



**TEXAS ORAL
HEALTH COALITION**

2019-2020 Annual Report

August 7, 2020

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Thank you members, partners and oral health advocates for your continued support of the Texas Oral Health Coalition (TxOHC). We appreciate your flexibility to pivot quickly and participate virtually in our oral health conference and Coalition meetings this year.

TxOHC is pleased to share significant increases in the breadth and depth of committed individuals contributing to our collective work in leading efforts to achieve optimal oral health across the lifespan and the following pages outline Coalition strategies and activities towards meeting this mission.

Members continue to explore innovative approaches to increase access to care for adults with disabilities, provide learning opportunities for dental and non-dental health professionals, advocate for population-based disease prevention strategies and collaborate with organizational partners on a common vision to achieve optimal health for all Texans.

We are excited to launch our rebranding during the virtual annual meeting this year and encourage all to visit our revised website at <https://txohc.org/>. There are many new resources and features to be found and the data dashboard on the communications webpage should not be missed. For anyone doing research or needing Texas data, please feel free to utilize any of the story data visualizations to enhance your own work.

To expand our network, we are pleased to announce the addition of the Austin Region Oral Health Network led by Sohini Dhar and the Houston Oral Health Network led by Gabriela Machado. The Regional Oral Health Networks is a collaborative project between the Texas Oral Health Coalition and the Texas Health Institute in response to our members' interest to participate more fully in work groups or activities that benefit disenfranchised members in their local communities.

Coalition members advocate for increased access to oral health services for our most vulnerable populations based on evidence-based disease prevention strategies and technology utilization to address oral health inequities. TxOHC is excited to co-host a policy listening session with the Texas Health Institute this fall to find consensus among our members and partner organizations on 1-3 legislative priorities to pursue this next session.

Involving different groups and sectors in policy design will provide a framework to put the right infrastructure and services in place that enable agencies to build skills, remove barriers and provide training to leverage networks to build a shared understanding through the use of dialogue.

TxOHC strives to promote an environment of inclusion and invites strategic thinkers to join our Coalition and lead our programmatic efforts to ensure everyone has equitable access to comprehensive care that includes oral health. Please visit <https://txohc.org/get-involved/membership/> and join our efforts today.

With gratitude,

Beth Stewart, Executive Director



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pinterest.com/TxOHC/

MISSION: Leading efforts to achieve optimal oral health across the lifespan.

VISION: Optimal health for all Texans



STRATEGIES:

- To increase oral health literacy in Texas.
- To change perceptions regarding oral health and disease so that oral health becomes an integral component of health policies and programs in Texas.
- To engage in activities to improve the oral health of all Texas citizens using evidence-based public health initiatives.
- To promote increased access to comprehensive oral health care for all Texans.

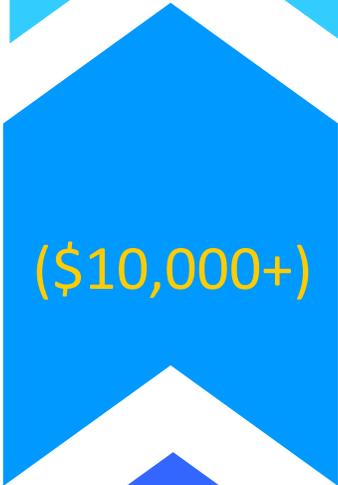
The Texas Oral Health Coalition (TxOHC) is a nonpartisan statewide oral health coalition established November 17, 2004 and acquired nonprofit 501 (c) (3) status May 27, 2008.

2019-2020 FINANCIAL PARTNERS



Visionary Partners

- Delta Dental Community Care Foundation



Leading Partners

- DentaQuest Foundation
- Midwest Dental Equipment & Supply
- National Network of Public Health Institutes
- Texas Health Institute
- Texas Department of State Health Services Health Improvement Program
- UT Health School of Dentistry at Houston



Sponsors

- Sarah Dirks, DDS
- Center for Children's Health, led by Cook Children's
- St. David's Foundation
- Oral Health Industries



Donors

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| • Johanna DeYoung | • Michelle Landrum | |

OUR STAKEHOLDERS

TxOHC is comprised of various stakeholders that include: medical and dental professionals, community agencies, faith-based organizations, insurance companies, policy developers, professional educators, public members, and state and government entities.

