4 annually.
Strategy 1.1.4: Increase the number of Councils on Aging participating in the “Louisiana Smiles for Life” Program by 2 annually.
Strategy 1.1.5: Increase the number of Special Olympics participants that receive any dental service by 5%.
Strategy 1.1.6: Increase the number of children and adults with special health care needs that receive any oral service by 5%.
<b>Objective 1.2: by July 2018, annually disseminate information on organizations that provide low/no cost dental services for underserved populations.</b>
Strategy 1.2.1: Identify and disseminate a list of organizations with links to safety-net providers on their web site by one new organization annually.
Strategy 1.2.2: Annually compile and disseminate a list of organizations/programs that utilize mobile dental services.
Strategy 1.2.3: Annually compile and disseminate a list of school-based health centers with oral health services
Strategy 1.2.4: Annually provide the medical associations/societies with information on resources for dental care
Strategy 1.2.5: Annually compile and disseminate a list of organizations/programs that offer compassionate care programs for under or uninsured adults, disabled, elderly, etc.
<b>Objective 1.4: By July 2018 explore program delivery models that have proven to increase dental care to the underserved population.</b>

Strategy 1.4.1: Identify services that will make the greatest impact and explore cost to offer those services, at a minimum, work with Medicaid to add extractions to covered Medicaid dental services.
Strategy 1.4.2: Work with Medicaid and dental managed care to identify cost benefit to increasing services.
Strategy 1.4.3: Review national and international association/organizations' official statements, policy statements, and white papers regarding oral health practices.

## Education

### **Goal 2: Educate and inform on the practice and benefit of good oral health and hygiene.**

<b>Objective 2.1: By July 2016 incorporate a communication plan for the OHC as a part of the OHP Communication's Plan.</b>
Strategy 2.1.1: By July 2014 develop and maintain an Oral Health Coalition Facebook page.
Strategy 2.1.2: Maintain the Oral Health Program web page.
Strategy 2.1.3: Post current reports, white papers, program data, links to national data, and other information on the DHH-Oral Health Program's web page.
Strategy 2.1.4: Develop a process for work group collaboration and dissemination of their projects/activities/intervention results.
Strategy 2.1.5: Publicize the activities and accomplishments of the OHC to identified audiences and the general public.
Strategy 2.1.6: Develop PowerPoint presentations, handouts, webinars, etc.
Strategy 2.1.7: Identify wellness programs where oral health programs can be incorporated.
Strategy 2.1.8: Provide practitioners information on what local and state-wide resources for information and care are available for their patients.
<b>Objective 2.2: By July 2018 annually review, revise, validate, and disseminate available sources of oral health education materials.</b>
Strategy 2.2.1: Use available materials and/or develop new materials on the benefits dental sealant application and find ways to promote prevention initiatives.
Strategy 2.2.2: By July 2016, produce a webinar on "Resources for Access to Oral Care in Louisiana"
Strategy 2.2.3: Post "talking points" on population-based preventive oral health services suitable for targeted audiences such as medical clinicians and school nurses as well as for educating the general public on Oral Health Program web page and on OHC Face Book page.
Strategy 2.2.4: Provide medical/dental students in training information on what local and state-wide resources for information and care are

available for their patients.
Strategy 2.2.5: Provide medical practitioners information on what local and state-wide resources for information and care are available for their patients.
Strategy 2.2.6: Develop a flier on denture care and oral health care for the elderly.
Strategy 2.2.7: Explore ways to support and assist with Louisiana State University Agricultural Center’s “Body Walk” school display.
<b>Objective 2.3: By July 2018 increase the number of educational presentations and request for information and resources on caring for primary and secondary dentition in children to at least seven annually.</b>
Strategy 2.3.1: Conduct at least one presentation to WIC staff/clients annually.
Strategy 2.3.2: Conduct at least one presentation to Nurse Family Partnership staff/clients annually.
Strategy 2.3.3: Collaborate with Pediatric Residency Programs, Nurse training programs and other identified medical training programs to conduct at least one educational presentation annually.
Strategy 2.3.4: Partner with a certified birthing hospital to provide at least one oral health information session annually for their prenatal classes.
Strategy 2.3.5: Provide education on cariogenic foods and beverages to parents and caregivers through multiple outlets, including but not limited to, school newsletters, day care locations, PTA meetings, Head Start.
Strategy 2.3.6: Collaborate with the State Head Start Program to develop an educational presentation for staff and parents.
Strategy 2.3.7: Work with Department of Education to enhance oral health in the health curriculum and wellness policies used in schools.
Strategy 2.3.8: Sponsor a state-wide poster contest during National Children’s Dental Health Month.
<b>Objective 2.4: By 2018 increase the number of educational presentations and request for information and resources on oral health care among the adult and elderly population as well as caregivers of these populations to at least ten annually.</b>
Strategy 2.4.1: Coordinate with the Governor’s Office of Elderly Affairs and Area Agencies on Aging throughout the state to distribute information on denture care and oral health care for the elderly through the Louisiana Smiles for Life Program.
Strategy 2.4.2: By July 2016, produce a webinar for PCA’s and CNAs’ on oral hygiene and care of dentures of nursing home residents and other targeted audiences.
Strategy 2.4.3: Coordinate with churches and their respective health ministries for distribution of information on denture care and oral health care for the elderly.

