



DHSS OFFICE OF DENTAL HEALTH

# NEWSLETTER

August 2024 | Issue No 8

MONTHLY MISSOURI ORAL HEALTH UPDATE

Welcome to our latest newsletter edition, where we bring you a blend of timely updates and essential insights into the realm of oral health. There's much to explore and learn in this edition.

## Upcoming FREE Teledentistry Training

On August 30, 2024, Access Teledentistry will be providing a Teledentistry training to dental providers. All levels of providers with knowledge of Teledentistry are welcome. This training will be held in the lower level of the Missouri Dental Association building located at 3340 American Ave, Jefferson City. The training will be held from 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM on Friday, August 30.

This training will be provided free of charge and will offer 5 hours of CE credit. Lunch will be provided. A registration link will be provided soon. If you have any questions, please email the Office of Dental Health at [oralhealth@health.mo.gov](mailto:oralhealth@health.mo.gov) or call 573-751-5874. Hope to see you there!

## Medicaid to Now Cover Periodic Oral Exams Twice a Year!

The Office of Dental Health gave a media interview to the Beacon News focused on MO HealthNet (Medicaid) adding D0120 (Periodic Exam) to the adult Limited Dental Coverage. Without coverage for D0120 it was difficult for dental providers to provide a 'Dental Home' to adult patients. This newly covered code allows adults to be seen by a dental provider regularly and allows providers to provide preventive care. Providers have shared that D0120 not being included in the Limited Adult Benefit prevents them from seeing adult patients receiving Medicaid benefits because they cannot provide routine care, only emergency services.

Missouri was featured in the national American Dental Association news with further Medicaid wins. "Missouri saw more than 100 new providers sign up to participate in Medicaid for 2024....The fiscal year 2025 budget also included \$2.4 million towards additional coverage for dental anesthesia and extraction codes in parity with Medicare." [Read more](#)

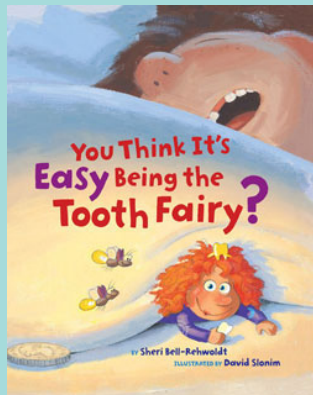
## STL Dental Van

The Rural Parish Clinic offers FREE mobile medical and dental care to uninsured, income-qualifying adults at various locations. These clinics welcome individuals of all faiths. Dental services include evaluations, cleanings, extractions, fillings, comprehensive exams with treatment plans and much more!

August 7-10, the mobile clinic will be set up to provide care at [Sacred Heart Catholic Church](#).

August 13-24, the Rural Parish Clinic will be providing services at [St. Joachim Catholic Church](#).

For more information regarding dental services and future clinic dates, click [here](#).



## Happy National Tooth Fairy Day! August 22<sup>nd</sup>

Read a book about dental health: your local library is a great resource for tooth fairy storytelling and dental health education.

Discuss the Tooth Fairy with your children: the Tooth Fairy offers an encouraging reminder to practice good oral health and create healthy habits. Print a free [coloring page](#) for an easy introduction to the conversation of dental health!

Teach your child about good nutrition: too much sugary and acidic foods can reverse all of your child's hard work.