



BUREAU OF ORAL AND HEALTH DELIVERY SYSTEMS

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

WHO IS OHDS?

On January 11, 2011, the Bureau of Oral and Health Delivery Systems (OHDS) was formed within the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH). The bureau conjoins the former Oral Health and Health Care Access bureaus and is located within the Division of Health Promotion and Chronic Disease Prevention. This merger strengthens the abilities of all involved and highlights the shared goals of open access to health care and ensuring optimal overall health. The Bureau of Oral and Health Delivery Systems provides support to the Center for Rural Health and Primary Care Advisory Committee.

WHAT DOES OHDS DO?

OHDS is divided into two centers of focus and has the following programs:

Oral Health Center

- **I-Smile™ Dental Home Initiative** - I-Smile™ is a program focused on preventing dental disease, helping families get dental care, and promoting oral health within the health care system. Dental hygienists serve as I-Smile™ coordinators within Title V Maternal and Child Health organizations around the state, acting as liaisons between families, health care providers, and businesses and organizations to promote optimal oral health.
- **School-Based Dental Sealant Program** - Dental sealants are a plastic coating applied to the chewing surface of newly-erupted molar teeth to prevent tooth decay. Applying sealants in schools is an effective way to assure that the most at-risk children receive their benefit. As part of the I-Smile™ initiative many Title V child health agencies provide dental examinations/screenings and sealants to students in elementary and middle schools, targeting schools with 40 percent or greater free/reduced lunch rates, in particular.
- **School Dental Screening Requirement** - Children newly-enrolled in kindergarten and ninth grade in Iowa are required to provide proof of a dental screening. I-Smile™ coordinators work with families, schools, health care providers, and local boards of health to implement the new requirement.

Center for Rural Health and Primary Care

- **Primary Care Office** - The Primary Care Office coordinates Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) designations and the expansion of health care resources for vulnerable populations. This includes the J1-Visa waiver program, National Health Service Corps, and state primary care initiatives.
- **PRIMECARRE** - The PRIMECARRE program supports the recruitment and retention of primary care providers and manages the loan repayment program.
- **State Office of Rural Health** - The State Office of Rural Health coordinates advocacy efforts, outreach services, and community health resources that target rural populations.
- **Iowa Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility Program (FLEX)** - The FLEX program fosters the growth and sustainment of Iowa's rural healthcare system by supporting Critical Access Hospitals and the communities they serve to: improve the quality of healthcare, improve financial and operational performance, and develop collaborative regional and local delivery systems.
- **Small Rural Hospital Improvement Grant Program (SHIP)** - This program assists small hospitals with procurement costs related to the implementation of prospective payment systems, value-based purchasing programs, accountable care organizations, and the national pilot program on payment bundling.
- **Direct Care Workforce** - The Direct Care Workforce program leads statewide infrastructure planning for the implementation of a Direct Care Worker Credentialing System.

HOW DO I CONTACT OHDS?

OHDS welcomes your inquiries about our bureau programs. For more information, please contact OHDS at 1-866-528-4020 or visit www.idph.state.ia.us/ohds/Default.aspx.