

2024 MDHA Newswire

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President's Letter

Dear Fellow Hygienists,

I am beyond honored to be serving as the current Michigan Dental Hygienists' Association (MDHA) president. Over the past few months as president, I have been elated to see the progress and direction of the association. We have recently completed our membership retention initiative with around 78%-member retention. In the coming months, I hope to enact my presidential theme for the year, "Bring a Friend" to continue to build our membership numbers. I also hope to see more member engagement as part of the theme with each of us inviting others to join our council and planning meetings.

As you read the updates from each council consider how you can contribute and think about which of your friends may be interested in the current topics. We would love to hear from you and have your input on the direction of the association. Each of us comes from different backgrounds and with different interests. The association is facing several opportunities for changes and upcoming partnerships. As we work forward the input from a diverse group of individuals would be greatly appreciated.

The dental licensure compact will continue to be a topic of conversation and the legislative council would love to hear from you. The membership council would like to increase membership numbers and the education council is working to plan additional upcoming events. Each of our councils has exciting agenda items to discuss. Consider joining a council meeting soon.

As president, I am working closely with the general assembly task force to review our current bylaws. The task force is working to create proposed changes for general assembly and plans to offer additional edits related to updating our current HOD process. I have also been working with the South-Central component as they work to reinstate themselves. It is my mission to be available to each component throughout my presidency. I encourage you to invite me as your friend to upcoming component meetings.

I am always available to you for a call, text message, email, or virtual meeting. I thank all of you for your dedication to our Association and look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Samantha Mishler MSDH, RDH

President, MDHA 2023-2024

Events



**THANK YOU
2024
SPONSORS**

**3RD ANNUAL MDHA
GOLF OUTING**

EVENT DETAILS
SATURDAY AUGUST 3RD, 2024

YOU'RE INVITED!

Please join the Michigan Dental Hygienists' Association for our annual

LEGISLATIVE LUNCHEON

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20TH
11:30AM - 1:30PM

MACKINAW ROOM
HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
124 N CAPITOL AVE, LANSING, MI 48933

IT'S FUN, FREE, AND LUNCH IS PROVIDED!

THIS ANNUAL TRADITION IS OPEN FOR ALL MDHA MEMBERS TO ATTEND AND PROVIDES AN OPPORTUNITY FOR 1 CE UNIT.

Participants will include legislators and legislative staff along with dental hygienists from across the state. This luncheon will offer an opportunity to converse with elected officials about issues that are relevant to the field, as well as a chance to learn more about the work they do in the legislature. We will have our MDHA participants sorted by table, so you will have the opportunity to directly connect with elected officials from your district!

TO ENSURE WE BEST ACCOMMODATE FOOD AND ATTENDANCE
PLEASE RSVP BY FRIDAY, MARCH 8TH.



It's that time of year again and it's time for the Annual MDHA Legislative Luncheon! If you are interested and able to attend, please sign up at the following link: [MDHA RSVP for 2024 Legislative Luncheon](#)

Wednesday, March 20, 2024

Anderson House Office Building

124 N. Capitol Ave, Lansing MI - Mackinac Room

10:00 AM - Legislative Update

11:30 - 1:30 PM - Lunch

Please share the attached flyer with components, members, and dental hygiene programs, we would love to see you there!

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best,
Elizabeth I. Pitts, RDH, MS

Immediate Past-President, MDHA

Legislative Council Co-Chair, MDHA



Happy New Year MOM RDH Volunteers,

As we anticipate the New Year and all the exciting things to come, please put MOM 2024 on your list of most important things to do. This is the time to set your intentions, show gratitude, and pay it forward.

Join us again as we serve those in need with one of the most impressive collaborative dental programs in the Great State of Michigan! Put MOM 2024 on your calendar now! Volunteer Registration opens February 12, 2024

Click on the link to register: <https://foundation.michigandental.org/programs/mission-of-mercy/volunteer-sign-up/>

Where: Dort Financial Center - Flint, Michigan

When: Friday and Saturday, June 14-15, 2024 Treatment Days. Set Up Thursday, June 13 and tear down Sunday, June 16th.

The MOM hygiene department is one of the largest departments of the Mission of

Mercy. Your support is critical!

Thank you!

