



Excellent Oral Health for ALL Virginians

## In This Issue

[VaOHC Legislative Committee](#)

[2014 VA Oral Health Summit](#)

[VaOHC Website Gets New Look, Features](#)

[CHIP Faces Expiration](#)

[Of Interest](#)

## Join the VaOHC Legislative Committee



VaOHC's legislative committee members **help to shape policy decisions** by making recommendations to the board of directors about specific legislation, based on VaOHC's [guiding principles](#). VaOHC seeks additional legislative committee members from a wide array of backgrounds to represent the diversity of our partners.

If you're interested in joining the committee, please complete and return [this application](#)

# June 2014 Newsletter

## VaOHC Website Get New Look, New Features and a Robust Resources Section

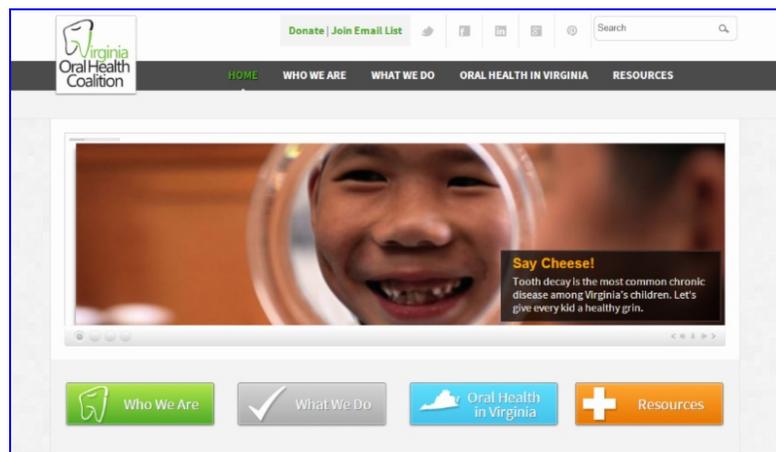
- you and the rest of our partners are VaOHC's greatest asset. That's why we spent the past year revamping our website ([www.vaoralhealth.org](http://www.vaoralhealth.org)) to provide you with access to robust resources, tools and information. The new site is easier to use and more reflective of our growing and diverse array of partners.

New website features include:

- **Resources.** Visit the comprehensive [Resources](#) section to find data, research and oral health information organized by topic.
- **Search Box.** Give it a spin at the top of every page to find information on your favorite oral health topic.
- **News.** Timely oral health news now appears on the home page and in a special [News](#) section.

**Spread the Word!** Use this [social media kit](#) to share the revamped website with your friends in oral health.

**Check it out today, and [let us know](#) what you think!**



[Back to top](#)

by Friday, August 1.

## CHIP Health Coverage Faces Expiration

[Back to top](#)

---

### 2014 Virginia Oral Health Summit

*Save the Date!*

**Friday, Nov. 14  
Richmond, VA**

The 2014 Summit will focus on oral health in patient-centered health care.

Sponsor and exhibit opportunities are still available! [View the sponsorship levels](#) and contact [Esther Wong Hershman](#) for details.

[Back to top](#)

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

[Donate](#)

[Read about the Coalition's accomplishments](#)

Please check with your HR department to find out if your gift can be matched.



The Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) (known as "FAMIS" in Virginia) provides medical and dental coverage to more than 113,000 children and 1,300 pregnant women in Virginia whose families earn up to 200% FPL (or \$47,700 for a family of four) - just over the Medicaid income limit of 143% FPL. Smiles for Children provides the same dental coverage to children enrolled in Medicaid and in FAMIS; pregnant women enrolled in Medicaid ages 21 and older and those enrolled in FAMIS ages 20 and older receive an emergency extraction dental benefit.

Unfortunately, CHIP's future is up in the air because the program's funding expires on September 30, 2015. Unless Congress passes legislation to extend funding, Virginia families who rely on FAMIS for their children's dental and medical care will lose access to this comprehensive, affordable health coverage.

VaOHC is monitoring this issue and teaming up with national partners to ensure no Virginians lose coverage. For more information, the Children's Dental Health Project (CDHP) has produced an issue brief exploring why the program is so critical and deserves continued funding.

[Read CDHP's issue brief](#)

[Back to top](#)

---

### 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.



- [Oral Bacteria and Fetal Health](#)
- [Periodontal Disease and Gastric Lesions](#)
- [Crohn's Disease and Caries Risk](#)
- [Food Security and Caries Risk](#)

---

#### Become a VaOHC Partner!



VaOHC understands that the key to ensuring all Virginians have access to affordable oral health care lies in its network of community partners. Become a VaOHC partner today by completing the online partnership form. Benefits include representation during legislative session and networking with other oral health stakeholders.

[Complete the VaOHC Partnership Form](#)

---

## **CE Course: How Dental Practitioners Can Help Patients with Substance Abuse Issues**

Arizona State University is offering a free CE course for dental professionals on how to identify unhealthy use of alcohol and drugs and to address these issues before the patient begins engaging in abusive or dependent patterns of abuse.



[View more information about the SBIRT course](#)

---

[Back to top](#)

---

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

---

[Subscribe Me](#)