

Michigan seniors have lost six or more natural teeth due to tooth decay or gum disease. Approximately 50% of children covered by Medicaid and Healthy Kids Dental did not receive dental services in 2016 Half of new mothers in 2014 did not receive a preventive dental visit during their pregnancy



For more information, visit midentalaccess.org or contact Amy Zaagman, MCMCH Executive Director, at info@mcmch.org



Improve access to dental care in Michigan

This common sense, cost-effective legislation will enable dentists to delegate routine procedures to dental therapists working under their supervision and allow dentists to focus their time and skills on more complicated, revenue generating procedures.

Senate Bill 541 will:

Provide opportunities for previously underserved populations, many in rural areas, to gain access to routine dental care

Allow new providers to perform routine dental care: assessments, simple cavity preparation, restoration, simple extraction

Require practice under supervision of a dentist with detailed collaborative practice agreements

Create opportunities for dentists to grow their practices and reach more patients

Establish opportunities for dental professionals to continue their education, expand their skill set and grow their careers

Include direct referrals to supervising dentist; creating an ongoing relationship between patients and dental care providers

Focus the new workforce on our greatest access challenges, allowing increased capacity in safety net clinics and dental shortage areas

Ensure in all practice settings these new providers treat uninsured and Medicaid-insured patients



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Sources: Oral Health in Michigan, April 2015, Center for Health Workforce Studies, School of Public Health, University at Albany. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Data Portal, Oral Health, Michigan: Adults Aged 65+ Who Have Lost 6 or more of Their Natural Teeth Due to Tooth Decay or Gum Disease, 2014," www.cdc.gov/oralhealthdata/index.html. George Washington University Milken Institute School of Public Health using Medicaid Analytic eXtract (MAX) files by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). National Association of Dental Plans Michigan Dental Benefits Fact Sheet 2016. Health Resources and Services Administration, Designated Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSA) Statistics, as of April 2017. Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHSS), Count Your Smiles, 2015-2016. Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System 2014. Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System data 2004-2014, analyzed by MDHHS.

