

MARYLAND FEATURED IN ORAL HEALTH AMERICA STATE SPOTLIGHT Highlights improvements in oral health access for adults

The gains made in improving access to oral health care for Maryland adults is the focus of [Oral Health America's latest state spotlight](#). The article highlights MDAC's work to secure passage of SB 284, which established a Medicaid adult dental pilot program.

This past fall, Oral Health America released [A State of Decay Vol IV](#), a state-by-state analysis of the oral health of older adults 65 and over. The state spotlights "go beyond the score" to share the actions and strategies oral health stakeholders use to improve the oral health of adults in their respective states.



LACK OF SUSTAINED FUNDING AFFECTS POSITIVE IMPACT OF CHWs Use of CHWs improves health outcomes, reduces cost, addresses health disparities

The article below is from Ellen Albritton, Senior Policy Analyst at Families USA:

As policymakers, health care providers, and other stakeholders work to transform our health care system into one that rewards value and not volume, it is imperative that achieving health equity be a central focus of these efforts. Increased support and integration of community health workers (CHWs) is a concrete strategy for ensuring that equity remains central to health system transformation initiatives. As trusted members of their communities, CHWs are able to address the socially-determined barriers to good health and health care, and they have a proven track record of improving health outcomes, reducing costs, and address health disparities.

Yet, despite their effectiveness, CHWs remain underutilized and under-resourced, as many programs still lack a source of sustainable financing.

Through its [CHW Sustainability Collaborative](#), Families USA is working to raise awareness of the value of CHWs and opportunities for sustainable financing and to create and disseminate resources for CHWs and advocates to establish sustainable financing in their state.

Some recent resources added to its [CHW Sustainability Resource Hub](#) include:

- [CHW Impact Estimator Tool: Childhood Asthma](#): You can use this tool to project the impact of a specific CHW childhood asthma model in your state based on factors specific to your community. This customizable tool will provide estimates on a wide range of budget, quality, and impact measures, including return on investment and social impact. Users can rely on pre-populated state-specific data compiled from a variety of public and private sources, or input their own information.
- [Issue Brief: CHWs as Key Partners in Improving Children's Health and Eliminating Inequities](#): This brief highlights the value of integrating CHWs into maternal and child health care delivery to effectively address a range of health care concerns for children and families, offering examples of specific initiatives that are promising or have demonstrated impact for children of color.
- [Issue Brief: How New Delivery and Payment Models Can Incentivize and Support the Use of CHWs](#): The current attention on implementing delivery and payment reforms creates an important opportunity for supporting CHWs. In this brief, we detail how health system transformation initiatives in Vermont and Oregon align with the value that CHWs provide and how these initiatives

You can find all of Families USA's resources on the [CHW Sustainability Resource Hub](#). If you would like to learn more about or join the CHW Sustainability Collaborative, email CHWCollaborative@familiesusa.org.

COUNTY MOUTH GUARD PROGRAM HELPS PREVENT ORAL INJURIES

Free mouth guards provided to more than 2,000 Montgomery County youth



Although dental injuries due to falls or sports injuries are relatively common, public health dental clinics do not have the resources to treat them. Troubled by the number of youth she saw come into the clinic with broken teeth, Beth McKinney, a registered dental hygienist with the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services, decided to do something about it.

McKinney knew that mouth guards could prevent many of the injuries she saw in her clinic, but those purchased in sporting goods stores or that come with sports equipment often do not fit

properly and are uncomfortable, so they are not used. Private dentists make custom mouth guards, but often charge more than many patients can afford. Since fitting a mouth guard does not require a dentist and the material cost is low, McKinney wanted to make mouth guards in the dental clinic, but the county simply did not have the money to purchase the needed equipment.

In 2014, McKinney applied for – and received - a grant from the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. Six months later, with a model trimmer, vacupress, electric trimming knife, electric hand piece and alginate trays in hand, a county mouth guard program was born.

McKinney reached out to school nurses, many of whom would call her when one of their students had a toothache, to make them aware that she would make mouth guards free of charge. She attended high school health fairs and met with coaches and sports teams. She ordered posters on the importance of mouth guards from the National Academy of Sports Dentistry to post in schools, boxing gyms, lacrosse stores and other sports venues in the county. She created brochures about the program and distributed them to school nurses, coaches, and at health fairs.

