Cite as

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The Administration for Children and Families’ Office of Head Start administers Early Head Start and Head Start—comprehensive child development programs that serve pregnant women, infants, and children (from birth to age 5) and their families. These community-based programs for families with low incomes promote healthy prenatal outcomes for pregnant women, enhance the development of young children, and promote healthy family functioning.

A variety of factors place some women at higher risk than others for developing oral disease. Pregnancy causes hormonal changes that increase women’s risk for developing oral health problems such as gingivitis (inflammation of the gum tissue), which may progress to periodontitis (gum disease). Head Start programs play an important role in educating women about the importance of oral health care during pregnancy and engaging health professionals in promoting women’s oral health during that period.

Despite improvement in oral health status nationally, profound oral health disparities remain in certain population groups. Children enrolled in Head Start, like other children from families with low incomes, experience more tooth decay and resultant oral pain than children from families with higher incomes. Head Start program staff track the provision of oral health care and help parents obtain oral examinations and follow-up care for their child.

Head Start programs help pregnant women and parents understand the benefits of good oral health, the need to prevent oral diseases, and the importance of establishing a dental home and seeking care. Head Start programs also promote good oral hygiene in the classroom and at family meetings.

The National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center (OHRC) developed this publication, *Oral Health in Head Start: A Resource Guide*, to provide information to health professionals, program administrators and staff, educators, policymakers, and others working in states and communities in planning, developing, and implementing efforts to ensure that pregnant women, infants, and children enrolled in Head Start receive optimal oral health services. The resource guide is divided into three sections. The first section lists journal articles appearing in the peer-reviewed literature from 2007 to 2011. The second section describes materials published from 2007 to 2011, including brochures, directories, guides, kits, papers, reports, and multimedia. The third section lists federal agencies, resource centers, and national professional associations that may serve as resources.

Many of the items in the Materials section are available from the Internet. Others can be requested from the organizations that produced them or are available from OHRC. Inclusion in the resource guide does not imply endorsement by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau, the Health Resources and Services Administration, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, OHRC, or Georgetown University.

Our intent is to share resources that are useful and represent current science and practice. For further information, we encourage you to contact the organizations listed in the third section. Your state and local departments of health, state or local alliances and coalitions, state dental associations and societies, schools of dentistry and dental hygiene, and university-based libraries are additional sources of information. OHRC will update the resource guide periodically, and we would appreciate hearing from you if you know of any relevant resources that are not included in this edition. An electronic version of the publication with clickable links to all the URLs shown is available at http://www.mchoralhealth.org/PDFs/HeadStartResourceGuide.pdf.
We are grateful to the following experts for their review of the resource guide: Jay Balzer, consultant; Martha Dellapenna, Rhode Island Center for Child and Family Health; Harry Goodman, Office of Oral Health, Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene; Kathy Guerink, consultant; Michelle Landrum, San Antonio Metropolitan Health District and Austin Community College; Reg Louie, consultant; Marcia Manter, Oral Health Kansas; and Patrice Pascual, Head Start Resource Center. We would also like to thank those who submitted items for inclusion in the resource guide.
The articles listed in this section appear in the peer-reviewed literature from 2007 to 2011.

BEYOND WORD RECOGNITION:
UNDERSTANDING PEDIATRIC ORAL HEALTH LITERACY


This article describes a study to evaluate aspects of oral health literacy and parent-reported child oral health. The authors created a three-part inventory to assess word recognition, vocabulary knowledge, and comprehension of pediatric oral health terms among Head Start parents in Washington. They found that word recognition was an inadequate indicator of comprehension of pediatric oral health concepts. Parents with adequate reading ability may have difficulty understanding oral health terms and instructions.

CAREGIVER ACCEPTABILITY AND PREFERENCES FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD CARIES PREVENTIVE TREATMENTS FOR HISPANIC CHILDREN


This article describes a study to determine the acceptability to parents of five standard treatments for preventing dental caries in Hispanic children in Early Head Start and Head Start, as well as parents’ treatment preferences. The treatments assessed were toothbrushing with fluoride toothpaste, fluoride varnish, and xylitol in food for children and xylitol gum and chlorhexidine rinse for mothers. All five treatments were highly acceptable; however, when choosing among treatments, parents favored toothbrushing with fluoride toothpaste and fluoride varnish over other treatments. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]

CHILD HEALTH IN CHILD CARE: A MULTI-STATE SURVEY OF HEAD START AND NON–HEAD START CHILD CARE DIRECTORS


This article describes a study to compare the prevalence of health consultations and screening for health problems as well as the prevalence of health risks in children who participated in Head Start vs. those who attended non–Head Start child care centers. The survey found marked differences between child health concerns and practices reported by directors of Head Start vs. non–Head Start centers. For example, even after adjusting for race and public assistance, children who participated in Head Start were perceived to be at greater risk for oral health problems than those who attended non–Head Start child care centers.

DENTAL CASE MANAGEMENT: INCREASING ACCESS TO ORAL HEALTH CARE FOR FAMILIES AND CHILDREN WITH LOW INCOMES


This article describes how a dental-case-management program (DCMP) was used to address the needs of difficult-to-reach populations, increase the number of Medicaid recipients accessing
EMPOWERING LOW-INCOME PARENTS WITH SKILLS TO REDUCE EXCESS PEDIATRIC EMERGENCY ROOM AND CLINIC VISITS THROUGH A TAILORED LOW LITERACY TRAINING INTERVENTION


This article describes an intervention to train Head Start parents to respond appropriately to common childhood illnesses and symptoms, with the goal of reducing unnecessary visits to a health professional or emergency room (ER) for childhood ailments. The authors found that the number of ER visits decreased by 58 percent, and doctor or clinic visits decreased by 42 percent. Furthermore, work days that the primary caregiver missed per year decreased by 42 percent, and school days children missed per year decreased by 29 percent.

EVALUATION OF PACIFIC ISLANDS EARLY CHILDHOOD CARIES PREVENTION PROJECT: REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS


This article describes the evaluation of a Head Start–sponsored community program to reduce dental caries in young children. The program included two groups: (1) children who received fluoride varnish three times per year and (2) children who received fluoride varnish three times per year plus supervised toothbrushing with fluoridated toothpaste twice per day in the Head Start program. One year after program implementation, children in group 1 were at least twice as likely to develop dental caries as children in group 2.

EFFECTIVENESS OF AN ORAL HEALTH PROGRAM IN IMPROVING KNOWLEDGE AND COMPETENCIES OF HEAD START STAFF


This article describes the Columbia Head Start Oral Health Program (C-HSOP) and examines changes in Early Head Start and Head Start staff confidence and self-efficacy in promoting pediatric oral health, preparing parents for their child’s first dental visit, and gaining access to a pediatric dental home after participating in C-HSOP.