Members explore innovative approaches to increase access to care for adults with disabilities, provide learning opportunities for dental and non-dental health professionals, advocate for population-based disease prevention strategies and collaborate with organizational partners on a common vision to achieve optimal health for all Texans.

MEMBER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

I. TO INCREASE ORAL HEALTH LITERACY IN TEXAS

TxOHC works to provide oral health materials and resources, develop appropriate oral health messages to improve health literacy and increase awareness that oral health is tied to overall health.

A. The TxOHC Maternal Child Workgroup created a full size color English/Spanish brochure as a resource handout that teaches three oral health strategies to implement in the home.

1. Sweet Dreams Not Sweet Drinks

2. Brush My Teeth Twice a Day

Develop a healthy night routine with Brush, Book, Bed

3. Visit the Dentist by Age 1

Sweet Dreams Do Not Require Sweet Drinks
Never put your baby to bed with a bottle containing anything other than plain water.
Do not let your baby sleep with milk in the bottle; infants should be removed from the breast when they finish feeding.
Never put sugary or sports drinks in a bottle or sippy cup.
Breast milk, formula, juice and other sugary drinks have sugars that stay on the teeth and can lead to tooth decay.

Fruit Juice Recommendations
Children under 12 months = zero
1-3 years = max 4 oz. / day
4-6 years = max 4-6 oz. / day
7-18 years = limit to 8 oz. / day

A Spoonful of Sugar May do More Harm Than Help the Medicine Go Down!
Adding flavoring to medication is a common practice to make the medicine easier to take, but just like any other sugary liquid which is left on the teeth and gums after drinking, early childhood cavities can result.

Letting your baby sleep with a bottle can lead to tooth decay!

CLEANING YOUR BABY'S MOUTH
Clean your baby's gums with a clean damp cloth after each feeding.
When you see the first tooth, start brushing with an infant's soft-bristled toothbrush and fluoride toothpaste.

DO NOT SHARE!
Do not share spoons or forks with your child.
Do not clean pacifiers or bottle nipples with your spit or saliva.

USE A MEASURER FOR CHILDREN UNDER 3.
USE A PEA-SIZE FOR CHILDREN 3 TO 6.

VISIT THE DENTIST BY YOUR FIRST BIRTHDAY
Children should visit the dentist by age one.
The dentist will check to see if everything is normal and to look for areas of early tooth decay or cavities.
This is also a time for the dentist to answer your questions about your child's teeth.
Baby teeth are important because they hold a place for the permanent teeth.
Healthy baby teeth help your child chew food, talk clearly and have a good self image.

Healthy Teeth **White Spots** **Later Decay** **Severe Decay**

An Ounce of "Dental" Prevention is Worth a Lifetime of Smiles!
It is recommended that you protect your baby's teeth with fluoridated water. If you use bottled water, ensure it has fluoride by checking the label.
Feed your baby healthy food such as fruits and vegetables—NOT candy and cookies.
Children need their parent or caregiver to brush their teeth until they are 7-8 years old.

Always Care for Your Baby's Teeth and Gums!

Build a Healthy Nighttime Routine!
1. Brush
2. Book
3. Bed

Please don't forget to brush my teeth twice a day!