Before long, McKinney was going into schools and making mouth guards on site. The school would provide space in the health rooms, a sink, and manage the schedule and permission slips. McKinney can typically make about 20 mouth guards per hour. All those who get a new mouth guard also get instruction and a brochure on how to care for it properly.

Celeste Amadei, a school nurse at Kennedy High School, first heard about the mouth guard program during a team meeting. She discussed it with the coaches and athletic director, and one coach in particular loved the idea, so Amadei arranged for McKinney to come to the school.



"It's a valuable service for the football players and other sports," Amadei said. "The kids loved it. The mouth guards were made right away, and the kids loved picking out the colors." McKinney has made mouth guards at the school for the past three years, and Amadei is hoping the new athletic director will encourage all the coaches to have their teams participate in the program.

Lynn Matheson Graham, a school nurse at Wheaton High School, said "We had 17 student athletes who got mouth guards last year. We did this to educate the coaches so they will refer students" to the program.

Four years on, the program continues to grow. McKinney has made free mouth guards for high school students; boxers; ice hockey, football and lacrosse players; martial artists and skateboarders, often in school or team colors. She does the impressions in the school health room, a bathroom at the gym, or anywhere there is a sink. To date, she has provided free mouth guards to more than 1,500 Montgomery County youth, and helped prevent countless injuries.

For further information on how you can start a mouth guard program in your county, e-mail Beth McKinney at Beth.McKinney@montgomerycountymd.gov.

REGISTER NOW FOR 9TH ANNUAL AVA ROBERTS SEMINAR

Registration now open for November 30th event

The 9th Annual Ava Roberts Advanced Pediatric Dentistry Seminar, sponsored by the Maryland Department of Health, Office of Oral Health and the Maryland Dental Action Coalition, will be held November 30 from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM at the Twin Oaks Ballroom in Clarksville. The seminar, targeted to dental public health professionals, staff, and students, will include sessions on proper prescription writing and drug disposal, access to treatment and recovery services, infection control, and the new Medicaid dental benefit for dual eligible adults. Advance registration is required. [Click here](#) to view the agenda or to register.

SUGAR FREE KIDS MARYLAND, HORIZON FOUNDATION RECEIVE AWARD

Recognizes work to promote healthy choices, reduce sugary drink consumption

The National Forum for Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention awarded the Horizon Foundation and Sugar Free Kids Maryland its 2018 Public Policy Award for their work to promote healthy choices and reduce sugary drink consumption in Maryland.

Sugar Free Kids Maryland's advocacy efforts led to the passage of the Baltimore City Kids' Meal Bill, which ensures that the default drink options for all restaurants kids' meals in Baltimore City are water, milk, 100 percent fruit juice, or sparkling and flavored water without added sweeteners. Sugar Free Kids also worked to increase healthy snack and drink options in vending machines in public parks and facilities and require childcare facilities to serve healthy drinks to students, part of their initiative to protect children from chronic disease.

The Horizon Foundation, a founding partner of Sugar Free Kids Maryland, is the state's largest independent health philanthropy. The Foundation's Howard County Unsweetened, a community-wide policy and awareness campaign, led to a 20 percent decline in local soda sales. The Horizon Foundation also worked to pass the state's first healthy vending law and to improve the wellness policy and school lunch program in the county.

HOW TO CHOOSE AN ORAL HEALTH PLAN DURING OPEN ENROLLMENT

Guide explains plans and how to choose the one that works best for you

The open enrollment period for marketplace coverage has begun. Since dental coverage is often sold separately from a family's health coverage, choosing an oral health plan can be confusing. To help you help families find pediatric dental coverage that works best for them, Families USA and Children's Dental Health Project have updated their [guide](#) to buying children's dental coverage.

The guide explains the oral health plans people are likely to find and how to choose the one that works best for their family. To help families choose a pediatric oral health plan in their state's marketplace, read and share [Buying Children's Dental Coverage Through the Marketplace](#).

