

Member Newsletter



Coalition News

2010 Oral Health Conference Fast Approaching! Oral Health Experts and Networking Opportunities

2010 has brought many curves in the road for oral health. Join advocates from across Michigan this June 10-11, as we learn together and develop new approaches to access, prevention and workforce. The conference features a variety of sessions and the opportunity to earn 11 hours of continuing education. For more information, see the [registration booklet](#). **Registration Deadline:** June 1, 2010

Featured Sessions



Thursday, June 10 | 9 to 9:30 a.m.
Keys to Building Healthy Communities
Gregory S. Holzman, MD, MPH
Chief Medical Executive
Michigan Department of Community Health



Thursday, June 10 | 9:45 to 10:45 a.m.
Roadmap to Oral Health: From Deamonte Driver to the Cost of Delay Report
Laurie Norris, JD
Campaign Manager
Pew Children's Dental Campaign, Washington, DC



Friday, June 11 | 9 to 10 a.m.
Switching Gears: Collaborative Health Care for Older Adults
Beth Truett
President and CEO
Oral Health America, Chicago

May 27, 2010

In This Issue

[Oral Health Conference Fast Approaching](#)

[House Passes MDCH Budget](#)

[MI-DOOR Event Serves Flint Community](#)

[MDCH Offers Medicaid Billing Sessions](#)

[Tooth Decay Puts Strain on ERs](#)

[HHS Launches Oral Health Initiative](#)

[New Kaiser Report on Medicaid](#)

[Tap Water May Be Beneficial to Dental Health](#)

Upcoming Event

June 10-11, 2010
Annual Conference
Radisson Hotel
Downtown Lansing

Quick Links

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

Board of Directors

Patti Ulrich
Chair
Consultant

Chris Shea
Vice Chair
Cherry Street
Health Services

State News

Legislative Update

House Passes MDCH Budget

Today, the full House passed the Michigan Department of Community Health budget which fully reinstates adult dental. The budget will now go to conference committee. Coalition staff will continue to keep you updated on the budget process. If you have any specific questions, please contact Karlene Ketola at 517.381.8000, Ext. 218.

MI-DOOR Event Serves the Flint Community

Residents In Need Given Free Restorative Care

On a rainy Saturday, dental and non-dental professionals from across the state came to Flint to volunteer at the 2010 MI-DOOR event. The Michigan Department of Community Health's Oral Health Program coordinated the May 22 event which provided basic restorative care to more than 250 Genesee County residents. The community involvement, sponsorship and leadership shown throughout the program made it a success. Featured guests included Governor Jennifer Granholm, Senator Deborah Cherry, Dr. Raymond Gist, chair-elect for the American Dental Association and local dignitaries.



Governor Granholm Talks with Genesee County Residents

Due to the economy and lack of Medicaid support for adults with oral health disparities, many Michigan residents are living with pain. As oral health advocates, we recognize the need--in rural and urban communities--across the state. The Coalition will continue to advocate for the reinstatement of the adult dental Medicaid benefit.

MDCH Offers Medicaid Billing Sessions

Sites Include Kentwood, Warren and Mt. Pleasant

This June, the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) is offering three dental-only billing sessions. Sessions will include a general overview of identified dental billing issues, secondary billing, HIPAA Reason and Remark Codes and CHAMPS updates. [Register now.](#)

National News

Tooth Decay Puts Strain on ERs

Most Emergencies Caused by Tooth Decay

Many individuals who lack dental insurance end up visiting the emergency room when their dental problems become bad, putting a strain on the healthcare system and - by extension - on taxpayers' wallets. However, many experts say that the majority of these visits can be avoided with improved oral hygiene. [See Complete Article.](#) **Source:** DentalPlans.com, May 21, 2010

HHS Launches Oral Health Initiative

Rick Lantz
*Immediate Past
Chair*
Delta Dental

Caroline Ruddell
Treasurer
Michigan Dental
Association

Dennis Louney
Secretary
Delta Dental

Jackie Balcom
Muskegon County
Public Health

Rebecca Cienki
Michigan Primary
Care Association

James Hayward
Marquette County
Health Department

Janice Joseph
Detroit Department of
Health and Wellness
Promotion

Staff

Karlene Ketola
Executive Director
517.381.8000
Ext. 218

Expands Oral Health Services, Education and Research

At the 2010 National Oral Health Conference, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced its initiative to expand oral health services, education, and research. The initiative will use a systems approach to create programs that emphasize health promotion and disease prevention, increase access to care, strengthen the oral health workforce, and eliminate oral health disparities. As part of the initiative, HHS agencies will emphasize a number of activities such as securing dental homes for Head Start children; developing a long-range plan to monitor oral diseases, conditions, and oral health-related behaviors in the nation's population; reviewing eight state Medicaid programs to identify and highlight innovative service strategies to increase access to care; developing a national surveillance system for American Indians/Alaskan Natives; and developing on-line cultural competency training modules for oral health clinical providers. More information about the Oral Health Initiative is available [here](#).

New Kaiser Report on Medicaid Steep Decrease in Uninsured Expected

The expansion of Medicaid under the new health reform law will significantly increase the number of people covered by the program and markedly reduce the uninsured in states across the country, with the federal government picking up the overwhelming majority of the cost, according to a state-by-state analysis released today by the Kaiser Family Foundation's Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured. [See Full Report](#).

Tap Water May Be Beneficial to Dental Health Better Health Research Article

Researchers have found that the quality of tap water may help individuals avoid the dentist. According to a [new study](#) published in *General Dentistry*, scientists found that more people would rather drink tap water as a means of having good dental health than go to the dentist for treatment. More than 144 million Americans consume tap water on a daily basis. "Fluoride makes the entire tooth structure more resistant to decay and promotes remineralization, which aids in repairing early decay before damage is even visible," says CH Chu, lead author of the study. "Studies have confirmed the most effective source of fluoride to be water fluoridation." **Source:** Better Health Research, April 13, 2010

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

7215 Westshire Drive
Lansing, MI 48917
Phone: 517.381.8000
Fax: 517.381.8008
www.mohc.org

[Forward email](#)

[SafeUnsubscribe®](#)

This email was sent to kketola@mohc.org by kketola@mohc.org.

Email Marketing by

[Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).



Michigan Oral Health Coalition | 7215 Westshire Drive | Lansing | MI | 48861