Your 2024 Mission of Mercy Dental Hygiene Co-Leads,

Melanie Colbert RDH BS

mdc.colbert@outlook.com

Brenda Marriott RDH, BS, MAET, FADHA

flossybossybg@gmail.com

Registration required!!!! <https://www.rsybook.com/event.php?533512&533512=>

Continuing Education

*Michigan Dental Hygienists' Association
Is Proudly Offering:*

**“Implicit Bias and the Impact on Persons
with Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities”**

Wednesday March 13th 6:30-8:00pm

Virtual Zoom Presentation 1.5 Implicit Bias CEU

Speaker: Holli Seabury EDD Executive Director- Delta Dental Foundation



Since 2019, Dr. Holli Seabury has been the Executive Director of the Delta Dental Foundation, which is dedicated to oral health equity and advancing dental science through education and research.

Holli has over 25 years of experience in the non-profit field. Previous to working in the philanthropic sector, she was CEO of McMillen Health where her work focused on health literacy and developing educational materials for the Medicaid population.

Currently, a focus of her work is improving the payer system and access to care, especially for those with I/DD.

Holli holds bachelor's and master's degrees from Defiance College. In 2015 she earned a doctorate in curriculum and instruction with a

specialty in educational technology from the University of Florida

Course Objectives:

- Participants will be able to define unconscious/implicit bias and understand how it develops.
- Participants will be able to discuss how individual and systemic biases impact the health outcomes of different populations, especially those with intellectual/developmental disabilities.
- Participants will be able to identify strategies and educational opportunities that aid in dismantling unconscious/implicit bias towards those with I/DD.

REGISTRATION:

MDHA members and all students: Free

Nonmember allied professional: \$50 Nonmember DDS: \$75

Please register by March 10th

Please visit:

<https://mdhatoday.org/implicit-bias-and-the-impact-on-persons-with-intellectual-developmental-disabilities/> for speaker information and registration



Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Oral Health Program
Approved PACE Program Provider. FAGD/MAGD Credit Approval does not imply
acceptance by a state or provincial board of dentistry or AGD endorsement. 10/1/2023
to 9/30/2024.
Provider ID# 212818

EAST SHORE DENTAL HYGIENE

ALL DAY CE COURSE

EMERGING RISK STRATEGIES TO INCREASE EQUITABLE ORAL HEALTH CARE ACCESS & OUTCOMES*

Featuring Speakers: Dr. Juliette
and Ms. Betsy Anderson, BS

Course objectives

1. Define implicit bias, unconscious bias, health justice, cultural humility and cultural sensitivity
2. Recognize how bias impacts health equity, and race-based health outcomes.
3. Understand how health equity and justice impact patient care outcomes in primary care and health care. 4. Integrate self-awareness of one's own unconscious bias to improve patient care outcomes, reduce disparity, and further professional growth.

GERIATRICS AND THE DENTAL PATIENT

Presented by Jennifer Coker, RDH, BSCH, MPH

1. Define geriatrics and its uses.
2. Describe the oral health implications of geriatrics care.
3. Identify management strategies for patients who use medical geriatrics.

FROM RECEPTION TO PRACTICE ADMINISTRATION

FROM RECEIVING TO

Location: Alameda Community College South Campus
Dana Lewis Center Building 5
Room 400

Schedule of events:
8:00 AM-8:00 AM: Enroll Now (2 CE)
8:30AM-9:00PM: Geriatrics and the dental patient
(2 CE)
Lunch Break 1:00PM-2:00PM
2:00PM-5:00PM: Practice Strategy for Receptionist (2
CE)

Registration fee:

\$700/ceus available to students at no charge. CEUs are
only 0.50/ceus. <https://www.alameda.edu/ceus>

FORENSIC DENTISTRY FOR THE DENTAL HYGIENIST

Presented by: Dr. Gary Bertram

Board Certified Forensic Odontologist at Wayne County and Wakeham County Medical Examiner's office

Course Objectives

1. To understand the role of a forensic odontologist in the medical examiner's coronary office
2. To understand the role of a forensic odontologist and DH in a mass disaster situation
3. To understand DH role in human abuse documentation
4. To understand the history of bite-mark investigation and documentation in criminal cases



REGISTRATION IS OPEN & ALL THAT JAZZ!

JULY 26 - 28
NEW ORLEANS

adha24
ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Ready, Set, Register! Join us for the premier dental hygiene event of the year as we come together in New Orleans as one amazing community to showcase our passion for oral health. Three days of industry-leading speakers, unforgettable events, insightful education & and research, product demos, and 22+ CEs in a single weekend. Renew friendships and meet fellow hygienists from around the country who motivate and inspire you to never stop learning, laughing, and loving what you do! Register now at <https://ow.ly/RACv50QBQEY> #ADHA24

APRIL 26

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

SPRING CE SEMINAR

The Apex • Alpena, MI



" INFECTION CONTROL and OSHA After COVID-19"

Saturday March 23, 2024 Zoom Live Webinar
12:45pm Announcements 1- 4:00pm 3 CE Lecture

John A. Molinari, Ph.D.

