

**OUR MISSION:** COHI's mission is to strengthen and safeguard access to quality, affordable oral health services for all Connecticut residents.

### **2025 State Policy Priority Agenda**

### Expand adult Medicaid

- Exclude preventive services like cleanings and oral exams from the \$1,000 annual benefit cap.
- Cover periodontal treatment and a second annual cleaning for all adults.
- Raise reimbursement rates for preventive services to match average commercial rates to encourage provider participation and improve patient access.

#### Enhance children's oral health

- **Increase** Medicaid reimbursement for preventive treatments like sealants & fluoride varnish.
- Expand the Access for Baby Care (ABC) Program to include children up to age 21.
- **Provide** Medicaid dental benefits to all income-eligible residents under 21, regardless of immigration status.

### Improve IDD Services

 Offer additional resources for care coordination and training for providers to better serve individuals with Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities (IDD).

#### Advocate for a Dental MLR

 Advocate for stronger Medical Dental Loss Ratio (DLR) requirements to allocate more insurance premiums to patient care.

#### Enact workforce shortage solutions

• Address the growing workforce shortage in oral health care by supporting the integration of **dental therapists to expand care access**, particularly in underserved areas.

# Protect Community Water Fluoridation

Defend against any movement to change laws & regulations to reduce Connecticut's
 Community Water Fluoridation Policy to prevent tooth decay and promote oral health for
 Connecticut residents.

## Add adult oral health benefits as EHBs

Update Connecticut's ACA benchmark plan to include adult dental coverage as
designated essential health benefits (EHBs), ensuring greater access to oral health care.

## Oppose changes to CT's Medicaid model

• **Defend Connecticut's fee-for-service model** to ensure transparency, cost-effectiveness, and quality care for Medicaid enrollees against a change to a managed care program.