

**Tributaries for Local Dental
Programs
State Dental Director's
Perspective**

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State Oral Health Programs

- ASTDD Guidelines for State and Territorial Oral Health Programs
- Building Infrastructure & Capacity in State and Territorial Oral Health Programs
- Guidelines for Community Oral Health Programs

ASTDD Guidelines for State and Territorial Oral Health Programs

■ **Assessment**

- Assess oral health status and needs
- Implement an oral health surveillance system

■ **Policy Development**

- Provide leadership
- *Mobilize community partnerships*

■ **Assurance**

- Inform, educate and empower the public
- Link people to oral health services
- Assure that the public health and personal health work force has capacity and expertise

Building Infrastructure & Capacity in Oral Health Programs

- State based oral health surveillance system
- Leadership
- State Oral Health improvement plan
- Develop and promote policies to improve Oral Health
- Provide Oral Health communication and education to policymakers and the public
- Provide population based interventions
- **Build community capacity**
- Develop health system interventions to facility quality dental care
- Leverage resources

Guidelines for Community Oral Health Programs

- Assessment
 - Community wide, building partnerships
- Planning
 - Roadmap to achieving desired outcomes
- Policy
 - Policy, laws, regulations and ordinances
- Evaluation
 - Program goals and objectives
- Research
 - Benefits to the local program

State Oral Health Programs

Public Health Competencies

- Evidence Base for Services
 - *Surveillance; Determinants of health*
- Clinical Preventive Services
 - *Exams, Prophyls, Fluorides; Oral Cancer Screening; Anticipatory Guidance*
- **Community Preventive Services**
 - *Fluoridation; Sealants; School based programs*
- Access to Care/Health Systems
 - *Facilities; Workforce; Reimbursement; Health Policy*

State Oral Health Programs

Linking Professions

- Dentists and Dental Hygienists
- Other Health Professions
 - *Physicians, Nurses*
- Public Health
 - *Epidemiology, Health Education, Health Promotion*
- Education, Research, Evaluation
 - *Universities, Community, Colleges*

State Oral Health Programs

Dental Resource for Government Agencies

- Health Agencies

- *Human Services, Medicaid, PCO, Dept of Health*

- Dental Regulators

- *Prof Reg; Insurance; Higher Ed; Radiation*

- Elected Officials,

- *Governor, Legislators*

- Other State Entities

- *State University System; State Board of Ed; EPA; Aging; Justice; Veteran affairs*

State Oral Health Programs

Supporting Communities

- Collecting, Analyzing & Providing Data
- Training & Education
- Program Support: Grants, Materials, TA
Sealants, Clinics, Health Ed Materials
- Building Partnerships
 - *State & Local Coalitions*

State Oral Health Programs

Leveraging Resources

- Federal Funding
 - *CDC, HRSA (MCHB)*
- State Funds
 - *General Revenue; Tobacco*
- Foundations and Grants
 - *RWJ; others*
- Other Resources
 - *Medicaid; Head Start; Special funds*

State Oral Health Programs

Requirements for effectiveness & longevity

- Leadership and Authority
- Oral Health and Public Health Expertise
- Credibility & Accountability to the Public and Profession
- Consistent Goals and Objectives

State Oral Health Programs

Goals and Objectives

- Eliminate oral health disparities
- Improve the quality and quantity of life for all Americans
- Promote oral health as integral to health
- Promote optimal oral health for all as a public good

Responsibility of State Oral Health Programs

- Influence policy at state and local levels in order to improve oral health for all residents.
- Promote evidence-based practice.
- Enhance state/local oral health program infrastructure.
- Better meet the needs of COHP.
- Continue to develop, strengthen, and evaluate partnerships with relevant organizations and agencies.

Effective State Oral Health Programs can:

- Provide accountability for limited state financial resources
- Build and foster partnerships between federal, state and local governmental entities to improve oral health
- Build and foster partnerships between state government agencies & communities, practitioners, and dental education

Effective State Oral Health Programs can:

- Act as a “focal point” & provide oral health expertise for state and community action to improve oral health
- Provide continuity for moving a comprehensive oral health agenda forward
- Convene a broad array of stakeholders to improve state and community oral health

Effective State Oral Health Programs can:

- Promote legislation and policies to improve oral health
- Serve as a non-biased information “broker” to state/community officials and legislators

A Model Framework for Community Oral Health Programs

- Provides clear and practical assistance for local public health officials
- Offers flexibility in creating community oral health programs
- Promotes collaboration between state and community oral health programs
- Help assure education and access to appropriate oral health care where it is most effective...at the local level