## Prevention

**Goal 3: Improve and maintain oral health, and prevent the progression of oral disease through interventions that address risk factors and at-risk population groups.**

<b>Objective 3.1: By July 2018 support efforts to increase the number of at children with dental sealants on their primary and secondary molars.</b>
Strategy 3.1.1: Provide support to the Louisiana Oral Health school-based dental sealant program and other school linked dental sealant programs to increase the number of schools served to 90.
Strategy 3.1.2: Increase the number of programs that aim to deliver dental sealants to youth in mobile dental units and non-school settings, such as camps, special events, etc.
Strategy 3.1.3: Work to increase the number of sealant events as part of Give Kids A Smile Day, and as part of National Children’s Dental Health month (February)
<b>Objective 3.2: By July 2018 support efforts to annually increase access to fluoride varnish programs.</b>
Strategy 3.2.1: Partner with the Louisiana Oral Health Program, FQHC, organizations, community groups and school-based health care centers to provide fluoride varnish applications in schools, Head Start programs and multiple settings targeting children in low socio-economic settings and areas and Health Professional Shortage Areas, (HPSA’s).
Strategy 3.2.2: Explore the appropriateness of fluoride varnish or other topical fluoride applications for the elderly, and other at-risk populations
Strategy 3.2.3: Annually provide training to healthcare providers who apply fluoride varnish in schools, Head Start programs and health care settings.
<b>Objective 3.3: By July 2018 support efforts to increase the number of school-based health centers conducting and documenting oral assessments as a part of the comprehensive physical from.</b>
Strategy 3.3.1: Partner with the Louisiana Adolescent School based Health Program, LA Head Start Program, and LA Assembly on School-based Health and local school-based health center to identify the number of school-based health centers conducting conduct oral assessments with documentation.
Strategy 3.3.2: Annually provide training to healthcare providers who apply fluoride varnish in schools, Head Start programs and health care settings.
<b>Objective 3.4: By July 2018 support efforts to increase the Louisiana population receiving the benefit of optimally fluoridated water from 40% to 50%.</b>

Strategy 3.4.1: Ensure that all oral health stakeholders provide their constituents with a link to the Center for Disease Control’s “My Water’s Fluoride” webpage.
Strategy 3.4.2: Work with the community to identify and secure local sources of funding to initiate and maintain community water fluoridation, such as grants, drinking water revolving loan fund, foundations, etc.
Strategy 3.4.3: Meet with local governments, residents, water systems, etc. to explore ways to self-fund—i.e. \$1.00 on income tax, city tax or increased water bill.
Strategy 3.4.4: Meet with local governments to educate and promote on the benefits of community water fluoridation.
<b>Objective 3.5: Monitor the percentage of Medicaid eligible children who see a dentist from 47.5% year to 52.5% (total increase of 5%).</b>
<b>Objective 3.6: By July 2018 support efforts to increase the number of distribution sites where oral hygiene supplies such as tooth brushes, toothpaste, mouth wash and dental floss are provided.</b>
Strategy 3.6.1: Annually identify at least one manufacturer to provide oral health supplies.
Strategy 3.6.2: Annually identify at least one dental, provider, support group or organization to provide oral health supplies.
<b>Objective 3.7: By July 2018, increase the avenues for communication of risk factors and health determinants related to oral diseases.</b>
Strategy 3.7.1: Ensure that all oral health stakeholders have access to information on the provide awareness of risk factors and health determinants related to oral diseases to their populations.
Strategy 3.7.2: Support the work of the Louisiana Dental Association on the Children’s Oral Health Education Initiative (COHEI).
Strategy 3.7.3: Support the annual oral health and tobacco control prevention event sponsored by the Louisiana Public Health-Oral Health Program and Louisiana Tobacco Control Program geared toward 6th grade students at four targeted schools.
Strategy 3.7.4: Support the efforts of the DHH Oral Health and Tobacco Control Prevention program to initiate a tobacco cessation program in dental offices.
Strategy 3.7.5: Support efforts of DHH Bureau of Family Health and Health Promotion Team to utilize available resources and trends in social marketing to best reach individuals with chronic diseases, pregnant women and women of reproductive ages.

