NEW DIVISION OF ORAL HEALTH STAFF
Amanda McAlhany, MPH, LMSW has joined the Division as part of the HRSA Workforce grant. She will be coordinating oral health community-based initiatives in the Pee Dee through a joint partnership with MUSC. The Division also welcomes Elouise Cram, a Graduate Assistant who will be lending her expertise in social work across several oral health projects and initiatives.

PILOT PROJECT WITH WELVISTA
Georgia Famuliner from Welvista shared information about Smiles for a Lifetime, a non-profit, school-based pediatric dental program providing preventive and restorative services to school-aged children in grades K-12 in rural South Carolina counties. She also shared information about the Sealant Pilot Project that will utilize innovative communication strategies including text messaging to engage parents/caregivers to improve consent form return rates. Here’s a link to more information about the Smiles for a Lifetime program, https://www.welvista.org/pediatric-dentistry/

CALL TO ACTION: COMMUNITY WATER FLUORIDATION
Alicia Johnston from the Division of Oral Health provided a brief overview about the positive oral health and economic impacts of community water fluoridation. Coalition members were issued a Call to Action to become informed and engaged about community water fluoridation, especially within their local community. We will continue to send out information about community water fluoridation that will be educational and beneficial for Coalition members. For more information about community water fluoridation: https://www.scdhec.gov/health/oral-health/child-and-teen-oral-health/flouridation

SOUTH CAROLINA RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION
Jerry Baxley from the SC Rural Water Association (SCRWA) joined us at the September Coalition meeting. Jerry shared information about community water fluoridation and the role the rural water system plays in maintaining a safe and effective level of fluoride in public water sources. The SCRWA is collaborating with the Division of Oral Health to support community water fluoridation efforts across the state by strengthening the relationship with rural water operators. Here is a link to their webpage, https://scrwa.org/

Fluoridation of community water supplies is the single most effective public health measure to prevent tooth decay and to improve oral health for a lifetime, for both children and adults.

UPCOMING EVENTS:
The Dr. Carlos F. Salinas Dental Program for the Diagnosis and Treatment of Individuals with Special Health Care Needs
Friday, September 27, 201 from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.at the North Charleston Marriott
The objective of this course is to provide current oral health information about patients with special needs to the dental professionals in SC. With this collaboration, our goal is the reduction of oral health disparities and achieving a better quality of life for this special and very vulnerable segment of our population. It will offer a combination of lectures, visual presentations and Q&A sessions. https://dentistry.musc.edu/programs/ces
**Special Care Advocates In Dentistry (SAID)**
Conference October 23rd-25th
Embassy Suites in Charleston

Program topics include:
- Opioids
- The Changing Face of Oral & Oro-pharyngeal Cancer
- Oral Health and Individuals with Special Needs in SC
- Forensic Dentistry
- Professional Communication in the Special Needs Clinic


**DON'T FORGET:**
Use this link to register as an official member of the SC Oral Health Coalition. [https://www.connectingsmilessc.org/sc-oral-health-coalition/](https://www.connectingsmilessc.org/sc-oral-health-coalition/)

Follow the Coalition on Facebook by adding us as a friend:
[https://www.facebook.com/SCORALHEALTH](https://www.facebook.com/SCORALHEALTH) or @SCORALHEALTH

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**Contact Us:**
Taylor Harding
SC Oral Health Coalition Coordinator
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**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

SC Oral Health Coalition Quarterly Meeting
November 22, 2019
SC Primary Health Care Association
3 Technology Cir, Columbia, SC 29203

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A question to consider…

*How do we make oral health relevant to overall health?*

Come with some thoughts and ideas to share at the November meeting.