



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 newly-formed 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.

WHAT DOES OHDS DO?

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

Oral Health Center

- I-Smile™ Dental Home Initiative - Since its implementation in 2006, I-Smile™ has helped at-risk Iowa children have early and regular dental care. The program uses twenty-four dental hygienists known as I-Smile™ Coordinators who are located within Iowa's Title V Maternal and Child Health (MCH) system. Each coordinator is a liaison between public health, families, health care providers, and dental offices to ensure children receive care.
- Maternal and Child Health Program - IDPH contracts with twenty-eight local public health agencies to assure access to health services, including oral health, for low-income children as well as for pregnant and postpartum women through the Title V MCH program.
- School-Based Dental Sealant Program - OHDS funds seven programs through Title V child health agencies to provide preventive dental sealants to children's permanent molars.
- School Dental Screening Requirement - Beginning in 2008, children newly-enrolling 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.

Iowa Health Workforce Center

The Iowa Health Workforce Center coordinates statewide efforts to ensure a sustainable, competent, and diverse health workforce and an appropriate health care delivery infrastructure. Activities include:

- development of biennial strategic plan to address access to health and long-term care services in our state,
- implementation of a credentialing and training system for all direct care professionals in Iowa,
- coordination of a state-agency team to monitor and develop supply of health professionals,
- support of statewide efforts to recruit and retain high quality health care professionals through a website connecting health care professionals to Iowa communities, workshops for communities to learn best practices, and implementation of programs, grants, and directives related to development and maintenance of health care professionals in Iowa.

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.

HOW DO I CONTACT OHDS?

OHDS welcomes your inquiries about our merger and provided programs. For more information, please contact OHDS at 1-866-528-4020.