



## Virginia Oral Health Coalition Update September 2017

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## Regional Forum Coming to South Hampton Roads

Join a diverse  
and motivated  
group of  
healthcare  
stakeholders on

**Friday, October 13** for the  
**South Hampton Roads Oral  
Health Forum**. Attendees will  
have the opportunity to view  
local data, participate in  
facilitated activities, and begin  
designing innovative ways to  
improve oral health. The Forum  
is free and open to all who are  
interested.



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## Congress Must Act Now on CHIP Funding

Senators Graham and Cassidy failed a last-ditch effort to repeal the Affordable Care Act (ACA) earlier this week. Now, **Congress is on track to miss tomorrow's (Saturday's) deadline to fund Community Health Centers and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)**. CHIP funding supports affordable health and dental benefits for more than **111,000 children and 3,300 pregnant women** in Virginia. Utah has already announced it will end its CHIP program if funding is not renewed by Saturday.

The Senate is considering a bipartisan deal for CHIP that provides a five-year funding extension and retains a funding bump under the ACA for the first two years. Any extension needs to be a "clean" bill with no structural changes to CHIP and no rolling back funding or eligibility requirements.

The Community Health Center cuts pose a threat to an estimated 27 million patients, according to The National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC). The centers provide health care and oral health services at more than 2,800 sites across the country. NACHC is urging members of Congress to support the CHIME Act/HR 3770 which calls for a five-year extension of health center funding.

### How YOU can help:

- [Add your organization](#) to a sign-on letter **by 5:00 p.m. today, September 29**. The Children's Dental Health Project and the American Dental Association drafted [this](#)

## Dental Care for Individuals with Special Health Care Needs - Free Provider & Caregiver Education

VaOHC is teaming up with the VDH, the Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Services, and the VDA Foundation to offer free programs for dental professionals, caregivers, and direct support professionals about dental care for individuals with special health care needs. Find us in one of these cities:



**Williamsburg | Nov. 2017**  
**Woodbridge | Dec. 2017**  
**Charlottesville | Feb. 2018**  
**Petersburg | Mar. 2018**  
**Roanoke | Apr. 2018**

Visit our [event calendar](#) to view more info and to register online.

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## Upcoming VaOHC Meetings

**View our online [Event Calendar](#)**

**October 12 | Oakton  
NOVA Subcommittee on  
Children**  
[RSVP](#)

**October 12 | Fairfax  
NOVA Subcommittee on  
Adults**  
[RSVP](#)

[letter](#) to urge Congress to refocus its energy and pass a CHIP funding extension ASAP.

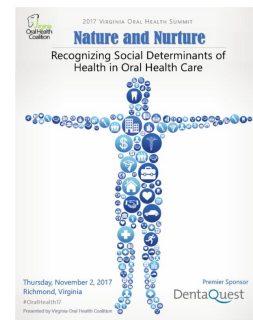
- **Call the toll free Advocacy Hotline at 1.866.456.3949** and ask your representative to co-sponsor the CHIME Act/HR 3770 and take immediate action to fix the Health Center Funding Cliff. [Find directions and a script here.](#)

Your voices helped protect ACA coverage earlier this week, and immediate action is again required to protect health services for hundreds of thousands of children and pregnant women in Virginia. ***Thank you for your ongoing advocacy and support!***

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## Register for the 2017 Virginia Oral Health Summit!

Registration is OPEN for the 2017 Virginia Oral Health Summit on **Thursday, November 2** in Richmond. The 2017 event features presentations around the theme **Nature and Nurture: Recognizing Social Determinants of Health in Oral Health Care**. As many of you know, the Summit is an excellent forum for idea-sharing, thought-provoking discussion, and state-specific healthcare updates.



*View the program*

**Register Now**

*Register by Friday, October 6 and save \$30!*

### Featured Speaker

**Steven H. Woolf, MD, MPH**, director of the VCU Center on Society and Health, uses targeted data and mapping techniques to demonstrate health inequities and highlight how much your health is determined by your environment. His presentation "Beyond Health Care" will explore health and inequities in Virginia communities and provide



*Dr. Steven Woolf*

October 13 | Chesapeake  
South Hampton Roads Oral  
Health Forum

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November 2 | Richmond  
2017 Virginia Oral Health  
Summit

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November 9 | Williamsburg  
Community Conversation:  
Oral Health Care Access for  
Individuals with Special  
Health Care Needs (ISHCN)

[REGISTER](#)

November 10-11 |  
Williamsburg  
Practical Guide to Treating  
Dental Patients with Special  
Health Care Needs

[REGISTER](#)

November 27 | Glen Allen  
Greater RVA & Petersburg  
Oral Health Steering  
Committee

[RSVP](#)

December 7 | Woodbridge  
Community Conversation:  
Oral Health Care Access for  
ISHCN

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December 8-9 | Woodbridge  
Practical Guide to Treating  
Dental Patients with Special  
Health Care Needs

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Check out our  
[event calendar](#) for more  
opportunities in 2018.

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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.

attendees with an appreciation for the impact of  
social determinants of health and health equity on  
wellness.

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## Of Interest

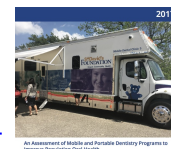
### Oral Health and Overall Health

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.

- [Nurses Provide Oral Health Assessment and Education for Patients with Diabetes](#) (American Nurse Today, pg. 22)
- [Oral Health Experiences of Older Adults and Persons with Disabilities](#) (NASUAD)
- [Dental Schools Add an Urgent Lesson About Prescribing Opioids](#) (NPR)

### Report: Mobile and Portable Dentistry Program Assessment

The Oral Health Workforce Resource Center produced the report [An Assessment of Mobile and Portable Dentistry Programs to Improve Population Oral Health](#) to assess the contributions



of these programs to increased access to oral health services. The findings show mobile and portable delivery is an appropriate means to increase oral health literacy, enable access to preventive and treatment services, establish a dental home in the community, and address unmet needs of underserved populations.

### Online Course: Bright Smiles for Babies for Medical Providers

The Virginia Department of Health (VDH) has developed the course "**VDH: Bright Smiles for Babies Virginia Medical Provider Training**"




for medical providers who wish to participate in

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the Bright Smiles for Babies program. The course, provided as part of VDH's TRAIN system, provides information on the importance of early oral health care and preventive services, such as fluoride varnish applications, that can be done in the medical office. [View instructions](#) on how to set up your TRAIN account. Then, [click here](#) to log into TRAIN and search for the **course ID 1065433**.

The [Smiles for Life](#) curriculum offers additional online oral health education for clinical providers with CE credit. View more information about early dental care and fluoride varnish application, including in-person training opportunities, on our [early dental home webpage](#).

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### **Healthy People 2020 Highlights Virginia Department of Health's School-based Sealant Program**

In its August bulletin, the national Healthy People 2020 program [highlighted](#) the VDH's successful push to increase utilization in its school-based sealant program. The program has reached more than half of Virginia's third graders - higher than the national average - and provides a range of preventive oral health services to kids. *Kudos to our partners at VDH!*

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