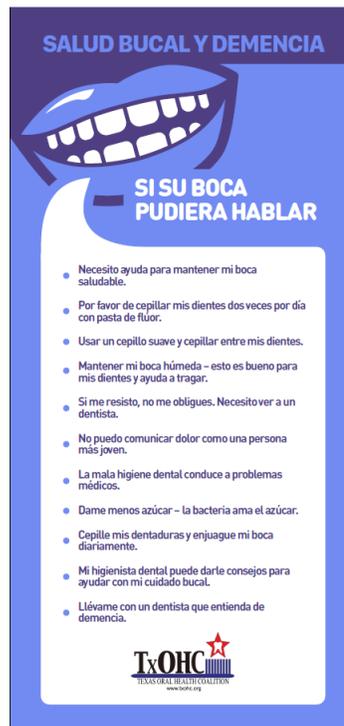
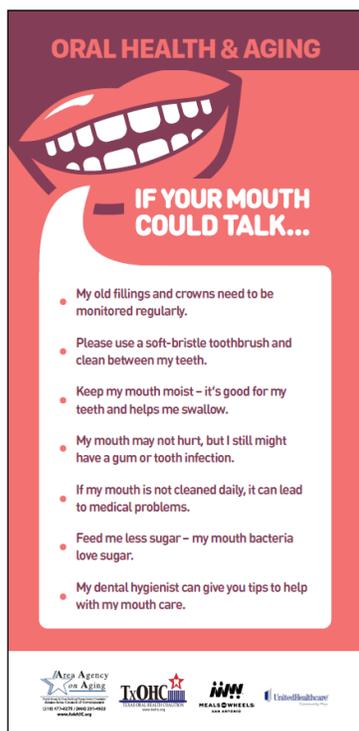
Brush, Book, Bed, a program of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), has a simple and clear message for parents:
1. Each night, help your children to brush their teeth.
2. Read a favorite book (or two!)
3. Get to bed at a regular time each night.
Having a predictable nighttime routine will help them understand and learn to expect what comes next. Additionally, routines may ease the stress that some families experience at nighttime.

Courtesy of the Texas Oral Health Coalition, Inc.

MEMBER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

B. The TxOHC Older Adult Workgroup created ***If Your Mouth Could Talk*** rack cards with helpful oral health tips for older adults and/or their caregivers on three different topics to disseminate to homebound adults as a part of the TxOHC Community Homebound Outreach Collaborative. Current topics developed are:

1. Oral Health and Aging
2. Making the Moist of Dry Mouth
3. Oral Health & Dementia



C. In connection with the Texas Fluoridation Campaign, TxOHC offers public access to a special e-learning series on Health Communications in an effort to provide detailed information on how to create successful health messages to improve health outcomes.

1. The Power of Audience Insights
2. Using Storytelling to Engage
3. Making Data Count
4. Building Your Social Media Presence
5. Speaking Up for Fluoride

MEMBER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

II. TO CHANGE PERCEPTIONS REGARDING ORAL HEALTH AND DISEASE SO THAT ORAL HEALTH BECOMES AN INTEGRAL COMPONENT OF HEALTH POLICIES AND PROGRAMS IN TEXAS.

TxOHC provides educational training programs for non-dental health professionals to expand the workforce, increase knowledge about oral health among all health providers and provide the resources and materials to help integrate oral health into all health related programs.

A. In collaboration with the Texas Health Institute, TxOHC developed regional oral health networks in Austin and Houston in response to our members' interest to participate more fully in work groups or activities that benefit disenfranchised members in their local communities and to enhance advocacy efforts at the grassroots level.

1. Develop work products that incorporate social determinants of health into program activities to help address adverse experiences across the lifespan.
2. To date, Resource Guides for five different target populations have been completed for Austin, San Antonio and Houston.
3. Resource Guides for targeted populations (perinatal – pregnant women and infants, children, working adults, older adults and individuals with disabilities) may be used as resource materials for partnering organizations to disseminate within their networks.