EMPOWERING HEAD START TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO GOOD ORAL HEALTH FOR CHILDREN FROM LOW INCOME FAMILIES


This article reviews oral health problems in young children and the need for approaches that consider the Head Start community as a whole. Topics include specific roles staff and oral health professionals can take to implement strategies to arrest tooth decay among children who participate in Head Start. [Partially funded by the Office of Head Start]
OPINIONS OF EARLY HEAD START STAFF ABOUT THE PROVISION OF PREVENTIVE DENTAL SERVICES BY PRIMARY MEDICAL CARE PROVIDERS


This article describes a study to examine the opinions of Early Head Start staff in North Carolina on primary care physicians’ and nurses’ ability to identify young children with oral health problems and to provide preventive oral health services during medical visits. The study also assessed whether staff knowledge and attitudes about oral health and access to care affected their opinions about physicians’ and nurses’ roles in oral health care. The authors found that the majority of Early Head Start staff in North Carolina believed that primary care physicians and nurses can provide preventive oral health services for young children.

FALSE HOPE: EFFECTS OF SOCIAL CLASS AND HEALTH POLICY ON ORAL HEALTH INEQUALITIES FOR MIGRANT FARMWORKER FAMILIES


This article presents factors associated with disproportionately poor oral health outcomes among children in migrant farmworker families in Florida. The study included participant observation at dental clinics and at a migrant Head Start center and interviews with oral health professionals and parents. The authors found little evidence of low oral health literacy, especially related to daily care such as toothbrushing. Income levels and work schedules presented significant barriers for parents seeking oral health care.

THE IMPORTANCE OF TOOTH DECAY PREVENTION IN CHILDREN UNDER THREE


This article focuses on the roles of public health interventions and early childhood professionals in improving young children’s oral health. Topics include disparities in oral health and oral health care, using xylitol as a sugar substitute, choosing toothpaste for children, applying fluoride varnish, educating parents and other caregivers about oral health issues for children with special health care needs, and encouraging the establishment of a dental home.

ORAL HEALTH ACTIVITIES OF EARLY HEAD START TEACHERS DIRECTED TOWARD CHILDREN AND PARENTS


This article documents the frequency of oral health activities in Early Head Start programs in North Carolina and how they vary according to teacher and program characteristics. Nearly three-quarters of teachers reported that they never, rarely, or only occasionally brush children’s teeth, and almost 50 percent never or rarely use toothpaste. Only 15 to 35 percent of teachers reported routinely engaging in oral-health-related activities with parents. There was a significant relationship between teachers’ oral health practices and their expressed oral health values, self-efficacy, oral health training, barriers to child oral health activities, and directors’ and health coordinators’ knowledge about the timing of a child’s first dental visit.
ORAL HEALTH LITERACY AMONG FEMALE CAREGIVERS: IMPACT ON ORAL HEALTH OUTCOMES IN EARLY CHILDHOOD


This article investigates the association between female caregivers' oral health literacy and their knowledge, their behaviors, and the reported oral health status of their young children. The authors found that low literacy scores were associated with decreased knowledge and poorer reported oral health status. Lower caregiver literacy was also associated with deleterious oral health behaviors, including nighttime bottle use and no daily toothbrushing or tooth cleaning.

ORAL HEALTH LITERACY LEVELS AMONG A LOW-INCOME WIC POPULATION


This article examines oral health literacy (OHL) levels and explores potential racial differences related to OHL in a low-income population. Caregivers residing in seven North Carolina counties completed in-person interviews. The authors found that whites had higher OHL levels compared to African Americans and American Indians. Differences in OHL levels between racial groups persisted after adjusting for education and sociodemographic characteristics.

ORAL HEALTH OF EARLY HEAD START CHILDREN: A QUALITATIVE STUDY OF STAFF, PARENTS, AND PREGNANT WOMEN


This study reports the findings from focus groups conducted to gather information about the oral health knowledge, attitudes, and activities of Early Head Start (EHS) staff, as well as of parents and pregnant women who participate in EHS in North Carolina. Six themes emerged from the focus groups: (1) the importance of oral health for young children and pregnant women, (2) the consequences of tooth decay for children and families, (3) communication between parents and EHS staff about oral health, (4) oral health practices at home, (5) provision of oral health professional services for children, and (6) recommended educational activities for EHS programs.

ORAL HEALTH STATUS AND ACCESS-TO-CARE CONCERNS OF SUFFOLK COUNTY HEAD START CHILDREN


This article presents findings from a study on dental caries prevalence in children enrolled in Early Head Start and Head Start among the non-fluoridated community of Suffolk County, Long Island, New York, and to elicit parents’ concerns about their children’s access to oral health care. The authors found that dental caries was prevalent among these children and that parents had difficulty finding dentists who accepted their insurance or who would provide care for young children. Parents also reported problems with oral health coverage, available appointment hours, and transportation.
ORAL HEALTH STATUS OF NEW HAMPSHIRE HEAD START CHILDREN, 2007–2008


This article summarizes findings from a survey of Head Start programs in New Hampshire about children receiving oral examinations. The authors found that 31 percent of the children had at least one untreated decayed tooth, and 40 percent had experienced dental caries. Approximately 22 percent had evidence of maxillary anterior caries, 23 percent (76 percent of those with untreated dental caries) needed oral health treatment, and less than 1 percent needed urgent care.

PREVALENCE OF DENTAL CARIES IN EARLY HEAD START CHILDREN AS DIAGNOSED USING TELEDENTISTRY


This article describes a study on using teledentistry technology to assess the prevalence of dental caries in children (ages 12 to 60 months) enrolled in urban child care centers in Rochester, NY. The authors found that dental caries was present in almost half of the study sample. Very few children appeared to have been to a dentist or to have received treatment for caries. The authors conclude that teledentistry offers a potentially efficient and cost-effective means of screening and tracking young children with caries or who are at high risk for caries and could be a way to help families without access to oral health care establish a dental home.

PUBLIC-PRIVATE COLLABORATION TO IMPROVE ORAL HEALTH STATUS OF CHILDREN ENROLLED IN HEAD START IN NEW YORK CITY


This article describes an oral health program for children enrolled in Head Start in New York City. Topics include a public-private partnership to reduce the barriers Head Start programs face in accessing oral health care for participants, complying with Head Start program performance standards, and providing educational opportunities for pediatric dentistry residents and dental students.
MATERIALS
Materials

National Initiatives and Programs


This report highlights service-delivery approaches and strategies that show promise for improving the oral-health-care-delivery system and for promoting oral health in Head Start. The report includes descriptions of each of the strategies and provides examples of how grantees implemented the practices in different program settings and with different target populations.


This report provides a summary of activities conducted by the Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors and states for the period 2001–2008 in support of Head Start oral health collaboration, as well as evaluation strategies and outcomes. Contents include background on the collaborative partnerships, evaluation methodology, continuing needs, benefits, and lessons learned. Recommendations for continued support of oral health activities in Early Head Start and Head Start are discussed. A summary is also available. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau and the Office of Head Start]

Contact: Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors, 1838 Fieldcrest Drive, Sparks, NV 89434. Telephone: (775) 626-5008; fax: (775) 626-9268; e-mail: info@astdd.org; website: http://www.astdd.org. Available at http://www.astdd.org/docs/FinalASTDDHeadStartOralHealthProject evalreport.pdf (full report) and http://www.astdd.org/docs/EvaluatingtheASTDDHeadStartOralHealth Projecttpagerfinal.pdf (summary).

