

ORAL HEALTH IOWA

The unified voice for oral health in Iowa.

A collective coalition of Cavity Free Iowa,
Community Water Fluoridation, Lifelong Smiles and
Oral Health Iowa

Collaborate | Proactive | Advocate | Engage | Innovate

Executive Summary

Oral Health Iowa seeks to be the trusted advisor on oral health in Iowa by providing:

- advocacy on relevant and timely issues.*
- education and information on trends and best practices.*
- a connection point for experts, providers, and practitioners to empower those in Iowa to improve their quality of life.*

In August of 2022, a strategic planning process started by drawing together a wide range of participants from different areas of oral health in Iowa. Beginning with focus groups and surveys, a key stakeholder planning group analyzed the data that was collected to build a strategic plan for the establishment of a collective coalition to unite Oral Health Iowa, Lifelong Smiles, Cavity Free Iowa, and Community Water Fluoridation. As a result, these groups in their previous forms would be restarted within a new collective coalition called Oral Health Iowa (OHI). OHI will be recognized for its engagement of diverse partners through innovative collaborations that support diverse initiatives addressing the oral health care needs of Iowans.

Oral Health Iowa's Guiding Principles

– We believe:

- That oral health is a key component to overall health and well-being across all ages.*
- That we must be inclusive, foster collaboration, and not duplicate efforts among partners.*
- We have strength through existing oral health coalitions and groups.*
- In sharing, connecting, and filling gaps among our members.*
- In having leadership and voice from community members, especially those disproportionately impacted by economics, social, and healthcare challenges.*

Governance Structure and Membership

Steering Committee: OHI will be governed by an eight-to-twelve-member Steering Committee made up of individuals representing various broad sectors that impact oral health in the state of Iowa. Each Steering Committee member will bring unique knowledge, commitment and experience. For the first three years, one representative from each of the founding coalitions/workgroups will be part of the Steering Committee.

Founding Coalition Representation

(4 Steering Committee Representatives Maximum)

Cavity Free Iowa

Community Water Fluoridation

Lifelong Smiles Coalition

Oral Health Iowa

Steering Committee Representation

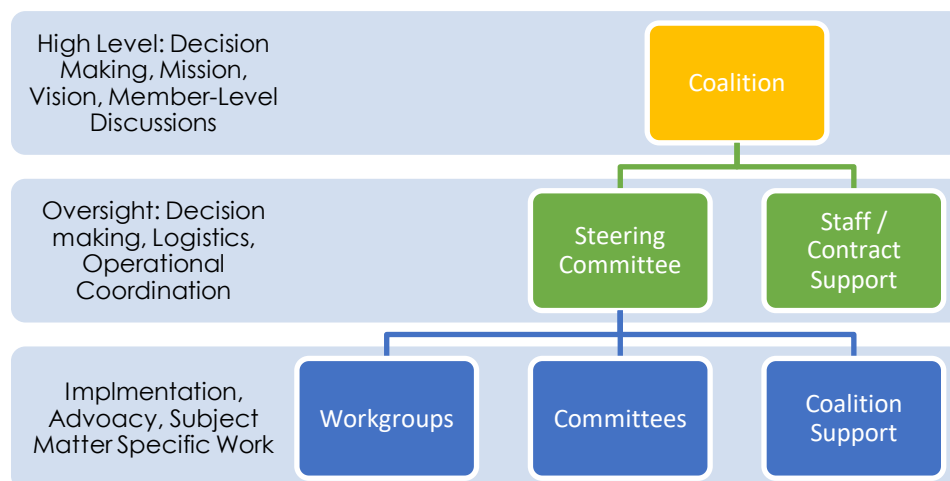
(8 Steering Committee Representatives Maximum)

- Dental and Dental Hygiene Academia
- Medical Healthcare Provider
- Health Funder (501c3)
- Oral Health Practicing Provider from IDA and IDHA
- FQHC/Primary Care Association Representative
- Rural Iowa Representative
- I-Smile or I-Smile Silver Coordinator
- Non-Profit Organization Representative (up to 2)

Two advisory, non-voting Steering Committee members (1 each from the Bureau of Oral and Health Delivery Systems and Medicaid) will represent the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services.

Individual Members: OHI will be comprised of a broad-based group of individual members. OHI **welcomes all individuals who are interested in advancing the mission to “be a unified voice for oral health in Iowa”**. Individual members will represent those involved in oral health provision, planning, policy-making, funding, dental and medical communities, educational programs, advocacy groups, insurance providers, state agency leaders, and private funders. There will be no fee to join OHI as a member. Individual members will be asked to identify topics/committees in which they have the most interest.

Financial Supporters: Individuals, organizations or anonymous donors who are interested in supporting and advancing the mission of OHI may provide a financial donation. Financial contributions will assist in advancing policies and practices that increase access to oral health services, education, and prevention. Individuals and organizations will be recognized for being an OHI financial supporter.



Coalition to meet two times a year virtually.

Steering Committee to meet a minimum of quarterly.

Committees meet as needed and are permanent standing groups representing data, advocacy, water fluoridation, workforce, and access.

Organizational Structure

Organizational Plan: Strategies, Goals and Objectives

The core purpose of strategic planning was to build a collaborative coalition that is a unified voice for oral health in Iowa. This strategic plan provides a foundation upon which

to build coalition leadership and committees. Once the organizational foundation and steering committee are in place, priorities will focus on:

- Implementation of the organizational structure
- Financial sustainability
- Determining statewide outreach and education

Priority Area 1: Messaging and Outreach

Strategy	Goal	Objectives
Provide stronger messaging and outreach for OHI	Raise the visibility and support of the coalition around the state demonstrating our collective voice and providing opportunities for collaboration.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide clear outreach and broaden the messaging of the core purposes of OHI and enhance the visibility and impact of OHI through communication tools and platforms across the state. 2. Build awareness of oral health priorities in the state of Iowa.

Priority Area 2: Durability and Sustainability

Strategy	Goal	Objectives
Create durability and sustainability for OHI	Create a diverse and sustainable coalition.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Build an understanding of the roles and contributions of specific OHI groups to break down siloed efforts and focus on cross-organizational activities. 2. Strengthen governance and build diversification to generate the necessary funds to ensure the coalitions ability to fulfill its core purpose, achieve its vision and impact the oral health of Iowans. 3. Establish core governance to create a robust and sustainable coalition that serves to integrate oral health resources.

Priority Area 3: Collaborate and Enhance

Strategy	Goal	Objectives
Empower collaboration and enhance the impact of OHI	Build infrastructure for support of the priorities of the coalition.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Create spaces of innovation and develop opportunities for cross education and better leveraging the collaborative strength of OHI. 2. Elevate the attention to the resources available for advancing oral health in Iowa through advocacy.

For more information please contact: Jaci Miller OHI Coordinator | oralhealthiowa@gmail.com.

Strategic Planning Participating Organizations

Cavity Free Iowa | Delta Dental of Iowa Foundation | Iowa Department of Health and Human Services | Dental Connections | Iowa Dental Association | Iowa Hospital Association | I-Smile and I-Smile Silver | Lifelong Smiles Coalition | Managed Care of North America | Oral Health Iowa | Primary Health Care Association | University of Iowa College of Dentistry and Dental Clinics | Iowa Community Water Fluoridation Advisory Group