NATIONAL RURAL HEALTH DAY NOVEMBER 15

Celebrates work to improve health outcomes; highlights challenges in rural areas



Rural communities are wonderful places to live and work, which is why over 60 million people – nearly one in five Americans – call them home. These small towns, farming communities and frontier areas are places where neighbors know each other, listen to each other, respect each other and work together to benefit the greater good. They are also some of the best places to start a business and test your “entrepreneurial spirit.” These communities provide the rest of the country with a wealth of services and commodities, and they are the economic engine that has helped the United States become the world economic power it is today.

These rural communities also have unique healthcare needs. Today more than ever, rural communities must address accessibility issues, a lack of healthcare providers, the needs of an aging population suffering from a greater number of chronic conditions, and larger percentages of un- and underinsured citizens. And rural hospitals – which are often the economic foundation of their communities in addition to being the primary providers of care – struggle daily as declining reimbursement rates and disproportionate funding levels make it challenging to serve their residents.

That is why the National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health sets aside the third Thursday of every November – November 15, 2018 – to celebrate National Rural Health Day. First and foremost, National Rural Health Day is an opportunity to “Celebrate the Power of Rural” by honoring the selfless, community-minded, “can do” spirit that prevails in rural America. But it is also a chance to bring to light the unique healthcare challenges that rural citizens face – and showcase the efforts of rural healthcare providers, State Offices of Rural Health and other rural stakeholders to address those challenges. To learn more, [click here](#).

FDA LAUNCHES "THE REAL COST" CAMPAIGN

Effort aims to educate youth about the dangers of e-cigarettes



Although e-cigarettes may not contain tobacco, they do contain nicotine. Vaping, like traditional smoking, can be highly addictive and detrimental to your oral health. When vapor is inhaled, vaporized nicotine directly enters oral tissues, which can lead to dry mouth, tooth decay, tissue death, and gum disease. Nicotine, which acts as a stimulant, can also cause teeth grinding, which damages the surface of the teeth and can cause bite- and jaw-related problems. Vaping has oral health risks, so the more you vape, the more important it is to see your dentist regularly.

In the latest of a series of actions to address the epidemic of youth e-cigarette use, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration launched “The Real Cost” Youth E-Cigarette Prevention Campaign, a new, comprehensive effort aimed at educating kids about the dangers of e-cigarettes. The campaign targets nearly 10.7 million youth, aged 12-17, who have used e-cigarettes or are open to trying them, and features hard-hitting advertising on digital and social media sites popular among teens, as well as placing posters with e-cigarette prevention messages in high schools across the nation.

“HHS is committed to comprehensive efforts to protect America’s youth from the dangers of using any tobacco or nicotine-containing products. We congratulate the FDA on the launch of this new, hard-hitting campaign about the risk of addiction and other health consequences that can result from youth using e-cigarettes. This public education campaign will reach teens directly and complement the aggressive steps the FDA is taking to crack down on the sale and marketing of e-cigarettes to minors,” said HHS Secretary Alex Azar.

Over the past several years, e-cigarettes were the most commonly used tobacco product by youth. In fact, more than 2 million middle and high school students were current users of e-cigarettes in 2017, and the FDA now believes that youth use of e-cigarettes is reaching epidemic proportions.

With its tagline, “Know the Real Cost of Vaping,” the campaign aims to educate youth that using e-cigarettes, just like cigarettes, puts them at risk for addiction and other health consequences. The messages highlight that nicotine can rewire the brain to crave more nicotine, particularly because adolescent brains are still developing. Other messages highlight that e-cigarettes, among other things, can contain dangerous chemicals such as: acrolein, a chemical that can cause irreversible lung damage; formaldehyde, a cancer-causing chemical; and toxic metal particles, like chromium, lead and nickel, which can be inhaled into the lungs.

“The FDA has a successful track record of using compelling, science-based public education campaigns to encourage kids to rethink their relationship with tobacco and is bringing the same approach to these new efforts to prevent youth use of e-cigarettes,” said Mitch Zeller, J.D., director of the FDA’s Center for Tobacco Products. “E-cigarette use among youth is a tremendous concern and this new campaign will allow us to effectively communicate the dangers of these products to teens. Public education is a critical component of our ongoing work to prevent youth use of tobacco products and complements our enforcement and regulatory efforts to protect kids.”

“The Real Cost” Youth E-Cigarette Prevention Campaign is a nearly \$60 million effort funded by user fees collected from the tobacco industry, not by taxpayer dollars. Initial e-cigarette prevention content first debuted in October 2017.