Introducing the Indian Health Service Early Childhood Caries Initiative


This brief describes an Indian Health Service initiative to prevent dental caries in young children and promote an interdisciplinary approach to early intervention. Program components include oral health assessment, fluoride varnish, dental sealants, interim therapeutic restoration, and surveillance. The brief describes the importance of prevention and early intervention; the initiative's goals and objectives; and best practices for pregnant women, infants, and young children.

Contact: Indian Health Service, Division of Oral Health, 801 Thompson Avenue, Suite 300, Rockville, MD 20852. Telephone: (301) 443-1106; (800) IHS-DENT (447-3368); fax: (301) 594-6610; e-mail: dentaljobs@ihs.gov; website: http://www.ihs.gov/MedicalPrograms/Dental/index.cfm. Available at http://www.doh.ihs.gov/documents/ecc/IHS DentalExplorerECCInitiative.pdf.
ORAL HEALTH PROMOTION, PREVENTION, AND TREATMENT STRATEGIES FOR HEAD START FAMILIES: EARLY FINDINGS FROM THE ORAL HEALTH INITIATIVE EVALUATION—VOLUME I: FINAL INTERIM REPORT


This report describes oral-health-promotion strategies developed by Early Head Start, Head Start, and Migrant and Seasonal Head Start programs. The report discusses Oral Health Initiative planning and design, identifying grantees for site visits, using the RE-AIM (Reach, Effectiveness, Adoption, Implementation, and Maintenance) analysis, and implementation experiences.


ORAL HEALTH PROMOTION, PREVENTION, AND TREATMENT STRATEGIES FOR HEAD START FAMILIES: EARLY FINDINGS FROM THE ORAL HEALTH INITIATIVE EVALUATION—VOLUME II: SITE PROFILES


This report describes oral-health-promotion models developed by Early Head Start, Head Start, and Migrant and Seasonal Head Start programs to meet the needs of the populations and communities they serve. Topics include the target population and community needs, goals and design, community partners, staffing structure, and services provided through the Oral Health Initiative.


STRATEGIES FOR PROMOTING PREVENTION AND IMPROVING ORAL HEALTH CARE DELIVERY IN HEAD START: FINDINGS FROM THE ORAL HEALTH INITIATIVE EVALUATION. VOLUME 1: FINAL TECHNICAL REPORT


This report presents results from a 2-year evaluation of the Office of Head Start’s Oral Health Initiative (OHI), a supplemental grant program to develop, implement, and disseminate best practice oral health models that meet the needs of the populations and communities they serve. Contents include an overview of OHI and findings on the delivery of services (outreach, education, preventive and treatment services, support services, and oral hygiene supply services) as well as findings on parents’ satisfaction with services. Additional topics include OHI resources, sustainability activities, progress toward goals, implementation challenges, emerging approaches and strategies, and potential next steps.

POLICY

ACCESS TO ORAL HEALTH CARE DURING THE PERINATAL PERIOD: A POLICY BRIEF


This policy brief provides an overview of the major barriers to addressing women's oral health needs during the perinatal period. It provides examples of strategies to promote the use of guidelines during the perinatal period, expand opportunities for professional and consumer education, increase dental insurance coverage, and integrate oral health care as a part of routine perinatal care. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]

Contact: National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center, Georgetown University, Box 571272, Washington, DC 20057-1272. Telephone: (202) 784-9771; fax: (202) 784-9777; e-mail: OHRCinfo@georgetown.edu; website: http://www.mchoralhealth.org. Available at http://www.mchoralhealth.org/PDFs/PerinatalBrief.pdf.

ASSURING COMPREHENSIVE DENTAL SERVICES IN MEDICAID AND HEAD START PROGRAMS: PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION CONSIDERATIONS


This brief presents and discusses alternative delivery models for improving access to required dental services for children enrolled in Medicaid and Head Start. Topics include the relationships between these models or arrangements and federal regulations and policies requiring comprehensive services, the consequences that may arise as a result of implementation of these models, and approaches for ameliorating adverse consequences and securing children's access to a full range of services.


DEVELOPING AN ORAL HEALTH MEDICAID PORTABILITY MODEL FOR MIGRANT AND SEASONAL HEAD START CHILDREN: AN EXPERT MEETING—MEETING SUMMARY REPORT


This summary reports on a meeting held on March 10–11, 2008, in Washington, DC, on opportunities and challenges in addressing Medicaid eligibility and enrollment for children of migrant and seasonal farmworkers enrolled in Head Start. The report examines Medicaid portability (the ability of Medicaid services to “follow the child” from one state to another). The analysis presents an overview of Medicaid eligibility and enrollment and approaches to increasing Medicaid enrollment and portability for children in Migrant and Seasonal Head Start programs and using Head Start programs as a mechanism for identifying and enrolling children in Medicaid. A companion presentation is also available. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]

A “HIGH-TOUCH” APPROACH TO IMPROVING ORAL HEALTH FOR NEWARK CHILDREN


This brief describes New Jersey’s Medicaid managed care program, NJ FamilyCare/Medicaid, which provides children from families with low incomes with oral health care as a covered benefit. The brief explains how the program ensures access to oral health care and creates a dental home for children enrolled in Head Start. The brief also describes program goals, keys to success, and how to build on healthy results.

Contact: Center for Health Care Strategies, 200 American Metro Boulevard, Suite 119, Hamilton, NJ 08619. Telephone: (609) 528-8400; fax: (609) 586-3679; e-mail: programs@chcs.org; website: http://www.chcs.org. Available at http://www.chcs.org/publications3960/publications_show.htm?doc_id=1205272.

MINNESOTA COMMUNITY COLLABORATIVE PRACTICE HEAD START ORAL HEALTH MODEL: A STRONG START AND GUIDE FOR THE FUTURE


This document describes an evaluation of Minnesota’s effort to increase Office of Head Start program performance standards compliance related to oral health by expanding the role of allied professionals. The evaluation examined the impact of implementation on Head Start grantees, dentists, and collaborative practice dental hygienists. Contents include information on Head Start program performance standards data in Minnesota compared with national data, a timeline of policies and regulations, evaluation methods, key findings, and conclusions and recommendations.

Contact: Minnesota Head Start Association, 904 Valley Drive, Duluth, MN 55804. Telephone: (218) 728-1091; e-mail: info@mnheadstart.org; website: http://www.mnheadstart.org. Available at http://www.mnheadstart.org/HS08%20REPORT%20KEYLINE.pdf.

WHAT STATE LEADERS SHOULD KNOW ABOUT EARLY HEAD START


This paper reviews key aspects of how the Early Head Start (EHS) program works. Each section includes topics for state leaders to consider, such as how other state systems relate to a particular aspect of EHS or what types of policy changes and partnership states could effect to ensure better coordination between EHS and other state programs.


PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION, TOOLS, AND TRAINING

BE AN ORAL HEALTH CHAMPION


This poster and booklet were developed to help Head Start program staff become aware of problems children with poor oral health may experience. Contents include ideas for promoting oral health and preventing oral disease in young children. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau and the Office of Head Start]

**DENTAL HYGIENISTS AND HEAD START: WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW AND HOW YOU CAN HELP**


This tip sheet provides information about how dental hygienists can help address the oral health needs of pregnant women, infants, and children enrolled in Head Start. Topics include an overview of the Head Start program, information on children’s access to services and oral health status, and promising approaches to providing care for Head Start participants. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau and the Office of Head Start]

**Contact:** National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center, Georgetown University, Box 571272, Washington, DC 20057-1272. Telephone: (202) 784-9771; fax: (202) 784-9777; e-mail: OHRCinfo@georgetown.edu; website: http://www.mchoralhealth.org. Available at http://www.mchoralhealth.org/order (order print copy) or http://www.mchoralhealth.org/PDFs/HSRDH.pdf.

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**DENTISTS AND HEAD START: WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW AND HOW YOU CAN HELP (UPD. ED.)**


This tip sheet provides information about how dentists can help address the oral health needs of pregnant women, infants, and children enrolled in Head Start. Topics include an overview of the Head Start program, information on children’s access to services and oral health status, and promising approaches to providing care for Head Start participants. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau and the Office of Head Start]

**Contact:** National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center, Georgetown University, Box 571272, Washington, DC 20057-1272. Telephone: (202) 784-9771; fax: (202) 784-9777; e-mail: OHRCinfo@georgetown.edu; website: http://www.mchoralhealth.org. Available at http://www.mchoralhealth.org/order (order print copy) or http://www.mchoralhealth.org/PDFs/HSDentists.pdf.

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**FLUORIDE VARNISH: A RESOURCE GUIDE**


This guide provides an annotated list of resources on the use and application of fluoride varnish, including (1) journal articles; (2) materials on meetings; policy; professional education, tools, and training; public education; and state and local programs; and (3) organizations. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]

**Contact:** National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center, Georgetown University, Box 571272, Washington, DC 20057-1272. Telephone: (202) 784-9771; fax: (202) 784-9777; e-mail: OHRCinfo@georgetown.edu; website: http://www.mchoralhealth.org. Available at http://www.mchoralhealth.org/order (order print copy) or http://www.mchoralhealth.org/PDFs/ResGuideFlVarnish.pdf.

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**A GUIDE TO IMPROVING CHILDREN’S ORAL HEALTH CARE: TOOLS FOR THE HEAD START COMMUNITY**


This toolkit is designed to help Head Start program staff work with New Jersey Family Care/Medicaid, health maintenance organizations, and community oral health professionals to ensure continuous and comprehensive oral health care for children from families with low incomes. Contents include an overview of oral health in children, establishing dental homes for children, strategies for engaging families in care, and classroom activities.

**Contact:** Center for Health Care Strategies, 200 American Metro Boulevard, Suite 119, Hamilton, NJ 08619. Telephone: (609) 528-8400; fax: (609) 586-3679; e-mail: programs@chcs.org; website: http://www.chcs.org. Available at http://www.chcs.org/usr_doc/Guide_to_Improving_Children%27s_Oral_Health.pdf.
HEAD START: PEDIATRIC ORAL HEALTH


This kit is designed for use by Head Start program staff and their community partners in providing oral health services for children enrolled in Region VIII Head Start programs. Contents include a DVD and a companion CD-ROM. The DVD video segments describe Head Start oral health services and oral-health-related Head Start program performance standards. Information on how programs can support parents by providing education, helping them establish and maintain oral hygiene practices, and helping them access oral health care services is included. Components of the oral health visit are also discussed, including risk assessment, fluoride varnish application, and anticipatory guidance. The companion CD-ROM contains a risk-assessment form, materials on fluoride from California’s First 5 Oral Health project, anticipatory guidance, and selected journal article reprints.

Contact: Rocky Mountain Service, Employment, Redevelopment, 3555 Pecos Street, Denver, CO 80211. Telephone: (303) 480-9394; fax: (303) 480-9214; e-mail: rmser@rmser.org; website: http://www.rmser.org. $35.00 for kit; video is available to be viewed at no charge from the website. http://www.mchoralhealth.org/materials/multiples/RMSE.html.

HEAD START ORAL HEALTH CURRICULA: AT-A-GLANCE


This matrix provides information about oral-health-related curricula appropriate for use in Head Start programs. Each curriculum includes a discussion of the following topics: (1) goals and objectives for children’s development and learning; (2) experiences or activities to meet the goals; (3) roles of staff and parents; (4) materials, space, and equipment necessary for optimal development and learning; and (5) sound child-development principles. For each curriculum, the matrix specifies the title, audience, topics, and availability. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau and the Office of Head Start]

Contact: National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center, Georgetown University, Box 571272, Washington, DC 20057-1272. Telephone: (202) 784-9771; fax: (202) 784-9777; e-mail: OHRCinfo@georgetown.edu; website: http://www.mchoralhealth.org. Available at http://www.mchoralhealth.org/PDFs/CurriculaMatrix.pdf.

HEAD START ORAL HEALTH FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQS)


This resource comprises oral health questions that Head Start program staff ask frequently. Topics include children with special health care needs, the dental home, dental visits, dental hygienists, dental insurance, Medicaid, fluoride, infection control, nutrition, oral development, oral examination, pregnancy, primary teeth, toothbrush storage, and toothbrushing. Citations of relevant Head Start Program Performance Standards are provided. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau and the Office of Head Start]


HEAD START ORAL HEALTH TOOL KIT


This toolkit contains information and resources to assist Head Start programs in meeting the oral-health-related Head Start Program Performance Standards and in planning and implementing interventions that promote oral health for children enrolled in Early Head Start and Head Start and their families. Sections include (1) an overview of
the dental home initiative; (2) educational materials for parents; (3) resources such as cards, posters, educational activities, and sample forms; (4) supplemental resources on South Carolina’s oral health plan for young children and pregnant women; and (5) reference charts and multimedia resources. Some materials relate specifically to South Carolina, and some apply nationally.


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**IHS HEAD START: START HEALTHY. GROW HEALTHY. ORAL HEALTH TOOL KIT**


This tool kit provides information and resources to assist Head Start program staff in meeting oral-health-related program performance standards and planning and implementing interventions to promote oral health in American Indian and Alaska Native young children and their families. Contents include a booklet containing ideas and resources; a booklet on best practices for prevention and early intervention; sample forms for assessment, treatment, and topical fluoride application; posters on first aid for dental emergencies and oral health promotion; and a reference guide on classroom toothbrushing. Materials are also available on a CD-ROM.


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**IMPROVING ORAL HEALTH IN HEAD START: PARENT ENGAGEMENT AND MOTIVATIONAL INTERVIEWING**


This document contains presentation slides from a webinar presented to the National Head Start State Collaboration Office Network held on November 1, 2010. The content focuses on the use of parent engagement and motivational interviewing to improve oral health among children in Head Start. Topics include an overview of Head Start’s oral health policy and sample tools and models from states.

