

# Improving Access through Prevention, Education and Partnership

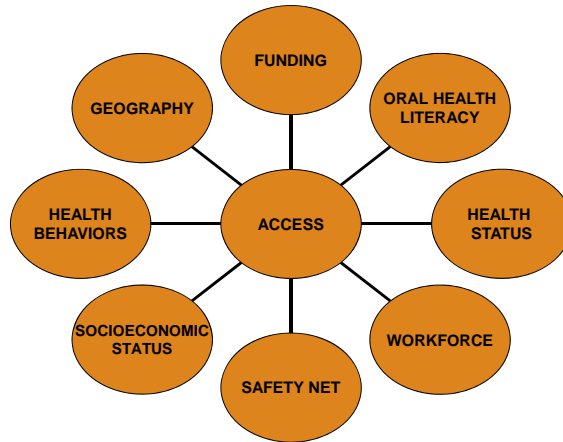
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**ADA** American Dental Association®

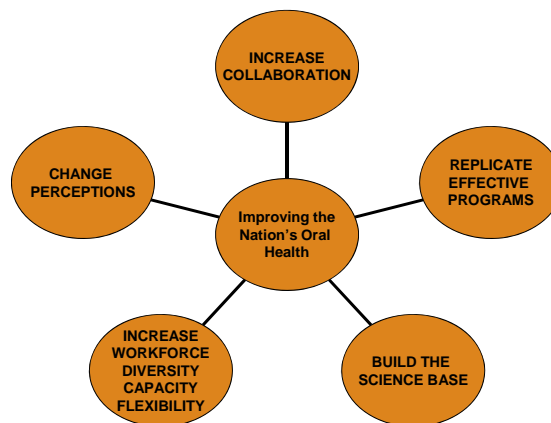
## Improving Access through Prevention and Education

- Addressing the complex problem of oral health access requires a comprehensive approach and the application of multiple solutions.
- The ADA believes that collaboration among the private and public sectors is the correct approach to address the needs of the underserved.

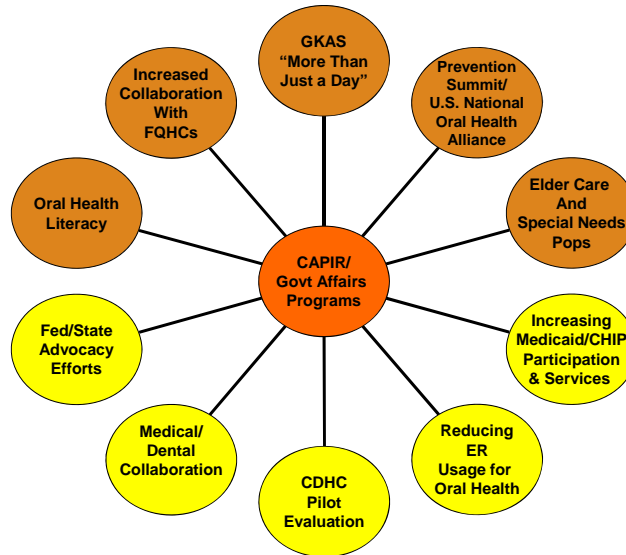
## Access - Determinants



## Access - Solutions



## Access – Program areas



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## Fluoridation

**Healthy People 2010 Goal: Increase proportion of population on community water supplies receiving the benefit of fluoridated water to 75%**

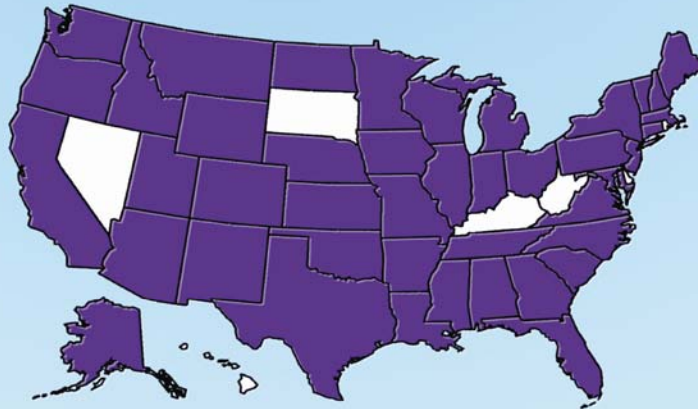
As of **2006**: 184 million US residents or 69.2% of US residents on public water systems receive optimally fluoridated water

- **2007**: add 18 million people in California
- **2008**: there is fluoridation activity/campaigns in more than half of the 50 states
- **2012**: there is fluoridation activity in almost all states. Many areas fighting the removal of fluoride.

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## **States with fluoridation activity** **January 2011-May 2012**



A total of 43 states saw some type of fluoridation activity during this time period. The states without any reported activity include Delaware, Hawaii, Kentucky, Nevada, Rhode Island, South Dakota and West Virginia.

### **Reducing Administrative Burdens and Improving Access in Dental Medicaid Programs**

- Improving access to comprehensive dental care for low-income patients demands an efficient and effective Medicaid system.
- The ADA supports structural improvements in state dental Medicaid programs to make it easier for dentists to treat eligible patients, including:
  - Streamlining the credentialing process
  - Create strong dental Medicaid advisory committees
  - Institute reasonable compliance training and enforcement
  - Utilize data for more effective advocacy.

## Reducing Administrative Burdens and Improving Access in Dental Medicaid Programs

- Numerous studies have demonstrated the positive impact on access to oral health care that is achievable in a relatively short timeframe from improving Medicaid and CHIP programs by:
  - Increasing reimbursement
  - Educating families and caregivers
  - Targeting young children
  - Establishing dental homes
  - Promoting public/private collaborations, including dental schools, state dental societies, health centers and individual dentists.

## Reducing Administrative Burdens and Improving Access in Dental Medicaid Programs

- Michigan's *Healthy Kids Dental Program*
- Maryland's *Comprehensive Medicaid Reform*
- *Smile Alabama*
- Connecticut's Reimbursement Increase

## Give Kids A Smile

- Volunteer initiative to provide education, preventive and restorative services to children in need.
- Expansion in 2006 included a focus on continuity of care and establishment of a dental home.

## CATOOH

### (Chapter Advocacy Training on Oral Health)

- Collaboration between ADA Foundation and American Academy of Pediatrics
- Train the Trainer across all 50 states
  - Caries Risk Assessment
  - Anticipatory Guidance
  - Fluoride Varnish as appropriate
  - Referral to a dentist
- <http://www2.aap.org/commpeds/doch/oralhealth/>



## ER Utilization and Dental Safety-Net Capacity

- Calhoun County, MI: community-based program created to address need.
- Low-income individuals receive necessary dental care in exchange for volunteer hours
- Dentists donate services and the result has lowered costs to the hospitals where community members receive care.
- ADA participating in a project with CDC to address oral health usage within ER departments.

## Oral Health Literacy

- Increasing oral health education integral to improving oral health.
- *The Partnership for Healthy Mouths, Healthy Lives* is a coalition of 35 dental health organizations and campaign directed at parents and caregivers (Ad Council)
- *2min2X* campaign encourages brushing for two minutes, two times a day to help prevent cavities.
- PSAs will air in more than 33,000 media outlets.

## Community Dental Health Coordinator (CDHC)

- New member of the dental team developed by the ADA.
- CDHCs are essentially community health workers with dental skills.
- CDHCs focus on education and prevention targeting underserved communities to help target the social, behavioral, cultural and biological determinants of oral diseases and conditions.

## Contact information

For more information:  
American Dental Association  
[www.ada.org](http://www.ada.org)