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**Member Newsletter**



**Coalition News**

**2010 Legislative Action Day Fast Approaching  
Plan Now to Attend; Forty Legislators Confirmed**



Each year, the Michigan Legislature makes critical policy decisions that impact you. Join us March 2 (9 a.m. to 3 p.m.) in downtown Lansing for the 2010 Legislative Action Day. Coalition members will gain insight into the legislative and budget process, have opportunities to meet with legislators and become informed about important issues facing oral health. For more information, contact Karlene Ketola, executive director at 517.381.8000. Click [here](#) to register.

**The Magic of Xylitol Webinar March 8  
Coalition Partners with Michigan Dental Assistants Association for Recognition Week**

The Michigan Dental Assistants Association and Michigan Oral Health Coalition are proud to celebrate National Dental Assistants Recognition Week March 7-13. This week recognizes the contributions and efforts of Dental Assistants and the vital role they play. Join us March 8 (11 a.m. to 12 p.m.) for a course on Xylitol for the entire oral health care team.

Xylitol is one of the hottest dental products to come down the pike. Nearly everyone in dentistry has heard of it, but few understand the far reaching benefits of this five carbon sugar and how it can impact dental disease in the next decade. [Register Now!](#)



**Have You Visited the Coalition Website Lately?  
Website Provides Resources for Providers and Consumers**

The Michigan Oral Health Coalition's website - [www.mohc.org](http://www.mohc.org) - provides resources and



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**Upcoming Events**

March 2, 2010  
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Legislative Action Day  
Downtown Lansing

March 8, 2010  
11 a.m. to 12 p.m.  
Magic of Xylitol Webinar

June 10-11, 2010  
Annual Conference  
Downtown Lansing

**Quick Links**

- [Visit Our Website](#)
- [Join the Coalition](#)
- [Read Our Blog](#)
- [Join Us On Facebook](#)

information on an array of Coalition initiatives. Visitors will find a complete list of members with board members' contact information; upcoming events; initiatives related to the State Oral Health Plan and more. The site also provides tools and resources for educators and consumers. Check us out!

## State News

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### 2010 Governor's Service Awards Reminder Nominations Due February 23

The Michigan Community Service Commission is seeking nominations for the 2010 Governor's Service Awards. The service awards are given annually to individuals, businesses, and organizations to acknowledge their commitment to serving their communities through volunteerism. The nomination form is available at [www.michigan.gov/volunteer](http://www.michigan.gov/volunteer). Nominations must be postmarked by Feb. 23. For additional information, contact Kathie Vasilion Robinson at 517.373.4200.

### Governor to Focus on Health Care Reform, Jobs National Governors Association Meets this Weekend

Governor Jennifer Granholm will be in Washington, D.C. this weekend for the winter meeting of the National Governors Association where the nation's governors will discuss national health care reform and job-creation across the country. The governor also will meet with Obama administration officials to discuss the continuing threat of Asian Carp and Michigan's ongoing efforts to grow jobs and diversify the state's economy. [See Release](#).

### Kids Count in Michigan 2009 Report County Profiles of Child Well-Being

Childhood poverty, abuse and neglect continue to rise in Michigan but child deaths are down dramatically, the latest *Kids Count* report finds. The *Kids Count in Michigan Data Book 2009* examines county-level trends in child well-being with a focus on rural, mid-sized and urban counties. The report ranks the 83 counties on 15 measures of child well-being with No. 1 ranking being the best in the best in the state. [Read the report](#).

## National News

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### Kaiser Reports Record Medicaid Enrollment Illustrates Medicaid's Role During Economic Downturns

With the country mired in a deep recession, nearly 3.3 million more people were enrolled in state Medicaid programs in June 2009 compared to the previous June, according to a new analysis by the Kaiser Family Foundation's Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured. It was the biggest ever one-year increase in terms of absolute numbers, and boosted the June monthly Medicaid enrollment by 7.5 percent to 46.9 million

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people.

It was the first time since the early 1990s that every state experienced an increase in Medicaid enrollment, and in 32 states enrollment grew at least twice as fast as the year before, according to the analysis, which includes data breakouts by state. Enhanced federal matching money for Medicaid provided through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 has proved critical in helping states maintain coverage. But that money is scheduled to expire on Dec. 31, 2010, which will increase the strain on state fiscal year 2011 budgets, Medicaid directors reported. [See Full Report.](#)

## Dental Workforce Model: 2007-2030 [American Dental Association Releases Report](#)

The American Dental Association Health Policy Resource Center released the *2009 ADA Dental Workforce Model: 2007-2030*. The report provides a long-term projection of the nation's dental workforce using statistical transition models for retirements, occupation changes, location choice, specialty education and death. It also includes national projections of the number of professionally active dentists, private practitioners, dental school applicants, first-year dental school enrollments and dental school graduates up to the 2030. To order the report, call 800.947.4746.

## Free Health Literacy Training Available [CDC Launches Resources for Public Health Professionals](#)

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has launched an on-line health literacy [training](#) for public health professionals. Continuing education credits in multiple disciplines are available. The training was designed to complement the Health Resources and Services Administration course targeting health professionals in clinical settings with a focus on contexts for public health communication.

The Michigan Oral Health Coalition's mission is to improve oral health in Michigan by focusing on prevention, health promotion, oral health data, access and the link between oral health and overall health.

### ***Michigan Oral Health Coalition***

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