MEDICAL PROVIDERS AND HEAD START: WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT ORAL HEALTH AND HOW YOU CAN HELP


This tip sheet provides information about how medical professionals can help address the oral health needs of pregnant women, infants, and children enrolled in Head Start. Topics include an overview of the Head Start program, information on children’s access to services and oral health status, and promising approaches to providing care for Head Start participants. [Funded in part by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau and Office of Head Start]

Contact: National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center, Georgetown University, Box 571272, Washington, DC 20057-1272. Telephone: (202) 784-9771; fax: (202) 784-9777; e-mail: OHRCinfo@georgetown.edu; website: http://www.mchoralhealth.org. Available at http://www.mchoralhealth.org/order (order print copy) or http://www.mchoralhealth.org/pdfs/HS_med.pdf.

ORAL HEALTH CLINICIAN TOOL KIT


This toolkit is intended to support health professionals and local programs in linking children enrolled in Head Start with dental homes. Contents include fact sheets for pregnant women and parents of young children, training materials on oral health risk assessment and fluoride varnish, educational materials, referral forms, and continuing education resources. Some materials relate specifically to South Carolina, and some apply nationally.


ORAL HEALTH IN WEST VIRGINIA’S HEAD START AND EARLY HEAD START CHILDREN


This continuing education course discusses the role of health professionals in West Virginia in delivering oral-health-care education to parents and other caregivers of children enrolled in Head Start. It also explores the delivery of preventive care by dentists and dental hygienists to meet the oral health needs of young children enrolled in Head Start. Topics include the Head Start program and its commitment to the promotion of oral health, the pathophysiologic and risk factors of dental caries, the dental home concept, and anticipatory guidance for parents and other caregivers.

Contact: West Virginia Community Voices, 2207 East Washington Street, Charleston, WV 25311. Telephone: (304) 344-1872; e-mail: tolliver2@verizon.net; jsallen@wvcc.org; website: http://www.wvvoices.org. Available at http://www.oralhealthwv.org/downloads/Oral_Health_Report060409.pdf.

ORAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS WITH SPECIAL HEALTH CARE NEEDS: A RESOURCE GUIDE (2ND ED.)


This resource guide provides information to help health professionals plan, develop, and implement efforts to ensure that children and adolescents with special health care needs receive optimal oral health care. The guide is divided into the following three sections: (1) journal articles, (2) materials (books, curricula, fact and tip sheets, guidelines, manuals, modules, papers, reports, and CD-ROMs), and (3) agencies and organizations that may serve as resources. Entries contain bibliographic information, an annotation, and contact information. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]

Contact: National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center, Georgetown University, Box
Oral Health in Head Start: A Resource Guide

571272, Washington, DC 20057-1272. Telephone: (202) 784-9771; fax: (202) 784-9777; e-mail: OHRC info@georgetown.edu; website: http://www.mchoralhealth.org. Available at http://www.mchoralhealth.org/order (order print copy) or http://www.mchoralhealth.org/PDFs/SHCNResGuide.pdf.

A PEDIATRIC GUIDE TO CHILDREN’S ORAL HEALTH


This flipchart is designed to help pediatricians and other pediatric health professionals conduct oral health assessments and educate clients. Topics include primary tooth eruption and shedding; carries risk assessment and recognizing dental carries; anticipatory guidance on toothbrushing, feeding, and nonnutritive sucking; and fluoride modalities and treatments. The companion reference guide provides information on topics such as tooth structure, anticipatory guidance, management of oral infection and pain, oral trauma, tooth injury, fracture, oral soft tissue trauma, injury prevention, congenital oral anomalies, and oral health for children with special health care needs. The flipchart and reference guide are available in English and Spanish. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]

**Contact:** American Academy of Pediatrics, Section on Oral Health and Oral Health Initiative, 141 Northwest Point Boulevard, Elk Grove Village, IL 60007. Telephone: (866) 843-2271; (847) 434-4779; e-mail: oralhealthinfo@aap.org; Web site: http://www.aap.org/oralhealth. Available at http://www.aap.org/oralhealth/PediatricGuides.html.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ORAL HEALTH: TOOTHBRUSHING PROTOCOL FOR PRESCHOOL AND CHILD CARE SETTINGS SERVING CHILDREN 3–5 YEARS OF AGE

University of Iowa, Department of Pediatric Dentistry. 2004. *Recommendations for Oral Health: Toothbrushing Protocol for Preschool and Child Care Settings Serving Children 3–5 Years of Age*. Iowa City, IA: University of Iowa, Department of Pediatric Dentistry. 4 pp.

This brochure discusses the importance of including a toothbrushing protocol for Head Start programs and other programs serving children ages 3 to 5 at high risk for tooth decay. Topics include when to schedule brushing and frequency of brushing; where to brush; adult supervision of children while brushing; selection, hygiene, storage, and replacement of toothbrushes; importance of using fluoridated toothpaste; selecting and dispensing toothpaste; brushing techniques; and rinsing after brushing.

**Contact:** National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center, Georgetown University, Box 571272, Washington, DC 20057-1272. Telephone: (202) 784-9771; fax: (202) 784-9777; e-mail: OHRC info@georgetown.edu; website: http://www.mchoralhealth.org. Available at http://www.mchoralhealth.org/PDFs/ToothbrushingProtocol.pdf.
**SMILES FOR LIFE: A NATIONAL ORAL HEALTH CURRICULUM (3RD ED.)**


This curriculum comprises eight modules addressing oral health for children, adults, pregnant women, and older adults. Modules include presenter notes, companion videos, an implementation guide, educational objectives, test questions, and text resources. Information to help clinicians obtain reimbursement from Medicaid programs for fluoride applications is included. Pocket cards and applications for handheld devices summarizing key point-of-care information on child oral health, adult oral health, and dental emergencies are available. Posters in English and Spanish may also be downloaded from the website.

**Contact:** Society of Teachers of Family Medicine, 11400 Tomahawk Creek Parkway, Suite 540, Leawood, KS 66211. Telephone: (913) 906-6000; (800) 274-7928; fax: (913) 906-6096; e-mail: stfmooffice@stfm.org; Web site: http://www.stfm.org. Available at http://www.smilesforlifeoralhealth.org.

**STRATEGIES TO IMPROVE COLLABORATION BETWEEN STATE ORAL HEALTH PROGRAMS AND HEAD START STATE COLLABORATION OFFICES**


This tip sheet is designed to assist state oral health program (SOHP) and the Head Start state collaboration office (HSSCO) directors and staff in enhancing collaboration with one another. It discusses how the relationship between SOHPS and HSSCOs has developed to date and outcomes of collaboration. It also provides recommendations for further collaboration. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]

**Contact:** National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center, Georgetown University, Box 571272, Washington, DC 20057-1272. Telephone: (202) 784-9771; fax: (202) 784-9777; e-mail: OHRCinfo@georgetown.edu; website: http://www.mchoralhealth.org. Available at http://www.mchoralhealth.org/order (order print copy) or http://www.mchoralhealth.org/PDFs/AWaywithWords.pdf.