CHRC ISSUES CALL FOR PROPOSALS

\$5.9 million in new grant funding available in FY 2019

The Maryland Community Health Resources Commission (CHRC) has issued its FY 2019 Call for Proposals (RFP), which looks to support programs that preserve or enhance the state's ability to serve vulnerable populations regardless of insurance status; promote health equity by reducing health disparities and addressing the social determinants of health; and support community-based projects that are innovative, sustainable, and replicable. The CHRC anticipates awarding approximately \$5.9 million in new grant funding this fiscal year.

This year's RFP looks to support three categories of programs:

1. Promoting delivery of essential health care services: primary/preventative care services, dental services, and women's health care services;
2. Addressing the heroin and opioid epidemic through integrated behavioral health service delivery; and
3. Promoting food security and addressing childhood and family obesity.

Letters of Intent (LOI) will be due on November 13 (12 noon), and full grant proposals will be due December 17 (12 noon). Grant awards are expected to be made by the CHRC in mid-February 2019. A copy of the RFP can be found [here](#).

ADA FOUNDATION INVITES LETTERS OF INQUIRY FOR \$80K GRANT

LOIs for Access to Health Care for People with Special Needs Grant due November 30

The ADA Foundation is inviting nonprofit organizations that provide oral health services to patients with special needs to submit a letter of intent to receive a grant of up to \$80,000.

The Access to Oral Health Care for People with Special Needs Grant will provide funding to nonprofits that use innovative methods to provide oral health care services to people with physical and/or mental conditions that prohibit or complicate the provision of dental care in a routine setting. The grant is possible with funds made available from Henry Schein Cares.

Organizations have until Nov. 30 to submit a letter and the ADA Foundation may invite applicants to complete a full or multi-year proposal in early 2019.

For more information and to submit the letter, [click here](#) or visit ADAFoundation.org, click on "How to Apply" then "Access to Care."

NOHC ISSUE CALLS FOR SEMINAR, WORKSHOP PROPOSALS

The planning committee for the 2019 National Oral Health Conference, to be held April 15-17 in Memphis, TN, invites proposals for seminars and workshops addressing medical/dental integration; oral health programs/health promotion; new and emerging practices; policy/advocacy; surveillance/epidemiology related to dental public health. Seminar submissions will be considered for either a plenary or a concurrent session. This invitation is not for individual oral, poster or roundtable abstracts. The requests for poster and oral abstracts and roundtable abstracts will be issued in a separate call. Click on the links for [details](#), [seminar and workshop formats](#), or to [submit a proposal](#). Submissions must be received by no later than 11:45 PM EST on November 2, 2018.



VILLAGE DENTAL CENTER SEEKS PART-TIME DENTIST

The Village Dental Center, a free-standing dental office in Salisbury, MD operated by the Wicomico County Health Department, is seeking a part-time dentist to provide comprehensive dental care to children and pregnant women covered by the Maryland Healthy Smiles program. Services include, but are not limited to, hygiene, composite restorations, stainless steel and PFM crowns and routine extractions. Requirements include a current Maryland dental license, DEA permit, CDS permit, liability insurance and Eprep credentials. For further information, please contact Sheila M. Hammond at sheila.hammond@maryland.gov.

MDAC MEMBER MEETING SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER 10, 2018

Save the date for the December 10, 2018 MDAC members' meeting, to be held from 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM at the Maryland State Dental Association (MSDA) in Columbia, MD.

We want to make our members' meetings productive and meaningful for you. If you have interest in topics that you would like MDAC to address at its members meetings, we'd love to hear from you! Please e-mail your suggestions to info@mdac.us.

"Our health care system doesn't reflect the fact that oral health is integral to our overall health."

