



6<sup>th</sup> Annual Rural Oral Health Conference  
September 16, 2011

“Improving Rural Oral Health Access in an  
Environment of Diminishing Resources”

# Maine

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*An Office of the  
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*Paul R. LePage, Governor*

*Mary C. Mayhew, Commissioner*



# Improving Access to Oral Health Services in Maine:

## Systems change, planning, infrastructure and capacity-building

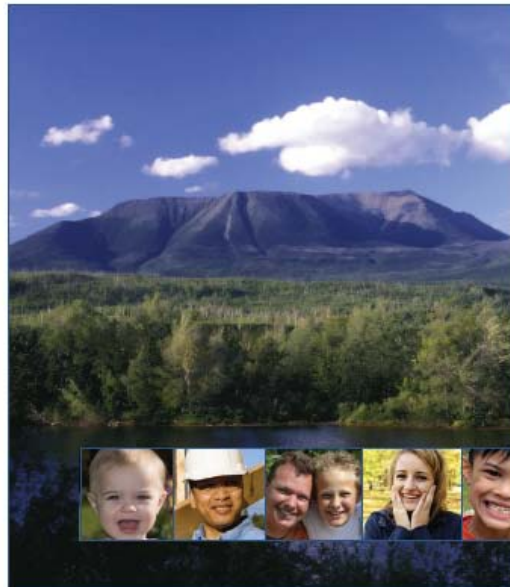
- State Oral Health Plan (revision)
- Workforce development and related initiatives
  - State programs and grants
  - Legislative activities
  - Local initiatives
- University of New England's College of Dental Medicine



