

January 7, 2019

Dear Oral Health Professional,

February is National Children's Dental Health Month. The Arkansas Oral Health Coalition has created a simple guide for different ways you can engage in your community.

1. Are you already planning an event for the month of February? Tell us about it and we will include it in our statewide events calendar. rtownsend@ncohf.org
2. Host a Smile Drive. Insert information here
 - a. To register a Smile Drive or just get more information about participating please email: rtownsend@ncohf.org
 - b. **What is a Smile Drives:** A Smile Drive is an opportunity to raise awareness of the importance of oral health and collect oral care products for children in need. Like a canned food drive but for oral care products you promote, collect, decide who should receive the products and simply report the number of products you 'raised'. We have everything you need from press releases to social media posts. [Volunteer Packet](#) and [Activities](#).
 - c. **Why:** Tooth decay is the most common chronic untreated disease in America. One reason for the prevalence of decay is the lack of basic oral care products.
3. Host and Oral Health Education Day at a school or early childhood education center in your community.
 - a. The Office of Oral Health with the Arkansas Department of Health will provide up to 200 toothbrush kits (tooth brush, paste, and floss) free of charge *while supplies last*.
 - b. Please email Molly.Phares@arkansas.gov to provide the number of kits needed and your plans for oral health education.

[Click here to see the packet](#) we have presented to schools and early childhood education centers on how they can get involved in National Children's Dental Health Month. This is simply a reference. If you have community partners that you would like to share this, feel free to do so.

Share your activities and events by using [#HealthySmileAR](#)