Perinatal Resource Guide

[Austin Perinatal Resource Guide](#)
[Houston Perinatal Resource Guide](#)
[San Antonio Perinatal Resource Guide](#)



Children Resource Guides

[Austin Children Resource Guide](#)
[Houston Children Resource Guide](#)
[San Antonio Children Resource Guide](#)



Adult Resource Guides

[Austin Adult Resource Guide](#)
[Houston Adult Resource Guide](#)
[San Antonio Adult Resource Guide](#)



Disability Resource Guide

[Austin Disability Resource Guide](#)
[Houston Disability Resource Guide](#)
[San Antonio Disability Resource Guide](#)



Senior Resource Guide

[Austin Senior Resource Guide](#)
[Houston Senior Resource Guide](#)
[San Antonio Senior Resource Guide](#)

<https://txohc.org/communication/coalition-publications/community-resource-guides>

MEMBER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- B. The Community Homebound Outreach Collaborative (CHOC) allows the Coalition to include oral health educational materials into the programmatic work of non-dental organizations like the Area Agency on Aging (AAA) and Meals on Wheels (MOW) programs. This program is easy to replicate, expand and repeat in any area where AAA and MOW provides services.



- C. TxOHC developed two train-the-trainer programs designed to educate non-dental health professionals about oral health. TxOHC provides the tools and resources needed to share information with the public, health professionals and policymakers.

1. The Texas Tooth Steps Program is designed to educate pregnant moms about the importance of self-care and the oral health care for infants. Nurses, home visitors and family advocates are able to use this toolkit to provide one on one education in a home or facility setting.



2. The Texas Fluoridation Campaign train-the-trainer program offers resources and materials to train health professionals so they are comfortable and knowledgeable talking about community water fluoridation.

- D. Collaborate with state partner organizations and coalitions to include oral health in health advocacy efforts regarding infectious disease/immunizations and public health services/infrastructure, tobacco, chronic disease and maternal health whenever possible.

MEMBER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

III. TO ENGAGE IN ACTIVITIES TO IMPROVE THE ORAL HEALTH OF ALL TEXAS CITIZENS USING EVIDENCE-BASED PUBLIC HEALTH INITIATIVES.

- A. Houston Region Oral Health Network Coordinator, Gabriela Machado, MPH and Austin Region Oral Health Network Coordinator, Sohini Dhar, BDS, MPH identified social determinants of health (SoDH) within their local communities, researched organizations that were collecting SoDH with the community, identified resources to address the needs of the community, then collaborated with THI and TxOHC to create local resource guides. Resource guides show different organizations or agencies that provide social services under five different categories (transportation, food, housing, financial assistance and dental care) for five different target populations (Perinatal, Children, Adults, Seniors, Disability)

IMPACT: TxOHC is on target to disseminate the Houston Senior Resource Guide to **8000** homebound adults in Harris County through the Community Homebound Outreach program in October 2020.



- B. The Coalition's perinatal oral health program called Texas Tooth Steps provides staff training and all of the resources and materials for trained staff to use to educate pregnant women. The oral health education materials also highlight the importance of oral health during pregnancy and encourages pregnant women to seek prenatal dental checkups and dental care.

1. Texas Tooth Steps is able to reach perinatal women in both rural and urban settings, to address various demographic categories, and to concentrate on underserved groups to promote oral health knowledge and awareness among perinatal women.

IMPACT: In this ongoing program, TxOHC has partnered with **28** different organizations to train **493** individuals about the importance of oral health for pregnant women and infants.

MEMBER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

C. Funded by the Delta Dental Community Health Care Foundation, the Texas Oral Health Coalition is partnering with the Texas Health Institute and the University of Texas Center for Health Communication to develop an interactive website, toolkits and resource materials for parents, medical/dental health professionals and policymakers. In addition to these materials, we also provide skill-building webinars in our online e-learning series for Health Communications in an effort to provide detailed information on how to create successful health messages to improve health outcomes. The Texas Fluoridation Campaign is scheduled to launch in November 2020.

IMPACT: Since July 2019, there have been **203** individuals participate in the CWF training and/or Health Communications e-learning series.