- Mary Otto, Journalist and Author

NEWS

[Science Says Fluoride in Water is Good for Kids. So Why are These Towns Banning It?](#)

[Hate Going to the Dentist? Temple Researchers Are Tackling Dental Phobia](#)

[Senate Passes Action for Dental Health](#)

[Statement from FDA Commissioner Scott Gottlieb, M.D., on Launch of 'The Real Cost' Youth E-Cigarette Prevention Campaign Amid Evidence of Sharply Rising Use Among Kids](#)

[Why Does a Wound in Your Mouth Heal Faster Than a Wound on Your Skin?](#)

ARTICLES

[OHA Maryland State Spotlight: Data Reinforces the Need for Dental](#)

[ASTDD White Paper: Opportunities for Improving Oral Health and Chronic Disease Program Collaboration and Medical-Dental Integration](#)

[Health, Income, & Poverty: Where We Are & What Could Help](#)

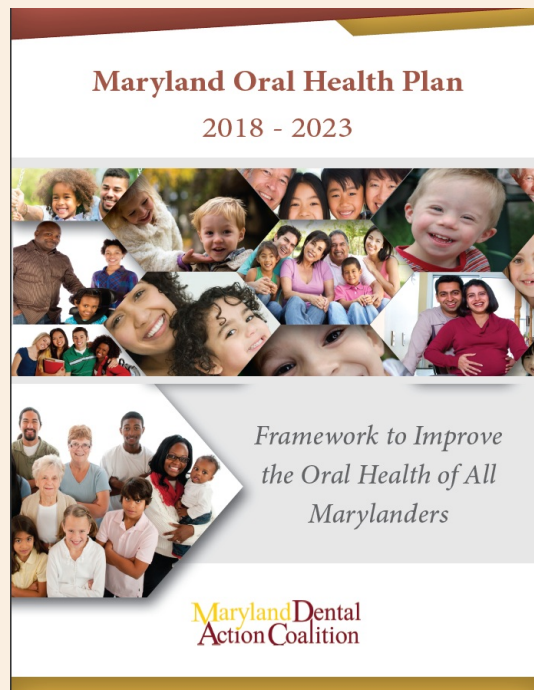
[Integration of Oral Health and Primary Care: Communication, Coordination and Referral](#)

[Policy-Community Partnerships in Oral Health Advocacy: An Example in Celebration of National Hispanic Heritage Month](#)

[ADA Adopts Policy Supporting HPV Vaccine](#)

[Oral Cancer: What to Do If Something Unusual Shows Up](#)

2018-2023 MARYLAND ORAL HEALTH PLAN GOALS



The 2018-2023 Maryland Oral Health Plan outlines 11 oral health goals in three key areas:

Access to oral health care:

- All Maryland children have comprehensive dental insurance coverage through public (Medicaid/MCHP) or private insurance.
- All Maryland adults have comprehensive dental insurance coverage through Medicaid or private insurance.
- All Maryland residents have a dental home.
- Strengthen the oral health safety net provider system.
- Integrate the oral health care system within the medical health care system.

Oral disease and injury prevention:

- Use data to advance optimal oral

EVENTS



[9th Annual Ava Roberts Advanced Pediatric Dentistry Seminar](#) November 30, 2018

MDAC Members' Meeting
December 10, 2018, 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

[American Public Health Association Annual Meeting, November 10-14, 2018](#)

[NNOHA Annual Conference, November 11-14, 2018](#)

[Gerontological Society of America Annual Scientific Meeting, November 14-18, 2018](#)

[National Rural Health Day, November 15, 2018](#)

[6th Annual HPV-Related Cancer Summit, November 30, 2018](#)

[MDDH's Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities 15th Annual Health Equity Conference, December 6, 2018](#)

[OSAP Dental Infection Control Boot Camp™ 2019, January 23-25, 2019](#)

[American Institute for Dental Public Health Annual Colloquium, January 24-25, 2019](#)

[CMS Quality Conference: Innovating for Value and Results, January 29-31, 2019](#)

[20th Annual National Quality Forum Conference, March 24-26, 2019](#)

WEBINARS

[Since You Asked: Persuading Parents that HPV Vaccine is Safe and Effective in Practice, November 1, 2018](#)

[Time to Act: Young Adults, Periodontal Disease, and Blood Pressure, November 12, 2018](#)

- health for all Marylanders.
- Improve public awareness of oral disease and injury prevention.
- Promote community-based oral disease and injury prevention programs.

Oral health literacy and education:

- Increase understanding of the relationship between oral health and overall health, and promote good oral health practices and access to oral health care.
- Improve collaboration between oral health and other health and human services providers so that patients understand how to navigate the oral health care system and establish a dental home.
- Educate medical professionals and students about the importance of the oral/systemic connection and foster collaboration between medical and dental disciplines and communities.

