



Excellent Oral Health for ALL Virginians

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***Save the Date!***  
**Friday, Nov. 13**

**2015 Virginia  
Oral Health  
Summit  
Richmond, VA**

**[Add this event to  
your calendar](#)**

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Please take a moment  
to support the  
Coalition's work.



[Read about the  
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Please check with your HR  
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# January 2015 Newsletter

## Dental Benefits for Pregnant Women Enrolled in Medicaid - *Not Secure*

**We need your help to preserve comprehensive dental benefits for 45,000 low-income pregnant women in Virginia.**

**Register Now**

*Click the button to register for our legislative day next Tuesday, February 3.*

Pregnant women enrolled in Medicaid and FAMIS MOMS will begin receiving care through this benefit (and providers will begin billing) on March 1; program funding is built into the Department of Medical Assistance Services budget.

**Funding for these benefits is not secure and risks being cut by legislature during the session.** This would mean the much-needed dental benefits could end just four short months after they start -- and 45,000 eligible pregnant women will lose access to affordable dental coverage. For more information on the value of this benefit, [click here](#).

**[Register today](#)** for VaOHC Legislative Day, next **Tuesday, February 3** - a few hours of your time can make a major difference for thousands of low-income pregnant women in Virginia. We will provide talking points and make your legislative appointments. If you have any questions, contact [Sarah Holland](#) at 804.269.8721.

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## Water Fluoridation Celebrates 70-Year Anniversary

On January 25, 1945, Grand Rapids, Michigan became the first city in the world to fluoridate its community water supply. Today, more than 204 million Americans benefit from the health- and cost-saving benefits of fluoridated drinking water.



[Read our blog post](#) to learn more about fluoridation and find fluoride

-specific resources.

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## Of Interest

### Oral Health and Overall Health

Oral health and overall health are fundamentally intertwined. The following links present current information on how oral health is connected to overall health and well-being.



- [Antibiotics and Dental Procedures for Individuals with Prosthetic Joints](#)
- [Chronic Periodontitis and Heart Attacks](#)
- [Secondhand Smoke and Caries in Children](#)

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### February is National Children's Dental Health Month

Below are resources and event info for National Children's Dental Health Month:

- [ADA's "Defeat Monster Mouth" Campaign](#)
- [America's Toothfairy "Smile Drive" Toolkit](#)
- [VCU Dental Care - Pediatric Dentistry's Give Kids a Smile Day - Friday, February 6](#)



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### Youth Scholarship Opportunity



America's ToothFairy has partnered with the United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce to offer eight \$1,000 scholarships to youth who complete projects in community oral health.

Youth who are residents of Virginia are eligible to apply with the endorsement of the Mid-Atlantic Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (<http://mahcc.org/>).

The application can be found here: <http://tinyurl.com/ATUSHCC>, or you can email [youth@ncohf.org](mailto:youth@ncohf.org) for more information.

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### CE Program and Teaching Resources: Oral Health Across the Lifespan

The learning module "Oral Health Across the Lifespan" is the latest addition to the Public Health Learning Modules series, hosted on the Association for Prevention Teaching and Research (APTR) website. The free module offers multi-media resources that can be integrated into the existing curricula of public health and health professions programs. Continuing education contact hours are offered in medicine,



nursing, pharmacy, physical and occupational therapy, and public health.

[View the module on the APTR website](#)

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Please visit our website for more oral health information  
[www.vaoralhealth.org](http://www.vaoralhealth.org)

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