



Elevating Oral Health as a Public Health Priority

Texas Oral Health Summit, November 10, 2017

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On the Agenda

- About Us
- Introduction
- Our Approach
- Achieving Oral Health Equity
- Questions

About Us

- *Texas Health Institute (THI)* is an independent, nonpartisan, nonprofit research and policy organization working to improve the health of communities - across Texas and the United States.
- A trusted, leading voice on issues of health and healthcare policy across Texas for 53 years.
- Through **research**, **education**, and **collaboration**, THI works to improve healthcare access, develop the health workforce, innovate community-driven solutions, and reduce health disparities.

Introduction

- Our Vision:
- We seek to improve oral health for all by engaging in research and projects that:
- Evaluate and improve methods to monitor oral diseases and outcomes
- Reduce disparities in access to dental care
- Increase awareness about oral health and its effect on overall health and well-being
- Increase awareness for a data-driven and evidence based policy development process at the local, state and national level

Current & Past Projects

- St. David's Foundation (SDF)
- Advancing the Oral Health Movement in Texas (ATOHMIT)
- Oral Health Needs Index (OHNI)
- Oral Health – Obesity Research
- American Cancer Society (ACS)

National

- OHNI
- OH-Obesity

State

- ATOHMIT
- ACS

Local

- SDF

Research

- OH-Obesity
- ACS

Program Evaluation & Technical Support

- OHNI
- SDF

Program Management & Convener

- ATOHMIT
- OHNI

Achieving Oral Health Equity

With support from the DentaQuest Foundation, St. David's Foundation, Delta Dental, and The Center for Children's Health led by Cook Children's Hospital, we are in the process of developing the State Of Oral Health in Texas report, aimed at promoting the importance of oral health to the overall well-being.

The project has two main objectives:

- 1) To educate stakeholders and elevate oral health as a public health priority, and
- 2) To collect, analyze, and report data that provides a holistic portrait of oral health in Texas.

Questions?

Thank You!

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