# State Oral Health Plan

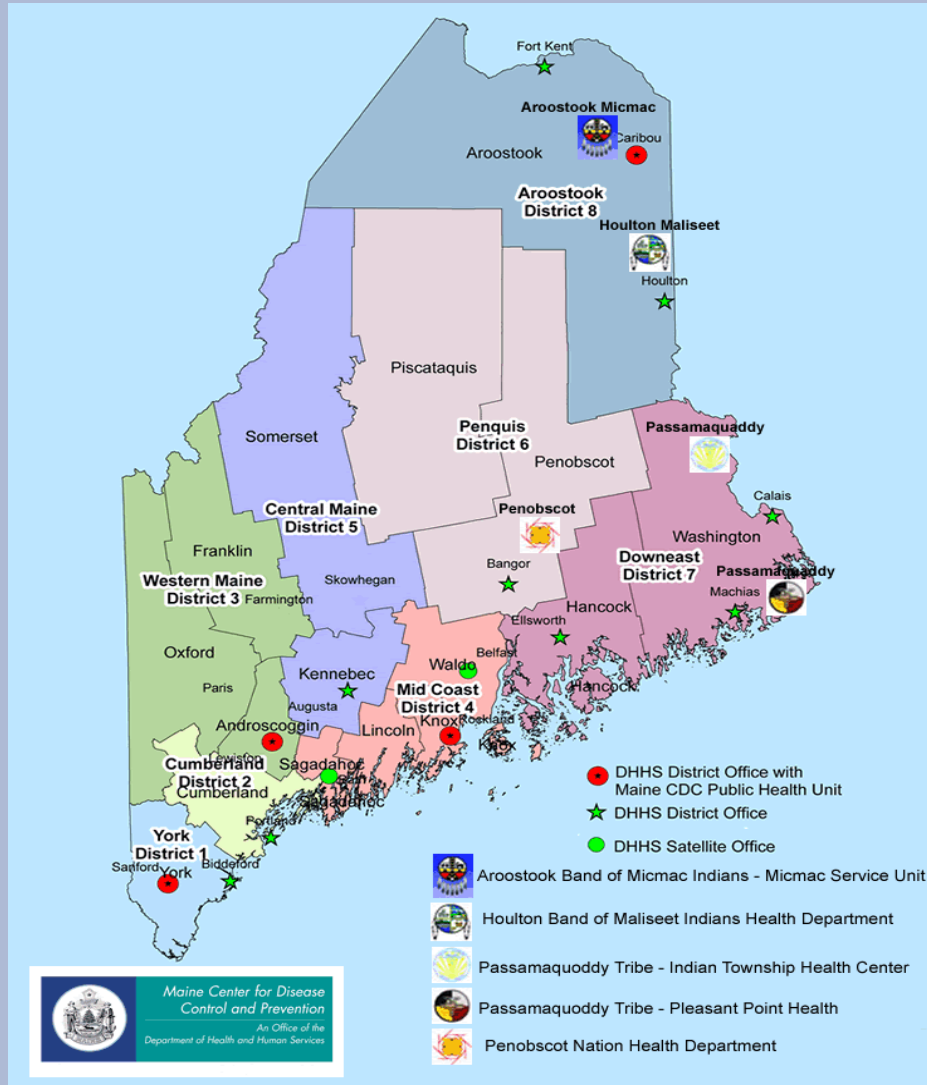


## MAINE ORAL HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PLAN

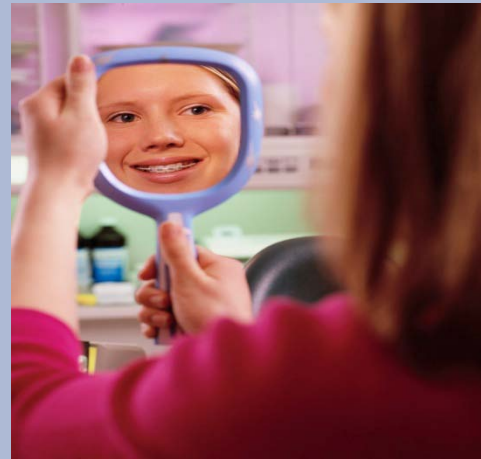


*Oral  
health is  
a foundation  
for overall  
health and  
well-being.*

# Local Public Health Districts



# Workforce and Related Initiatives





# State Programs

## Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention

### Oral Health Program

- ❖ School-based prevention programs
- ❖ Water Fluoridation
- ❖ Support for systems development to increase access to services
- ❖ Support for state Coalition, planning efforts and evaluation

### ME Office of Rural Health and Primary Care

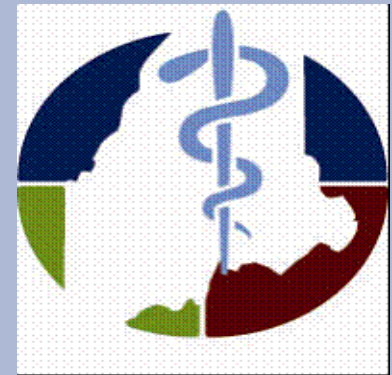
- ❖ Health Workforce Forum

# The State of the State's Health Workforce

## Maine Health Workforce Forum

2011 Summit

October 18, 2011



Issues, trends, and strategies in health and long term care workforce development at the state and national levels





# Grants

## Kids Oral Health Partnership

(HRSA MCHB TOHSS grant)

[www.kohp.org](http://www.kohp.org)

## HRSA's Grants to States to Enhance Oral Health Workforce Activities

- ❖ Finance Authority of Maine (FAME):  
Maine Dental Education Loan Repayment
- ❖ FAME Dental Equipment Revolving Loan Program

# Legislation



LD 1105 "To Study Oral Health Care in Maine and Make Recommendations Regarding How To Address Maine's Oral Health Care Needs"

Passed bills that

- extend a tax credit program for dentists who practice in underserved areas of the state (LD 164)
- allow the Board of Dental Examiners to issue a limited 2-year license, at a reduced cost, to retired dentists who will practice solely in a nonprofit dental clinic without any remuneration for work
- direct the of Dental Examiners will establish a 2-year pilot project to allow a licensed IPDH to expose and process radiographs under protocols developed by the Board within areas of the State that have been federally as dental health professional shortage areas (LD 230)
- direct MaineCare to reimburse IPDHs for six procedures: prophylaxis and topical fluoride, <age 21; OHI; sealants; temporary fillings; X-rays (LD 70)



# Local Initiatives

## Community Dental

- ❖ Centers in Portland, Lewiston, Farmington, Biddeford and Rumford – coordinated care with partnering medical centers

## Penobscot Community Health Care, Bangor

- ❖ Dental Center expansion and residencies

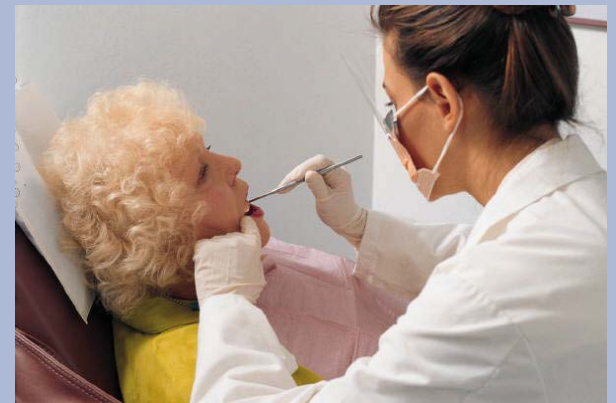




# University of New England's College of Dental Medicine

[www.une.edu/dentalmedicine/index.cfm](http://www.une.edu/dentalmedicine/index.cfm)

The mission of the UNE College of Dental Medicine is to improve the health of Northern New England and shape the future of dentistry by educating compassionate, socially aware, competent dentists to become community and educational leaders serving those in need.



# Questions?



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