<https://txohc.org/education/health-communications-self-instructional-virtual-learning-series>

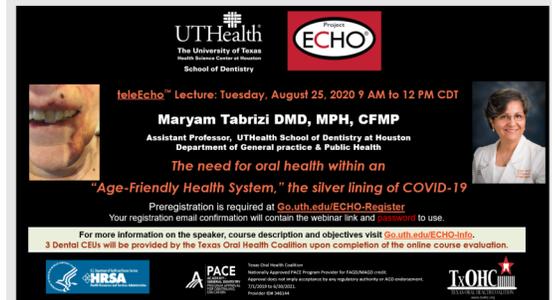
D. Realizing the opportunity for collective impact, the Texas Oral Health Coalition, the Texas Department of State Health Services Oral Health Improvement Program and the Texas Health Institute decided to pool their resources to create a unified meeting and host the first collaborative oral health conference in 2018. The Texas Oral Health Conference represents true collaboration to improve oral health in our state. With a focus on interprofessional oral health integration into non-dental academia and clinical practice, we offer timely interprofessional health topics that foster collaboration among health professionals. Continuing education credit for multiple disciplines is provided for this event.

IMPACT: Over **1300** individuals have been educated at this multi-disciplinary oral health conference.

MEMBER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

E. The Texas Oral Health Coalition is pleased to partner with UTHealth School of Dentistry at Houston to provide complimentary continuing dental education credit for their telementoring ECHO sessions. The Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes ([ECHO](#)) is a collaborative model of medical education and care management that allows clinicians to receive online training in a range of specialties to manage complex conditions efficiently and effectively. These models connect rural communities to more experts and improve communication during times of crisis. Please see upcoming scheduled sessions below and when registration will open for each. For additional details about UTHealth Project ECHO please visit <https://txohc.org/education/>.

IMPACT: To date, there have been **1,361** attendees participate and **837** individuals awarded continuing education.



IV. TO PROMOTE INCREASED ACCESS TO COMPREHENSIVE ORAL HEALTH CARE FOR ALL TEXANS.

TxOHC provides access to information for health professionals and policy makers and disseminates what is learned to key stakeholders and decision makers.

A. Advocate for Texas laws and policies to support access to oral health services for our most vulnerable populations and implement evidence-based prevention strategies to address oral health inequities.

1. Host regional and statewide listening sessions to find consensus on 1-2 advocacy issues members would like to pursue.

Previous legislative issues:

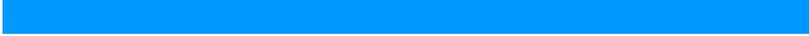
- a) Increasing Access to Care for Texans with Disabilities
- b) Facilitating Oral Health for Older Adults in Texas
- c) Promoting Fluoridated Drinking Water for Healthy Teeth
- d) Supporting Innovative Workforce Models to Increase Access to Care

2. Build a coalition of local and state partners to advocate with one voice

- a) Advocate for teledentistry in Texas (State Advocacy or local/regional pilot project)
- b) Advocate for Medicaid adult dental benefits in Texas (State Advocacy)
- c) Advocate for dental benefits in Medicare Part B (National advocacy)

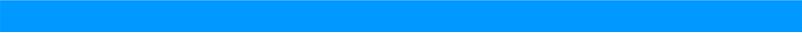
OUR PERFORMANCE - 2019 FINANCIALS

Our support comes from direct public grants, indirect public support and direct public support. Our total revenue fluctuates each year due to special projects. As a public charity, the Texas Oral Health Coalition takes its obligation to operate in the public view and the public interest very seriously. Accordingly, our IRS Form 990 may be viewed at www.txohc.org and financial statements may be requested at info@txohc.org.



\$172K

TOTAL REVENUE



82%

SPENT ON DIRECT PROGRAMMING



LOOKING FORWARD

TxOHC seeks to improve the Coalition's infrastructure and support current oral health programs as well as initiating new projects and collaborations. TxOHC operational goals are:

- To improve financial health of the organization,
- Increase visibility of the Coalition, and
- Drive multi-sector collaborations that promote oral health.

