

Better Oral Health for Massachusetts

October, 2008

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Better Oral Health for Massachusetts Coalition Seeks Facilitator

Boston, MA – The Oral Health Foundation is in the process of selecting an organization to serve as Facilitator with the Better Oral Health for Massachusetts Coalition in this first year of development.

The Coalition is a statewide group of dentists, dental hygienists, physicians, lawmakers, state health officials, community health services providers, insurers, health advocates, policy leaders, and others who have recognized that oral health disparities remain a serious problem across the Commonwealth. The initial sponsors of the Coalition are the Oral Health Foundation, Partners for a Healthier Community, Delta Dental of Massachusetts, Massachusetts Dental Society, Massachusetts Department of Public Health, and the Massachusetts Dental Hygienists' Association. New partners and sponsors have joined the Coalition since it was formed in June 2008 during an oral health leadership summit that was held in Sturbridge, MA.

The Coalition's goal is to develop an oral health plan for Massachusetts that will improve access to effective and equitable dental care and community prevention services for all residents of the Commonwealth. Thirty-three states currently have state oral health plans.

The Oral Health Foundation will award a grant to an organization that will provide coalition support in this early stage of development. The selected facilitator will provide management assistance, technical assistance, and guidance to the Coalition's planning activities. The Better Oral Health for Massachusetts Coalition will continue to expand in membership while it develops a statewide plan. The Facilitator will assist committees, monitor working groups, and support staff members from participating organizations during the initial phase of organization for the Coalition.

Proposals will be submitted for the position in early November 2008 and a decision will be made before December 31, 2008.