



## Virginia Oral Health Coalition Update March 2018

### In This Issue

[Special Session](#)

[Upcoming Meetings](#)

[Give Us Your Feedback!](#)

[Socius: An Online Community  
Of Interest](#)

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### Special Legislative Session-April 11

Virginia's legislature will meet in a special session on April 11 to determine the final state budget - and the future of Medicaid expansion. **Stay tuned** for updates and alerts from VaOHC. And, **contact your legislators** and ask them to support Medicaid expansion.

[Back to top](#)

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### Upcoming VaOHC Meetings

**View our online  
Event Calendar**

**April 3 | Fairfax  
NOVA Adult Oral Health  
Workgroup Meeting**

### Help Us Make Our Website Better!

Please take a moment to complete our brief, **four-question** survey. We're refreshing our website, and *we'd like your feedback!*



[Click here to start the quick survey!](#)

[Back to top](#)

### Socius: Join the Oral Health 2020 Network

Join the Coalition and become a member of the national Oral Health 2020 network - a national group of stakeholders who are working together to ensure everyone has access to affordable, comprehensive oral health care.



A main feature of the Oral Health 2020 network is the online platform, **Socius**. Socius is a nationwide community for oral health partners and advocates. Anyone can create a free profile on Socius and access its resources. Of note, Socius members can explore a map with details of community-driven oral health initiatives from across the country, sign up for topical alerts, and access webinar archives. VaOHC staff are on Socius, and we hope you will join as well!

April 10 | Richmond  
[Early Dental Home Meeting](#)

April 12 | Roanoke  
[Community Conversation: Oral Health Care Access for Individuals with Special Health Care Needs](#)

April 13-14 | Roanoke  
[CE Course: Practical Guide to Treating Dental Patients with Special Health Care Needs](#)

April 23 | Richmond  
[Greater Richmond & Petersburg Oral Health Alliance Grassroots Advocacy Workgroup](#)

April 25 | Richmond  
[Greater Richmond & Petersburg Oral Health Alliance School Age Workgroup](#)

May 3 | Abingdon  
[Spring Appalachian Oral Health Forum](#)

May 11 | Fairfax  
[NOVA Children's Oral Health Workgroup Meeting](#)

May 21 | Video Conference  
[Greater Richmond & Petersburg Oral Health Alliance Grassroots Advocacy Workgroup](#)

May 21 | Video Conference  
[Greater Richmond & Petersburg Oral Health Alliance Pregnant Women's Workgroup](#)

May 22 | Richmond  
[Greater Richmond & Petersburg Oral Health Alliance Meeting](#)

August 28 | Richmond  
[Greater Richmond & Petersburg Oral Health Alliance Meeting](#)

November 8 | Richmond  
2018 Virginia Oral Health Summit

[Read instructions on how to create a Socius profile.](#)

[Back to top](#)

## Of Interest

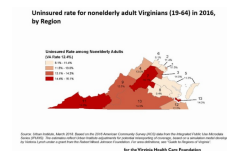
### Oral Health and Overall Health

Oral health and overall health are fundamentally intertwined. The following links present current information on how oral health and other social factors impact overall health and well-being.

- [Emergency Department Visits for Dental Conditions - A Snapshot](#) (ADA HPI)
- [Half of Latinos Experience Poor Oral Health](#) (Dr. Bicuspid)
- [ADA Announces New Policy on Opioid Epidemic](#) (ADA)
- [Prenatal Oral Health Counseling by Primary Care Physicians: Results of a National Survey](#) (Maternal and Child Health Journal)

### 2018 Profile of the Uninsured

The Virginia Health Care Foundation (VHCF) released the **2018 Profile of the Uninsured**. Of note, the profile shows:



- Uninsured, nonelderly adults (0-64) in Virginia are more likely to have missing teeth due to decay or gum disease.
- Uninsured, nonelderly adults in Virginia are less likely to have had a dental visit in the last 12 months than insured adults.
- The uninsurance rate among nonelderly adults was higher in Virginia (10.3%) than the national average (9.9%).

[Check out the Profile of the Uninsured on the VHCF website](#), including maps and accompanying information.

### Connecting Children's and Caregivers' Dental Health Habits

A recent analysis by the Colorado Department of Public Health and

Check out our [event calendar](#) to view meeting times and exact locations for all dates listed above.

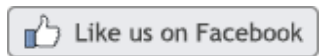
[Back to top](#)

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



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

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Environment and the Colorado Health Institute shows that providing access to dental care for parents and caregivers positively affects their children's oral health. [Read more about the results of the analysis.](#)

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## Virginia's Rev Your Bev Day of Action - April 25

On April 25, early care providers will join with schools, churches, and other child advocates across Virginia in celebrating **Rev Your Bev Day** - an annual statewide day of action to raise awareness about the health benefits gained by children and adults when they choose water instead of sugar sweetened beverages. To learn more about Rev Your Bev, or to participate with your own Rev Your Bev celebration, visit [www.revyourbev.com](http://www.revyourbev.com).



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## Story Banking Resources for Oral Health Organizations

Families USA released a new resource "[Engaging in Story-Based Work: What Oral Health Organizations Need to Know](#)" to help oral health partners begin a story banking program. This is a companion resource to their [Story Bank Toolkit](#).

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## Smiles for Life: Front Line Health Worker Modules

Smiles for Life, a national oral health curriculum, now includes modules specifically designed for front line health workers, such as health educators, community health workers, advocates, patient navigators, and others who support community health. The four, free downloadable modules cover oral health across the lifespan and come with an educator handbook. [Visit the Smiles for Life website](#), click "Teach Curriculum" and scroll down to the "Front Link Health Workers" module to view



more information.

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## Upcoming Events of Interest

- [MATRC 2018 Telehealth Summit](#)  
April 15-17, 2018 | Hershey, PA
- [Tooth Talk Roundtable](#) *Save the date!*  
April 20, 2018 | Glen Allen, VA
- [2018 LGBTQ Health Care Symposium](#)  
May 10, 2018 | Charlottesville, VA

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[Back to top](#)