**A WAY WITH WORDS: GUIDELINES FOR WRITING ORAL HEALTH MATERIALS FOR AUDIENCES WITH LIMITED LITERACY**


This tip sheet provides ideas to help those who produce educational oral health materials make the materials easy for everyone to understand. It offers suggestions for how to choose words; set an appropriate tone; and craft sentences, paragraphs, lists, and headings that communicate most effectively with people with limited literacy. Suggestions for how to design documents and how to present unfamiliar terminology are also included. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]

**Contact:** National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center, Georgetown University, Box 571272, Washington, DC 20057-1272. Telephone: (202) 784-9771; fax: (202) 784-9777; e-mail: OHRCinfo@georgetown.edu; website: http://www.mchoralhealth.org. Available at http://www.mchoralhealth.org/order (order print copy) or http://www.mchoralhealth.org/PDFs/AWaywithWords.pdf.
PUBLIC EDUCATION

A HEALTHY SMILE FOR YOUR BABY: TIPS TO KEEP YOUR BABY HEALTHY—UNA SONRISA SALUDABLE PARA TU BEBÉ: CONSEJOS PARA MANTENER SANO A TU BEBÉ


This brochure is designed to educate expectant and new parents about the importance of oral hygiene and oral care during infancy. Topics include caring for an infant’s gums and teeth, giving healthy foods, and getting a dental checkup by age 1. Additional topics include the importance of primary teeth, tips to help parents keep their own mouths healthy, and resources for finding a dentist. The brochure is available in English and Spanish. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]

Contact: National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center, Georgetown University, Box 571272, Washington, DC 20057-1272. Telephone: (202) 784-9771; fax: (202) 784-9777; e-mail: OHRC info@georgetown.edu; website: http://www.mchoralhealth.org. Available at http://www.mchoralhealth.org/order (order print copy) or http://www.mchoralhealth.org/materials/consumerbrochures.html.

A HEALTHY SMILE FOR YOUR YOUNG CHILD: TIPS TO KEEP YOUR CHILD HEALTHY—UNA SONRISA SALUDABLE PARA TU NIÑO PEQUEÑO: CONSEJOS PARA MANTENER SANO A TU NIÑO


This brochure is designed to educate parents and other caregivers of young children about oral hygiene and oral care during early childhood. Topics include toothbrushing, flossing, eating healthy foods, and getting dental checkups and treatment. Additional topics include the importance of primary teeth, tips to help parents keep their own mouths healthy, and resources for finding a dentist. The brochure is available in English and Spanish. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]

Contact: National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center, Georgetown University, Box 571272, Washington, DC 20057-1272. Telephone: (202) 784-9771; fax: (202) 784-9777; e-mail: OHRC info@georgetown.edu; website: http://www.mchoralhealth.org. Available at http://www.mchoralhealth.org/order (order print copy) or http://www.mchoralhealth.org/materials/consumerbrochures.html.

ORAL HEALTH FOR HEAD START FAMILIES


This guide for families provides information on establishing good oral health habits at an early age and maintaining them throughout life. Topics include primary teeth and tooth decay, checking for white spots, infection, oral hygiene during pregnancy and infancy, toothbrushing and toothbrush care, bottles and cups, snacking, medicine, and the first dental visit. The guide is available in English, Arabic, Chinese (traditional), Haitian Creole, Khmer, Portuguese, Portuguese Cape Verde, Russian, Somali, Spanish, and Vietnamese.

Contact: Massachusetts Head Start Association, MA. Telephone: (781) 449-1856; fax: (781) 449-4805; e-mail: info@massheadstart.org; website: http://www.massheadstart.org. Available at http://massheadstart.org/oral/MHSAOHGuideEngLLC.pdf.

TWO HEALTHY SMILES: TIPS TO KEEP YOU AND YOUR BABY HEALTHY (REV.)—DOS SONRISAS SALUDABLES: CONSEJOS PARA MANTENERTE A TI Y A TU BEBÉ SANOS

This brochure is designed to educate women about the importance of oral hygiene and oral care during pregnancy. Topics include toothbrushing, flossing, eating healthy foods, and getting dental checkups and treatment. Additional topics include the impact of hormonal changes during pregnancy on gum health, caring for an infant’s gums and teeth, and finding a dentist. The brochure is available in English and Spanish. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]

**Contact:** National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center, Georgetown University, Box 571272, Washington, DC 20057-1272. Telephone: (202) 784-9771; fax: (202) 784-9777; e-mail: OHRCinfo@georgetown.edu; website: http://www.mchoralhealth.org. Available at http://www.mchoralhealth.org/order (order print copy) or http://www.mchoralhealth.org/materials/consumerbrochures.html.

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**SURVEILLANCE**

**2009: HEALTHY SMILES FOR A HEALTHY HEAD START—THE ORAL HEALTH OF WISCONSIN’S HEAD START CHILDREN: CURRENT STATUS, TRENDS AND DISPARITIES**


This report describes a survey to assess the oral health of children enrolled in Head Start in Wisconsin. Information is provided on dental caries experience, caries prevalence, and the need for urgent treatment. Information on the survey methods is included, along with key findings categorized by region, age, and race and ethnicity. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]

**Contact:** Wisconsin Department of Health Services, Oral Health Program, P.O. Box 2659, Madison, WI 53701-2659. Telephone: (608) 266-5152; fax: (608) 266-8925; e-mail: Warren.LeMay@wisconsin.gov; website: http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/Oral_Health. Available at http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/publications/p0/P00275.pdf.

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**2009 HEAD START ORAL HEALTH SURVEY REPORT**


This report describes the process and results of an open-mouth survey of children enrolled in Head Start in Iowa. Contents include a description of the objectives, methods, and results and a discussion of the baseline survey and how Iowa compared to national averages. Statistical data are provided on age, race and ethnicity, and oral health status. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]

**Contact:** Iowa Department of Public Health, Oral Health Bureau, Lucas State Office Building, 321 East 12th Street, Des Moines, IA 50319. Telephone: (515) 281-3733; (866) 528-4020; fax: (515) 242-6384; website: http://www.idph.state.ia.us/hpcdp/oral_health.asp. Available at http://www.idph.state.ia.us/hpcdp/common/pdf/oral_health/2009_head_start.pdf.

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**CALIFORNIA HEAD START CHILD OUTCOMES BULLETIN: 2010**


This brief reports on improvements in child development for children participating in Head Start in California. It discusses increases in child development levels regardless of primary language and ethnicity across all domains and the impact of Head Start on school readiness among children in the state.

**Contact:** California Head Start Association, 1107 Ninth Street, Suite 301, Sacramento, CA 95814. Telephone: (916) 444-7760; fax: (916) 444-2257; e-mail: lucia@ochsinc.org; website: http://www.caheadstart.org. Available at http://caheadstart.org/California_Head_Start_Child_Outcomes_Bulletin_2010.pdf.
HIGH PREVALENCE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD CARIES, ALASKA, 2005 AND 2007


This bulletin presents findings from oral health screenings of children in kindergarten and those enrolled in Head Start in Alaska. The report is based on screenings conducted by dentists using the Basic Screening Survey protocol to collect observational data on dental caries. Contents include background information on caries in early childhood, screening methods and results, and recommendations. Data on the prevalence of caries experience and untreated caries by Medicaid and Alaska Native status are also provided.

