

Oral Health Florida Fluoride Action Team



Co-Chairs

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HealthyMouth
HealthyBody

DOH Grant

- CDC Training-
- “Fluoridation Principles and Practices”
- Sacramento CA February 8-11, 2015
- Dr. Johnson attended and reported to the Action Team what was learned at the training

DOH Grant

- Provided Technical Assistance to 10 Communities
 1. Boynton Beach
 2. Hernando
 3. Marion
 4. Niceville and City of Crestview
 5. Palatka
 6. Palm Beach
 7. Pasco
 8. Hernando
 9. Pinellas
 10. Putnam




DOH Grant

- 4 CWF Trainings Conducted
 1. Marion County Dental Association
 2. Palm Beach County Oral Health Coalition
 3. Pasco Hernando State College Dental Hygiene and Assisting students, CHD
 4. OHF General Membership Webinar
- Total 83 people trained on benefits of CWF



CWF Promotional Flyer



Fluoridated water on tap

Good Oral Health

BETTER HEALTH WITH FLUORIDATED WATER

Did you know that fluoride is a mineral that naturally exists in water? It does, but usually in concentrations too low to prevent tooth decay. Communities opt to add small amounts of this naturally occurring mineral to their public drinking water systems to levels which result in maximum tooth decay reductions. This is a process called "fluoridation" and experts at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) report that it reduces tooth decay over a lifetime by 25% for both adults and children.

Communities in Florida have been fluoridating their water as far back as the late 1940's with City of Gainesville being the first to do so in 1949.

CONTINUING TO PROVIDE FLORIDIANS A WITH FLUORIDATED DRINKING WATER MAKES SENSE FOR SEVERAL REASONS:

- **Everyone benefits from fluoridation.** Fluoridated water (and beverages made with it) strengthens the enamel of teeth for all who drink it, regardless of their age, race, ethnicity or income level. It doesn't require them to make a single change to their daily routine. No wonder the "CDC named community water fluoridation one of 10 great public health achievements of the 20th century."
- **Fluoridation saves taxpayers and families money.** Research in Louisiana, New York and Texas shows that local fluoridation policies save state Medicaid dollars by reducing the need for costly dental treatments. The average per-person cost for fluoridating water over a lifetime is far less than the cost of a single dental filling. By reducing the need for dental procedures, fluoridation saves families money as well as our healthcare system.
- **Healthier teeth improve learning.** Children with poor dental health are nearly 3 times more likely to miss school. Teens with dental pain are 4 times more likely to earn lower grades.

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- **Healthier teeth help people in the job market.** The factory-based economy is long gone. Floridians with good-paying jobs are most likely to be meeting and interacting face-to-face with customers and co-workers. Having unhealthy or missing teeth can place someone at a disadvantage for getting these jobs.
- **Fluoridation builds on the benefits of toothpaste.** Studies show that community water fluoridation prevents 25% of tooth decay in children and adults, even in an era with widespread availability of fluoride from other sources, such as fluoride toothpaste. Fluoridated water and fluoride toothpaste are like seatbelts and airbags. One of them is good, but both of them are better.
- **Solid evidence proves it's safe and effective.** For over 70 years, the best available scientific evidence consistently indicates that community water fluoridation is safe and effective. In 2013, after reviewing 161 studies, the U.S. Community Preventive Services Task Force recommended fluoridation based on "strong evidence" of its positive impact.
- **Fluoridation is backed by the leading health and medical organizations.** These respected organizations include the American Medical Association, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Institute of Medicine, American Dental Association, American Dental Hygienists' Association, and the American Public Health Association.

To learn more about community water fluoridation, please contact the Florida Department of Health, Public Health Dental Program at 850-245-4333 or its website at: <http://www.floridahealth.gov/programs-and-services/community-health/dental-health/fluoridation/index.html>

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT WATER FLUORIDATION AND ITS IMPORTANCE, VISIT THE FOLLOWING WEBSITES:

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
<http://www.cdc.gov/fluoridation/basics/>

Campaign for Dental Health (American Academy of Pediatrics)
<http://www.likemyteeth.org/fluoridation/effects-of-fluoride/>

Children's Dental Health Project
<http://www.ada.org/en/public-programs/advocating-for-the-public/fluoride-and-fluoridation/ada-fluoridation-resources/fluoridation-facts-publication>

ADA Fluoridation Facts Compendium
<http://www.ada.org/en/public-programs/advocating-for-the-public/fluoride-and-fluoridation/ada-fluoridation-resources/fluoridation-facts-publication>



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DOH Grant

- CDC Water Quality Awards Distributed
- 36 systems in Florida, 2184 systems nationally
- National Oral Health Conference
- Kansas City, Missouri April 25-29, 2015
- Attended by Dr. Johnson
- Report presented to OHF-FAT

HRSA Grant

- Objective C1c-CWF Spokesperson/Advocacy Training
- Goal: The goal of the project is to train and support members of the local community and regional/state organizations to advocate for and support of community water fluoridation

HRSA Grant

- Plan and Implement 2 state-wide forums to:
- Provide evidence based education about fluoridation, including review of the benefits
- Speakers/advocates will receive training regarding facts about CWF; compelling reasons to fluoridate; responses to anti's
- Assemble steering committee to provide project leadership and direction
- Steering Committee chaired by Johnny Johnson and Karen Hodge

HRSA Grant

- 1st Training Scheduled for Florida Dental Hygiene Association Annual Symposium
 - **Sunday October 4, 2015**
- Hilton Lake Buena Vista, Orlando
- 2nd Training Scheduled for Annual meeting of the Florida Dental Association
 - **June 16, 2016**

HRSA CWF Training

- Steering Committee
- Identified target audience and speakers
- Developed outline for training to include:
- History and background of CWF
- Effects of CWF on children and adults
- Mechanisms of action
- Overview of CWF nationally and statewide
- Florida –Fluoridation Environment
- Establishing and educating advocates



HealthyMouth
HealthyBody

HRSA CWF Training

- Develop reference guide for local advocates
- Water Utilities and Operators
- Safety and handling, how to approach staff when targeted, HHS recommendations
- How to handle opposition to fluoride
- Debunking fictitious claims
- Anti's "Doubt Virus"
- Language and Framing message
- Practice Session

JOIN OHF- FAT!

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Fluoride Rocks!

