
Who?
Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC)
Ages 0-2 enrolled in Medicaid

Where?
Washington State

What?
Poor dental health such as tooth decay or loss in infancy or early childhood can lead to:
- Lower School Performance and Mental Well-Being
- Impaired Speech Development
- Improper Growth of Adult Teeth and Dysfunction of Teeth and Jaw
- Reduced Ability to Eat, Sleep, and Function without Pain

Why?
Children that are BIPOC are at higher risk for untreated tooth decay, tooth loss, and other oral disease due to socioeconomic factors such as:
- Racism
- Underemployment
- Low Income
- Language Barriers

When?
According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, dental homes should be established by a child’s first birthday, especially for those who are at high risk of dental caries.

How?
There are many resources available to parents of BIPOC children! See the back page for more details.
Resources Available to Parents of BIPOC Children:

**Access to Baby and Child Dentistry**
- Works to connect low-income families with dentists who have special training working with children as well as provide resources and education on the importance of preventing tooth decay

**Arcora Foundation**
- Works to expand dental coverage for lower-income families
- Supports the ABCD program
- Runs the SmileMobile which provides dental care to young children in underserved communities
- Dentist Link – connects people regardless of insurance status to dentists

**Head Start**
- Serves low-income children ages 0-5. Provides healthy breakfast and lunch as well as dental screenings and disability services
- Uses Cavity Free Kids – oral health education for young children to support good oral health practice at home

**National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center**
- Provides brochures in multiple languages about how important oral hygiene and health is
- Accessible to non-English speakers and those with low English literacy

**ParentHelp123**
- Helps Washington families find resources in their area, linking them to accessible dental services, healthcare, and more

**University of Washington Center for Pediatric Dentistry**
- Clinic that accepts Medicaid and employs social workers to help with transportation, financial aid, and interpretation for non-English speakers

**Washington State Dental Association Special Needs Directory**
- Provides a list of dentists that are trained to provide care to patients with specials needs. Includes filters for Medicaid, different age groups, different conditions, counties, and languages spoken in the clinic

**Washington State Health Care Authority**
- Covers routine exams, cleaning, X-rays, sealants, fillings, crowns, fluoride application, extractions, and orthodontic services to children
- Purchases health care for Washington residents through Medicaid, helping to ensure that residents have access to better healthcare at a low cost