Contact: Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, 350 Main Street, Room 404, P.O. Box 110601, Juneau, AK 99811-0601. Telephone: (907) 465-3030; fax: (907) 465-3068; website: http://www.hss.state.ak.us. Available at http://www.epi.alaska.gov/bulletins/docs/b2010_04.pdf.

MONTANA 2005–2006 STUDY OF ORAL HEALTH NEEDS: 3RD GRADERS AND HEAD START CHILDREN


This report presents data collected to assess statewide needs and disparities in access to oral health care among children at risk for tooth decay in Montana. Data include number of untreated dental caries, caries experience, and treatment urgency recommendations for children enrolled in Head Start and a representative sample of students in third grade; the number of children in Head Start with caries in at least one primary tooth; and the number of students in third grade with a dental sealant on at least one permanent molar. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]


SIUC HEAD START: WORKING TO IMPROVE ORAL HEALTH OF CHILDREN—EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF ORAL HEALTH STATUS SEPTEMBER 2008


This brief presents the status of oral health services for participants enrolled in the Southern Illinois University Carbondale Head Start program. Topics include available oral health services, data on oral examinations, lack of health professionals and time frames in which to complete examinations, and oral health education. An outline of community outreach and collaboration efforts is also included.

Organizations
ORGANIZATIONS

ACADEMY OF GENERAL DENTISTRY
211 East Chicago Avenue, Suite 900
Chicago, IL 60611-1999
Telephone: (888) 243-3568
Fax: (312) 440-0559
Website: http://www.agd.org

The Academy of General Dentistry (AGD) serves the needs of general dentists, represents their interests, and provides continuing education. The website features information about AGD’s annual meeting and periodicals, AGD Impact and General Dentistry. Additional resources include a message board where consumers can post questions that will be answered by a dentist, a referral service and directory, and a monthly e-newsletter.

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY
211 East Chicago Avenue, Suite 1700
Chicago, IL 60611-2637
Telephone: (312) 337-2169
Fax: (312) 337-6329
Website: http://www.aapd.org

The American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry (AAPD) is committed to promoting optimal oral health and oral health care for infants, children, and adolescents, including those with special health care needs. AAPD’s website contains definitions, policies, clinical guidelines, a resource section, and issues of the journal Pediatric Dentistry.

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS Section on Oral Health
141 Northwest Point Boulevard
Elk Grove Village, IL 60007
Telephone: (847) 434-4779, (866) 843-2271
E-mail: oralhealthinfo@aap.org
Website: http://www.aap.org/oralhealth

The American Academy of Pediatrics’ (AAP’s) Section on Oral Health focuses on improving communication between pediatricians and pediatric dentists and improving advocacy for oral health, nutrition, and early diagnosis and prevention of oral disease and malocclusions in children and adolescents, including those with special health care needs.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH DENTISTRY
3085 Stevenson Drive, Suite 200
Springfield, IL 62703
Telephone: (217) 529-6941
Fax: (217) 529-9120
E-mail: natoff@aaphd.org
Website: http://www.aaphd.org

The American Association of Public Health Dentistry (AAPHD) works to improve health for all citizens through the development and support of oral-health-promotion and disease-prevention programs. The website provides information about AAPHD’s journal, Journal of Public Health Dentistry; other resources; and educational opportunities.

AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION
211 East Chicago Avenue
Chicago, IL 60611-2678
Telephone: (312) 440-2500
Fax: (312) 440-7494
Website: http://www.ada.org

The American Dental Association (ADA) is committed to the public’s oral health and to ethics, science, and professional advancement. Initiatives include those related to advocacy, education, research, and the development of standards. ADA’s journal, Journal of the American Dental Association, provides information on children’s oral health, and ADA’s website contains information on continuing education and volunteer opportunities. The public resources section of the website provides information for families.
The Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors (ASTDD) formulates and promotes the establishment of national oral health public policy and assists state oral health programs in developing and implementing programs and policies for the prevention and control of oral diseases. ASTDD’s website contains information on national, state, and local partners; state reports and action plans; and related resources.

**CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION**

**Division of Oral Health**

4770 Buford Highway, N.E., Mailstop F-10
Atlanta, GA 30341-3717
Telephone: (770) 488-6054
E-mail: oralhealth@cdc.gov
Website: http://www.cdc.gov/OralHealth

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Division of Oral Health, provides leadership in preventing and controlling oral disease, promoting oral health, and improving the quality of community water fluoridation. The website provides information for health professionals and consumers in English and Spanish.

**CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES**

7500 Security Boulevard, C2-26-12
Baltimore, MD 21244
Telephone: (410) 786-3000
Fax: (410) 786-3194
Website: http://cms.hhs.gov/MedicaidDentalCoverage

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services provides guidance to states administering Medicaid and the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and provides services to beneficiaries and health professionals. The website contains an overview of Medicaid dental coverage, a guide to children’s oral health care in Medicaid, and Medicaid/CHIP contacts. It also includes national and state reports as well as information on policy issues, promising practices, and innovations.
DENTAL, ORAL AND CRANIOFACIAL DATA
RESOURCE CENTER
2101 Gaither Road, Suite 600
Rockville, MD 20850-4006
Telephone: (301) 527-6670
Fax: (301) 527-6401
E-mail: oralhealthhdrc@ngc.com
Website: http://drc.hhs.gov

The Dental, Oral, and Craniofacial Data Resource Center (DRC) serves as a resource on data for the research community, clinical practitioners, public health planners, policymakers, advocates, and the public. DRC’s website provides a chartbook, survey data and options for creating reports, and lists of questions included in national surveys.

EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING &
KNOWLEDGE CENTER
Office of Head Start
Telephone: (866) 763-6481
Website: http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc

The Early Childhood Learning & Knowledge Center is designed to help meet the needs of the early childhood community, including program administrators and staff, health professionals, and families. The website provides information and materials to support parents’ involvement in their children’s lives, policy information and program-management tools, and directories. The website can be viewed in both English and Spanish.

EARLY HEAD START NATIONAL RESOURCE
CENTER
ZERO to THREE
2000 M Street, N.W., Suite 200
Washington, DC 20036-3307
Telephone: (202) 638-1144
Fax: (202) 638-0851
E-mail: ehsnrcinfo@zerotothree.org
Website: http://www.ehsnrc.org

The Early Head Start National Resource Center supports Early Head Start programs with information and training on best practices on a range of topics, including community-building skills, cultural competence, program and professional development, and developmentally appropriate environments. The center also provides Office of Head Start staff with information and materials on program planning for infants and young children.

