



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](#)**

**Sponsorship and exhibit options available.**

Contact [Samantha Dorr](#) for details.

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



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

## March 2015 Newsletter

### **BREAKING: CHIP Extension Passes U.S. House of Representatives**



The U.S. House of Representatives passed legislation on Thursday, March 26 to extend funding for the federal Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), known as "FAMIS" in Virginia. The legislation will now move to the Senate for a vote when they reconvene in mid-April.

[Read more about this legislation.](#)

### **Oral Health Integration in Virginia**

Virginia has the opportunity to improve the health of its residents by developing and implementing integrated care models, such as integration of oral health into primary care, that can help communities meet the "triple aim" in health care: better health, better health care and lower costs.



The Virginia Center for Health Innovation has received a one-year, \$2.6 million State Innovation Model (SIM) planning grant from The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services to support efforts to meet the triple aim in Virginia. The core strategy of the grant is to create multiple Accountable Care Communities (ACCs) across Virginia, each of which will include a mix of payers, health systems, providers and other community-based entities, whose members will work collaboratively to meet the health care triple aim in their area by implementing integrated care models.

Increasing access to oral health services could significantly impact the triple aim, given the myriad ties between oral health and overall

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

health. Because of this, oral health is included as one of three integration priority areas within the SIM grant, along with behavioral health and complex care. While the ACCs are being developed, grant funding will support a multi-disciplinary **Oral Health Integration Workgroup**, chaired by Sarah Bedard Holland and Patrick Finnerty, to create oral health integration models that can be implemented by the ACCs.

The grant is in its development stage; however, VaOHC will continue to update the oral health network about SIM progress as it advances. If you have questions about the oral health workgroup, please contact [Sarah Bedard Holland](#).

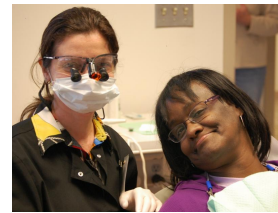
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## Improving Oral Health for Adults with Developmental Disabilities

### ***March is Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month***

VaOHC's grant program to improve oral health for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD), funded by the Virginia Board for People with Disabilities (VBPD), recently concluded with impactful results. The program effectively expanded the capacity of **more than 60 dental provider participants** to care for adults with IDD and facilitated dental care for **37 adults with IDD**. One group home provider commented on her client's experience receiving dental care from program partner Hampton Roads Dental Clinic, saying, "Hampton Roads Dental Clinic and VaOHC understand the dental need for those with intellectual disabilities. [...] This proves, together, we can achieve more."



As part of the program, VaOHC also collected data and firsthand stories from families, care providers and adults with IDD to lay the foundation for future policy changes that will increase access to care. VaOHC will continue to increase awareness about oral health care for adults with IDD.

[Read more about this program in our recent blog post](#)

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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.



- [Rare Periodontal Disease in African-American Children](#)
- [Diabetes Screening During Dental Visits](#)
- [Improving Oral Health in Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities](#)

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### Children's Dental Health Grant Opportunity



The ADA Foundation is now accepting applications through April 10 for their Samuel D. Harris Fund for Children's Dental Health Grant Program. Grants of up to \$5,000 each are offered to nonprofit organizations and agencies which sponsor parent and caregiver education programs to reduce early childhood caries.

[View more information about this grant](#)

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### Free Textbook: Periodontal Disease and Overall Health

Colgate has released a six-part textbook on periodontal disease and overall health, available for free download. The textbook includes an in-depth overview of periodontal disease as well as the relationship between periodontal disease and a wide array of other health conditions, such as diabetes, osteoporosis, pregnancy, arthritis, cancer and more.



[View and download the textbook](#)

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### Kaiser Integrates Vaccinations into Give Kids a Smile Day



Kaiser Permanente Northwest offered free vaccinations to low-income children in Oregon and Southwest Washington, who participated in their February 7 "Give Kids a Smile" day. The children also received free dental sealants, fluoride varnishes and other dental care.

[Read the full article in ADA News](#)

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