## Surveillance & Evaluation

**Goal 4: Conduct and maintain oral health surveillance to monitor the status of oral disease in Louisiana, to improve oral health outcomes through implementation of evidence based strategies, and to guide policy changes that will improve oral health for all Louisiana citizens.**

<b>Objective 4.1: By July 2018 conduct and report on Basic Screening Surveys for identified populations.</b>
Strategy 4.1.2: Work with Louisiana Nursing Home Association, local Councils on Aging, the Oral Health for the Elderly Task Group, and volunteer dentists to conduct a basic screening survey in the elderly population.
Strategy 4.1.2: Work with Adolescent School Based Health Program, the LA Assembly of School-based Health, the LA Dept. of Education, volunteer dentists and other organizations to conduct a 3 <sup>rd</sup> grade basic screening survey.
<b>Objective 4.2: By July 2018 annually report and disseminate information on the number of Medicaid eligible Louisiana citizens receiving any dental service.</b>
Strategy 4.2.1: Analyze data on the percentage of Medicaid eligible children who receive any dental service
Strategy 4.2.2: Analyze % of Medicaid eligible adults with disabilities who receive any dental service
Strategy 4.2.3: Analyze the number of providers who bill for dental services.
<b>Objective 4.3: By July 2018 annually collect, analyze, and disseminate information on the number of participants in any school based/school linked dental program.</b>
Strategy 4.3.1: Conduct SEALS analysis on children served in school-based/linked sealant programs.
Strategy 4.3.2: Conduct SEALS analysis on children served in school-based/linked fluoride varnish programs
Strategy 4.3.3: Conduct analysis on children served receiving an oral assessment in school-based health centers.
Strategy 4.3.4: Conduct analysis on children served receiving an oral assessment in school-based health centers.
Strategy 4.3.5: Collect and report data on the number of children and dentists participating in “Give Kids a Smile Day” programs
Strategy 4.3.6: By 2015, utilize GIS mapping to identify areas where school based oral services are conducted.
<b>Objective 4.4: By July 2018 annually report and disseminate information on the number of people receiving any dental service through special programs and events.</b>
Strategy 4.4.1: Collect and Identify & report data on the number of Special Olympics participants that receive any dental service
Strategy 4.4.2: Collect and Identify & report data on the number of special events which provide access to dental care for the adult and elderly population
Strategy 4.4.3: Collect participation data on Smiles for Life program through local Councils on Aging.

Strategy 4.4.4: Encourage the public, oral health stakeholders, and program partners to participate in data collection activities and to utilize the data.
Strategy 4.4.5: Disseminate information from the LDA on the dollar amount of donated services
<b>Objective 4.5: By 2018 conduct a process and outcome evaluation of the Oral Health State Plan to measure the effectiveness of the coalition’s activities and interventions.</b>
Strategy 4.4.1: Organize and maintain a standing Surveillance and Evaluation Committee/work group as a part of the Oral Health Coalition.
Strategy 4.4.2: Collaborate with Oral Health Program Evaluation Team and Coalition Surveillance and Evaluation Committee/workgroup to implement State Plan evaluation as outlined in the Oral Health Program’s Five-Year Evaluation Plan.
Strategy 4.4.3: Assist other Coalition Committees/work groups with data and evaluation request that the work group deems necessary to achieve their work.
Strategy 4.4.4: Disseminate information and evaluation results appropriately.

Workforce

**Goal 5: Support efforts to ensure the preparation of, and the recruitment and retention of, an oral health workforce that is adequate and skilled, so that it may better service the state’s population groups.**

<b>Objective 5.1: By July 2018 support efforts of DHH Dental Medicaid to increase the number of Medicaid participating dental providers that bill for a minimum of \$3,000/month.</b>
Strategy 5.1.1: Explore incentives for dentists who significantly increase their service to Medicaid patients.
Strategy 5.1.2: Survey Medicaid and dental providers to identify barriers to the administrative process and to propose solutions so as to increase and maintaining provider participation.
Strategy 5.1.3: Partner with DHH Dental Medicaid, the Oral Health Program, new DBM and the LDA to increase the number of dentists accepting Medicaid.
Strategy 5.1.4: Enlist the help of DBM to explore Medicaid practice models.
<b>Objective 5.2: By July 2018 increase the number of dentists who practice in rural underserved areas designated as HPSAs based on FTE dentist to population ratio so by at least 12 FTEs. (Note: As many HPSAs are entire parishes, reducing the number of areas with a HPSA designation may or may not directly correlate with success in getting more dentists in rural underserved</b>

<b>areas, as the former is purely a ratio measure and the latter takes into account distribution.)</b>
Strategy 5.2.1: Increase the % of Louisiana Dental School graduates that participate in loan forgiveness programs and % of all dentists in other programs by 10%.
Strategy 5.2.2: increase the number of LSUSD graduates that participate in the rural scholars program.
<b>Objective 5.3: By 2018, increase the number of providers who are trained to provide service to children and adults with special health care needs by 15%.</b>
Strategy 5.3.1: Support the LSUSD general practice residency and pediatric residency programs and dental hygiene schools in providing training needed to work with children and adults with special health care needs
Strategy 5.3.2: Support efforts to fund and expand the Dental Lifeline Network to increase the number of children and adults with special health care needs receiving care by 5% annually.
Strategy 5.3.3: Support efforts to annually train clinical and non-clinical volunteers to participate in activities that provide oral care for children and adults with special health care needs.