

# Reinstating Hawai'i Adult Medicaid Dental Benefits in 2022



HAWAII ORAL HEALTH COALITION

Oral Health Is More Than Just Teeth



**223,438**

adult Medicaid recipients have NO diagnostic, preventive, or restorative dental coverage



**29,536**

adults aged 21 and older visited the ER with a dental-related diagnosis between 2016-2020



**\$12.3M**

of all charges for ER visits with a principal dental diagnosis was charged to Medicaid between 2016-2020



**49%**

of ER visits with a principal dental-related diagnosis between 2016-2020 were Medicaid recipients

Poor oral health is associated with acute and chronic health issues including:

- Heart disease
- Depression
- Diabetes
- Low birth weight
- Ventilator-Associated Pneumonia (VAP) & COVID-19\*

Improved oral health is associated with:



social interactions



employment opportunities

A study found that COVID-19 patients on mechanical ventilation were more susceptible to ventilator-associated pneumonia (VAP), which is the leading cause of hospital acquired infection (HAI) deaths among critically ill patients. However, patients are **22% less likely to develop VAP if they received preventive dental care within the last 3 years**

\*September 2020 report from the DentaQuest Partnership for Oral Health Advancement

## A Wise Investment

### Improved Chronic Conditions

HPI-ADA estimates a cost savings of up to

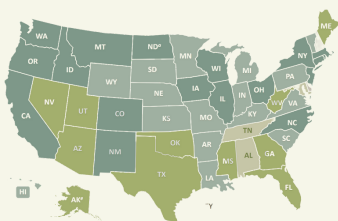
**\$1.7 mil**

for the diabetic population each year with adult Medicaid dental benefits

### Reduced Risk for Pregnancy Complications

Birth costs for a premature/underweight newborn range from

**\$200,000 - \$2 million**



**34**

states offer comprehensive or limited preventive and restorative benefits to adults

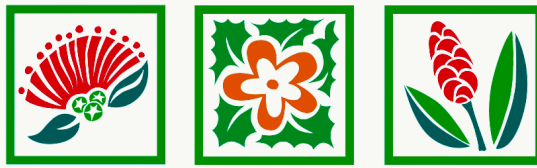


**50%**

Potential investment of the State's investment by the Federal Government



In a 2021 survey conducted by Ward Research for HIPHI, 9 in 10 registered Hawaii voters (**92% STRONGLY AGREED**) that preventative dental benefits should be included in adult Medicaid coverage.



## HAWAI'I ORAL HEALTH COALITION

Join the many organizations state-wide that support  
**REINSTATING DIAGNOSTIC, PREVENTIVE AND RESTORATIVE  
DENTAL COVERAGE FOR ALL ADULTS ON MEDICAID**

AARP Hawai'i  
American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, Hawai'i  
AlohaCare  
Bay Clinic  
Easterseals Hawai'i  
Family Support Services - West Hawai'i  
Full Life Hawai'i  
Hale Makua Health Services  
Hawai'i Children's Action Network  
Hawai'i Dental Hygienists Association  
Hawai'i Dental Service  
Hawai'i Dental Service Foundation  
Hawai'i Disability Rights Center  
Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center  
Hawai'i Oral Health Coalition, *a program of Hawai'i Public Health Institute*  
Hawai'i State Council on Developmental Disabilities  
Hawai'i State Rural Health Association  
Ho'ola Lahui Hawai'i  
Hui Mālama Ola Nā 'Ōiwi  
Hui No Ke Ola Pono Maui  
Ke Ola Mamo  
Kokua Kalihi Valley Comprehensive Family Services  
Lāna'i Community Health Center  
Maika'i Health Community Clinic  
Na Pu'uwai NHHCS (Molokai and Lanai)  
Pacific Island Health Officers Association  
Papa Ola Lokahi  
Parents And Children Together (PACT)  
Puna Kamali'i Flowers/Employment Network Hawaii  
Responsive Caregivers of Hawai'i  
Queens Medical Center Dental Clinic  
University of Hawai'i at Hilo School of Nursing  
University of Hawaii at Manoa School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene  
University of Hawai'i Maui College Dental Hygiene  
Wahiawā Health  
Waikiki Health  
Waimanalo Health Center  
West Hawaii Community Health Center