Download the plan now!

The Maryland Oral Health Plan is financially supported by the Maryland Department of Health.

WEBCASTS

[What is the Defining Line Between Policy and Advocacy?](#)

[ASTDD: Chronic Disease and Older Adult Oral Health](#)

[ADA: Controlling Dental Caries with Silver Diamine Fluoride](#)

[NACDD October General Member Webinar: Models of Collaboration Between Oral Health and Chronic Disease Programs in States](#)

CONTINUING EDUCATION

[How to Conduct and Publish Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses: An Interactive Workshop, November 8-10, 2018](#)

[Maintaining Your Sanity and Practice Viability as a Medicaid Provider: Embracing Program Integrity](#)

[Health and Wellness @ the Library: The Essentials of Providing Consumer Health Services](#)

[OHRC: School-Based Dental Sealant](#)

[Inclusion of Athletic Trainers into School-based Health Centers: Next Steps in Interprofessional Practice and Community Health, November 19, 2018](#)

[Programs](#)



ORAL HEALTH RESOURCES

ACCESS TO ORAL HEALTH CARE

Medicaid

[Health Coverage Matters for Children: The Role of Medicaid in the Healthy Development of America's Children](#)

[Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program \(CHIP\) Scorecard](#)

[Medicaid Provider Reference Guide](#)

[State Strategies to Incorporate Oral Health into Medicaid Payment and Delivery Models for People with Chronic Medical Conditions](#)

Medicare

[An Oral Health Benefit in Medicare Part B: It's Time to Include Oral Health in Health Care](#)

[America's Seniors Deserve Dental Coverage in Medicare: Martha's Story](#)

[Oral Health America Medicare Dental Toolkit](#)

Policy

[OH2020: Improving Systems to Ensure Oral Health for All](#)

[Four Ways Our Health Care Is at Risk in the Supreme Court Nomination Fight](#)

[Trump Administration 'Public Charge' Rule Threatens Health Care for Immigrant Families, Including U.S. Citizen Children](#)

RURAL HEALTH

[NRHA Policy Brief: Improving Rural Oral](#)

ORAL DISEASE AND INJURY PREVENTION

[AAP: HPV Champion Toolkit](#)

[Oropharyngeal Cancer \(OPC\) and HPV Prevention in Children](#)

[Answering Questions About HPV Vaccine: A Guide for Dental Professionals](#)

[ASTDD Best Practice Approach Report: Use of Fluoride in Schools](#)

[ASTDD Emergency Preparedness Manual](#)

ORAL HEALTH LITERACY AND EDUCATION

[Oral Health Care During Pregnancy: Practice Guidance for Maryland's Prenatal and Dental Providers](#)

[Oral Health During Pregnancy: Oral Health's Unanswered Questions](#)

[Hallways to Health: Creating a School-Wide Culture of Wellness](#)

[CDC: Tips for Teachers](#)

[AAP: Protect Tiny Teeth Toolkit](#)

[Fluorosis Facts \(English\)](#)

[Datos Sobre la Fluorosis \(Spanish\)](#)

[Common Questions About Fluoride \(English\)](#)

[Preguntas Comunes Sobre el Fluoruro \(Spanish\)](#)

[Success with CHWs: Oral Health Road Map](#)

[Healthcare Access](#)

[Maryland Rural Health Plan](#)

[CMS Rural Health Strategy](#)

[The Rural Primary Care Practice Guide to Creating Interprofessional Oral Health Networks](#)

[ASTDD: Oral Health Educational Resources for Home Visitors and Families: Environmental Scan](#)

LEGISLATIVE CONTACTS

[U.S. Senators \(MD\)](#)

[U.S. Representatives \(MD\)](#)

[Maryland State Legislators](#)

CONTACT

Do you have events or announcements you'd like to share? Contact MDAC, and we'll make every effort to include them in our next newsletter, as space permits.

[Contact MDAC](#)

JOIN

MDAC is statewide coalition of clinical care providers, governments, non-profits, academic institutions, managed care organizations, foundations and associations working collaboratively to improve the health of all Marylanders through increased oral health promotion, disease prevention, education, advocacy and access to oral health care.

[Join MDAC](#)

www.mdac.us

FOLLOW US

