

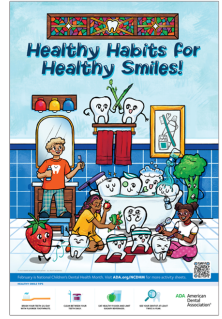


DHSS OFFICE OF DENTAL HEALTH  
**NEWSLETTER**  
 MONTHLY MISSOURI ORAL HEALTH UPDATE

February 2024 | Issue No 4



National Children’s Dental Health Month is celebrated each February! Cavities, also known as caries or tooth decay, are the most common chronic disease of childhood, yet cavities are preventable. Learn how you can protect your child’s teeth from cavities with these resources. <https://www.cdc.gov/oralhealth/publications/features/childrens-dental-health.html>



**Statewide town halls being held to inform Missouri’s Master Plan on Aging**



Missouri is on the cusp of a demographic transformation with over 1.1 million citizens aged 60 and above, a figure set to rise dramatically by 2030. Recognizing this, Governor Mike Parson’s executive order has established "Aging with Dignity: Missouri’s Master Plan on Aging." To shape this vital plan, the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, in collaboration with the ten Area Agencies on Aging, invites you to a series of town hall meetings across the state from now until March 8. These meetings, crucial for gathering community insights into the challenges and needs of our aging population, are open to all and require no registration.

Can't make it in person? Join us virtually on March 21 – simply register for free to receive a secure link. As Mindy Ulstad of DHSS highlights, your participation is key to ensuring that all Missourians have access to the services they need to age safely and healthier in their chosen environment. Learn more and get involved at [health.mo.gov/aging](http://health.mo.gov/aging) Let’s work together to create a future where every Missourian ages with dignity!

**Join the 3rd Annual Health Care Career Day: A Virtual Exploration of Missouri’s Healthcare Careers**

The Missouri Hospital Association, Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education were proud to host the 3rd Annual Health Care Career Day on February 23. This significant, statewide virtual event was a unique opportunity for both K-12 and higher education students, as well as school groups, to delve into Missouri’s healthcare sector. The Office of Dental Health worked with our Office of Public Information and Jefferson City’s Dr. J.C. Standlee to create a video to be used at this event. Dr. Standlee and his staff shared why they love their career, the education needed to attain it and what their day to day duties involve so students who might be interested in dental health care professions.



FEB. 23, 2024 VIRTUAL EVENT



**Don't Forget !!**



**Capturing the Future  
 2024 Missouri Oral Health Policy Conference**

March 7 - 8, 2024  
 Double Tree by Hilton, Jefferson City, MO

**REGISTER HERE**

<https://www.oralhealthmissouri.org/conference-registration>

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