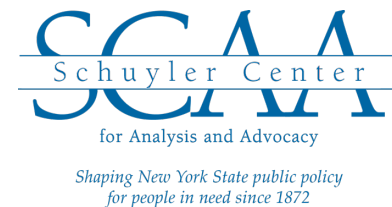


Early Childhood Oral Health Summit 2022 Recommendations and Progress

October 27, 2023

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Collaboration Director, Early Childhood Advisory Council Co-Chair, NYS
Council on Children and Families

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Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy





Council on Children and Families



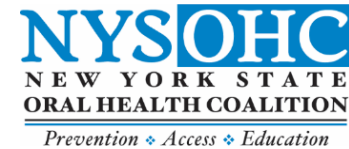
Department of Health



Developmental Disabilities Planning Council

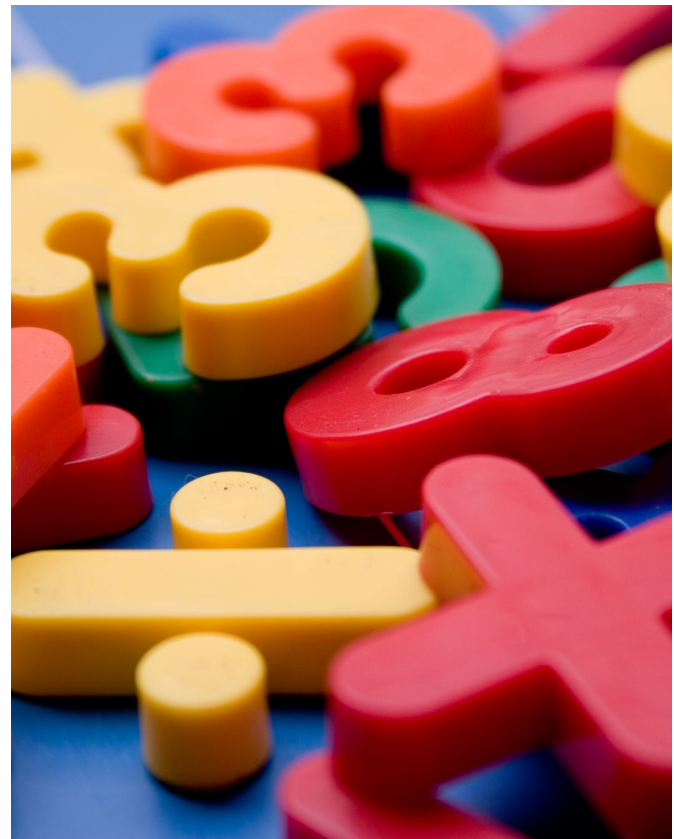


Office for New Americans



Early Childhood Oral Health Summit, Nov 2022

- 130 participants, health, early childhood, state and local government.
- Informative roundtables.
- Thoughtful table discussions produced policy content.



Opportunities to Act

Train educators
and families

Find oral health
champions

Build networks

Build
relationships with
primary care

Convene
community
conversations

Increase
funding/improve
reimbursement

More services for
children and
families

Advocacy

Recommendations

Provide more technical assistance to programs and providers working with young children to help families improve early childhood oral health.

Summit participants had a strong desire to learn more about oral health and improve the oral health of the children and families they serve. Many wanted informational and training resources to increase the oral health knowledge of their staff and the families in their programs. Participants wanted guidance on incorporating information into staff trainings, family services, curriculum, and case management.

Implement strategies to increase access to oral health services for children 0-age 5.

Access to oral health preventive and treatment services is a continual concern for parents, educators, and health providers. The lack of providers who see young children was a top concern of Summit participants along with excessively long waiting times when a provider was available.

Technical Assistance

- Provide training and education on oral health for the staff at programs working with young children and families and for primary care providers.
- Provide access to oral health materials for programs working with children and families and for primary care physicians.
- Ensure translation services are easily accessible to programs and families. Oral health training and education programs must be available in different languages.

Increase Access

- Increase funding for school-based programs, mobile dental services, tele-dental service and for assessments and education in homes.
- Reimburse community health workers and community dental health coordinators to provide oral health education and care coordination.
- Leverage reimbursement options to drive medical-dental integration.
- Identify changes to laws to increase access to varnish.
- Ensure that all families have dental insurance & understand how to use benefits.
- Help with transportation for dental appointments.

Action Items

- Increase state funding to the NYSDOH for technical assistance on early childhood oral health.
- Create an online library of oral health materials and training programs.
- Create an oral health training plan for providers and programs working with young children.
- Enact a law that would allow additional providers to administer fluoride varnish and allow parents to apply fluoride varnish under instruction.
- Implement Medicaid reimbursement for oral health preventive services such as risk assessment, education, and case management.
- Submit a federal waiver to provide continuous eligibility for Medicaid/Child Health Plus until age six.



Work to Date on Summit Recommendations:

- Developing the resource library.
- Fluoride varnish paper and bill.
- Conversations with Medicaid on continuous eligibility.
- Research reimbursement for preventive services.
- Recommendations to the Governor on funding for technical assistance, training and expanded programs.
- Reconvening this year to continue the networking.

PREVIEW

NYS Early Childhood Oral Health



NYS Early Childhood Oral Health Otter

Oral health resources for early childhood teachers, parents, health providers, and anyone would like to learn more about early childhood oral health.



Parents



Teachers

Teachers and providers of care and early learning can find resources for children high through [Oral Health](#), [Oral Care](#), [Oral Health](#), and [Oral Health](#).

NYS Early Childhood Oral
Health Summit
November 2022





Schoharie Head Start
October 2023



Recommendations

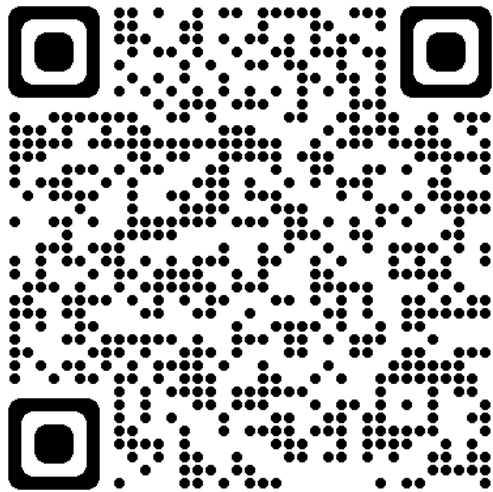
Increase Oral Health Technical Assistance (\$TBD): New York should provide more training and education, including access to oral health materials, to staff in programs working directly with children (child care, preschool, early intervention, home visiting, primary care providers). Guidance on how to create an oral health training program for direct service providers should also be created. New York should also consider legislation to allow additional providers to administer fluoride varnish and allow parents to apply fluoride varnish under instruction.

Improve Access to Oral Health Services (\$TBD): Increased funding is needed for school-based programs, mobile dental services, tele-dental services, and to support the provision of assessments and education in homes and reimbursement for the provision of oral health education and care coordination by community health workers and community dental health coordinators. New York should also ensure that oral health interpretation services are easily accessible to programs and families. Finally, New York should ensure that all families have dental insurance and understand how to use those benefits.



Report

[Oral Health | SCAANY](#)



Improving the Oral Health of Young Children in New York: Recommendations from the NYS Early Childhood Oral Health Summit