How will TxOHC accomplish this work?

- **Educate** others to increase the capacity of the health care workforce and integrate oral health into all aspects of health care.
 - 3000+ Professionals educated at multi-disciplinary events
 - 8000+ Hours of continuing education taken by members and attendees
 - 600+ Resources virtually curated on our websites
- **Communicate** and raise public awareness to improve public perception of the value of oral health to overall health and well-being.
 - Texas Annual Oral Health Report Card
 - Texas Dental Prescription Resource Fact Sheet
 - Silver Diamine Fluoride Position Paper
 - Perinatal Brochures
 - Older Adult Oral Health Rack Cards
 - Community Resource Guides
- **Advocate** for Texas laws and policies to support access to oral health services for our most vulnerable populations and implement evidence-based prevention strategies to address oral health inequities.
 - Increasing Access to Care for Texans with Disabilities
 - Facilitating Oral Health for Older Adults in Texas
 - Promoting Fluoridated Drinking Water for Healthy Teeth
 - Supporting Innovative Workforce Models to Increase Access to Care

LOOKING FORWARD

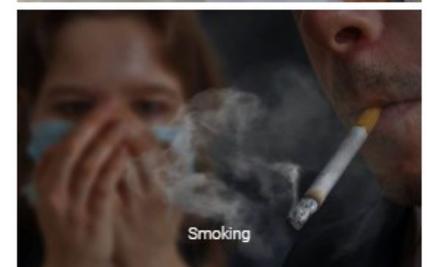
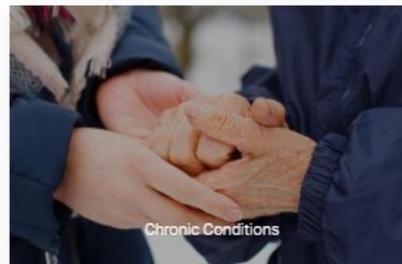
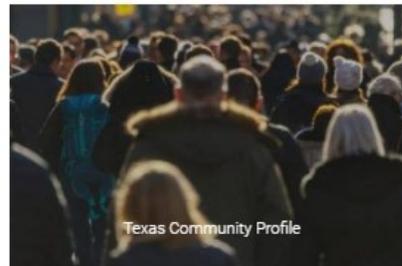


As the Coalition prepares for 2021 and beyond, members will continue to build our capacity and related work by expanding our network to:

- Develop additional oral health education programs for health professionals to expand oral health awareness and access to care.
- Include assistance for regional and local networks.

- Investigate new partnerships that promote drinking tap water and healthier beverage choices to continue to do our work to improve the percentage of Texans who have access to optimally fluoridated drinking water.
- Increase communication and collaboration with other partners to integrate oral health strategies in tobacco control, cancer and diabetes prevention, maternal and child health, and other chronic disease groups.

<https://txohc.org/communication/data-dashboard>



LOOKING FORWARD

Members can:

- **Gain support** through professional development, advocacy training, and peer networking.
- **Share your strategies** with peers and learn innovative approaches from early adopters.
- **Lead your community** towards equitable oral health with advocacy efforts.
- **Contribute your knowledge** to publications and scientific resources.
- **Connect with other advocates** through events and member-only opportunities.
- **Stay connected** to funding opportunity notices, webinars, workshop, and employment leads.

TxOHC members are pleased to provide various opportunities for oral health access and education to underserved populations. Collaborating with partner organizations helps build support for policy change and systemic solutions and we are thrilled to see significant progress in this area. Diversifying our membership and expanding our capacity allows us to address other health factors and social determinant barriers.

TxOHC has an active and rich network that strives to make oral health accessible, equitable, and available to all and invites YOU to join US to help reach our goals and realize our vision to achieve optimal health for all Texans.

Our sincerest gratitude to the many partners and members that have supported our work.