HEAD START RESOURCE CENTER
1000 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 1000
Arlington, VA 22209
Telephone: (703) 243-0495
Website: http://www.headstartresourcecenter.org/index.cfm

The Head Start Resource Center (HSRC) supports the Office of Head Start (OHS) and children enrolled in Head Start and their families. HSRC assists OHS with the design, implementation, and coordination of program activity, the improvement of program operations and performance, and the development and realization of national program priorities and program-improvement initiatives.

HEAD START STATE COLLABORATION
OFFICES
Website: http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/states/collaboration/HSSCO/state_collaboration.html

Head Start State Collaboration Offices (HSSCOs) maintain and facilitate communication between the Office of Head Start and state offices and serve as catalysts to enhance relationships among Head Start programs, preschool programs, and child care providers within the state. HSSCOs work in partnership with other organizations in support of families with low incomes.

HISPANIC DENTAL ASSOCIATION
3085 Stevenson Drive, Suite 200
Springfield, IL 62703
Telephone: (217) 529-6517
Fax: (217) 529-9120
E-mail: HispanicDental@hdassoc.org
Website: http://www.hdassoc.org

The Hispanic Dental Association provides leadership and represents professionals who share a common commitment to improving the oral health of the Hispanic community. The website features news and information on events, careers, data sources, and professional education. Resources for educating clients, including Spanish translations, and conducting community outreach are also provided.
The Indian Health Service, Division of Oral Health, addresses the oral health needs of American Indians and Alaska Natives. The website provides information on recruitment events, dental career path options, externships, the loan-repayment program, and volunteering. Information on networking and resources is also included.

The Indian Health Service Head Start Program promotes activities to improve health outcomes for American Indian and Alaska Native Early Head Start and Head Start grantees, centers, staff, children, and communities by reducing the risks of chronic disease. The website features a section devoted to Head Start providers and another to Head Start families, information about the program’s mission and focus areas (health priorities, challenges, and trends), and resources.

The Maternal and Child Health Bureau provides leadership, partnership, and resources to advance the health of mothers, infants, children, and adolescents, including those with special health care needs. Services to consumers include referrals, publications, and a hotline for prenatal care information.

The National Center on Health (NCH) showcases research-based practices to ensure the health and well-being of Head Start (including Early Head Start) program staff and pregnant women, infants, and young children enrolled in Head Start. NCH employs evidence-based practices to help ensure that the Head Start community has access to high-quality information, training, and technical assistance, with the goal of achieving the best possible outcomes for Head Start participants.

The National Dental Association works to improve the delivery of oral health care in underserved communities and to improve the educational opportunities of minorities underrepresented in the oral health field. The website features news and information on events, dental education, dental schools, programs, and initiatives.

The Maternal and Child Health Bureau provides leadership, partnership, and resources to advance the health of mothers, infants, children, and adolescents, including those with special health care needs. Services to consumers include referrals, publications, and a hotline for prenatal care information.

The National Center on Health (NCH) showcases research-based practices to ensure the health and well-being of Head Start (including Early Head Start) program staff and pregnant women, infants, and young children enrolled in Head Start. NCH employs evidence-based practices to help ensure that the Head Start community has access to high-quality information, training, and technical assistance, with the goal of achieving the best possible outcomes for Head Start participants.

The National Dental Association works to improve the delivery of oral health care in underserved communities and to improve the educational opportunities of minorities underrepresented in the oral health field. The website features news and information on events, dental education, dental schools, programs, and initiatives.

The National Head Start Association (NHSA) supports the Head Start and early childhood education community, offering programs, partnerships, and professional-development opportunities. Services to consumers include referrals, publications, and reference information. NHSA publishes a
newsletter and journal and sponsors conferences and training seminars. Some materials are available in Spanish.

**NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF DENTAL AND CRANIOFACIAL RESEARCH**

National Institutes of Health  
31 Center Drive, MSC2290  
Building 31, Room 2C39  
Bethesda, MD 20892  
Telephone: (866) 232-4528  
Fax: (301) 480-4098  
E-mail: nidcrinfo@mail.nih.gov  
Website: [http://www.nidcr.nih.gov](http://www.nidcr.nih.gov)

The National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR) seeks to improve oral health through research, research training, and the dissemination of information. NIDCR’s website provides information on diseases and conditions, prevention, oral complications of systemic diseases, and individuals with special health care needs. NIDCR’s National Oral Health Information Clearinghouse (NOHIC) also provides information and materials on topics related to children’s oral health. NOHIC produces and distributes consumer- and professional-education materials and provides information on organizations.

**NATIONAL MATERNAL AND CHILD ORAL HEALTH RESOURCE CENTER**

Georgetown University  
Box 571272  
Washington, DC 20057-1272  
Telephone: (202) 784-9771  
Fax: (202) 784-9777  
E-mail: OHRInfo@georgetown.edu  
Website: [http://www.mchoralhealth.org](http://www.mchoralhealth.org)

The National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center (OHRC) gathers, develops, and shares information and materials to respond to the needs of states and communities in addressing current and emerging public oral health issues. OHRC’s website describes and provides links to professional and family resources, including brochures, curricula, fact sheets, guidelines, manuals, policies, and reports.

**NATIONAL MIGRANT AND SEASONAL HEAD START ASSOCIATION**

1726 M Street, N.W., Suite 602  
Washington, DC 20036  
Telephone: (202) 223-9889  
Fax: (202) 828-6005  
Website: [http://www.nmshsaonline.org](http://www.nmshsaonline.org)

The National Migrant and Seasonal Head Start Association helps member agencies provide quality comprehensive services to children enrolled in Migrant and Seasonal Head Start programs by advocating for resources, creating partnerships, and affecting public policy. NMSHSA comprises Head Start program staff, parents, and friends that meet regularly to discuss issues and concerns unique to migrant and seasonal farmworker families.

**NATIONAL NETWORK FOR ORAL HEALTH ACCESS**

PMB 329  
3700 Quebec Street, Unit 100  
Denver, CO 80207-1639  
Telephone: (303) 957-0635  
(866) 316-4995  
E-mail: info@nnoha.org  
Website: [http://www.nnoha.org](http://www.nnoha.org)

The National Network for Oral Health Access provides advocacy and support for health centers working to improve the oral health status of underserved populations.

**OFFICE OF HEAD START**

1250 Maryland Avenue, S.W., Eighth Floor  
Telephone: (202) 205-8347  
Fax: (202) 260-9336  
Website: [http://transition.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ohs](http://transition.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ohs)

The Office of Head Start (OHS) advises the Assistant Secretary for Children and Families (ACF) on issues related to Early Head Start and Head Start and programs that promote prenatal outcomes, enhance the development of infants and young children (from birth through age 5), and promote healthy family functioning.
The Society of American Indian Dentists promotes oral health in the American Indian community, serves as a resource for assistance to American Indian students interested in the dentistry profession, promotes American Indian heritage and traditional values, and promotes and supports the unique concerns of American Indian dentists.

The Special Care Dentistry Association (SCDA) is an international organization of oral health professionals and others dedicated to promoting good oral health and well-being for individuals with special health care needs. SCDA's website provides information on residency programs; fellowships; continuing education opportunities; leadership; the SCDA journal, *Special Care Dentistry*; and other services.