Dr. Molinari earned a PhD in Microbiology from the University of Pittsburgh and subsequently worked as a faculty member in the School of Dental Medicine. He is currently Professor Emeritus at the University of Detroit Mercy, where he served for 32 years in the School of Dentistry as Professor and Chairman of the Department of Biomedical Sciences and Director of Infection Control. Later, he was Infection Control Director for DENTAL ADVISOR where he was involved in research on newly developed infection prevention technologies and products. He has also been an infectious disease consultant for the CDC, ADA, and regional hospitals. Dr. Molinari has published over 500 scientific articles, text chapters, and abstracts in the areas of microbiology and immunology, and lectures nationally and internationally on topics dealing with infectious diseases and infection control.

INFECTION CONTROL and OSHA After COVID-19

Health care professionals (HCP) are routinely at an increased risk of cross-infection when treating patients. In response, historical application of evidence-based infection prevention practices and strategies has been demonstrated to provide effective protection during provision of healthcare. The COVID-19 pandemic presented the latest challenge to infection control in both medical and dental facilities. This seminar will focus on practical discussion of the most recent infection prevention regulations and recommendations as they relate to dental settings, using occupational blood-borne, airborne, and waterborne pathogens as frameworks for the presentation. Discussion sections include hand hygiene, sharps safety, vaccinations, personal protective equipment (PPE), instrument reprocessing, handpiece reprocessing and sterilization, environmental surface disinfection, and dental water treatment. Application of Standard and Transmission-based Precautions, PPE and air quality requirements to minimize cross-infection from infectious airborne microorganisms also will be considered in light of updated CDC, OSHA, NIOSH, and EPA publications. A major goal of this session is to help dental professionals increase their understanding of the "why" as well as the "what" of infection control procedures.

Objectives:

At the completion of this course, participants will be able to:

- describe application of standard precautions as the foundation of infection prevention.
- describe occupational challenges from bloodborne and respiratory infections.
- discuss impact of COVID-19 and SARS-CoV-2 infection on dental infection precautions.
- understand the most recent updates for CDC and OSHA infection control recommendations and regulations.
- comprehend recommended transmission-based precautions associated with controlling aerosols and airborne pathogens.

3 CE ADHA Members: \$25 | Non-Members: \$45 | DDS: \$75 | No refunds

Please register at GDDHA.com

You will be ineligible for CE credit if you are more than 15 minutes late for the presentation.

Become an ADHA member to get the discounted member pricing of \$25 !!!



Provider FAGD/MAGD credit.
Approval does not imply
acceptance by a state or
provincial board of dentistry or
AGD endorsement.
09/16/2020 to 09/15/2024
Provider ID #208117

Component Updates

Northland Dental Hygienists' Association

Northland kicked off the New Year with a wine-tasting social event in Traverse City. Back in August, we were the top bidders for one of the 'Wines for Humanity' gift certificates at MDHA's 100th Gala celebration. (Several members attended the gala, including two past MDHA presidents from our Northland component. The picture included was with our friends from the Superior Sunrise component.) We had an exciting time tasting wines from around the world and 10% of our purchased wine sales from this event will be donated back to MDHA. Our component is getting back to occasionally offering weekday evening short CE programs. For the first time, we offered the option of attending the live CE event via Zoom. This has allowed attendees from further distances to attend our presentations, especially in our northern Michigan winter weather! We will be hosting our annual 5 CE Spring Seminar, "Practice Models and Treatment Considerations for TMJ Patients", on Saturday, April 13th. This CE will also be available via Zoom and is open to all dental staff. Our new meeting location for Northland CEs is the United Way building in Traverse City. This is also the home of a new dental clinic, United We Smile, which was created by one of our Northland members - Jennifer Kerns, BS, RDH. She collaborated with U of M and United Way on her idea of a teaching facility to help train future dentists how to work with patients with social or physical barriers to improve access to care. Both organizations agreed and Jen spent four months securing 2.3 million dollars of grant funding. The clinic opened its doors on September 5th. Local dentists volunteer each day to oversee 12 dental interns from U of M (as well as dental assisting interns from the local community college) to provide free dental care. As a preceptor herself, Jen teaches behavior guidance and inclusive dentistry helping the students learn civic responsibility as well as the skills to be able to treat these more challenging patients for generations to come. Monday through Thursday are free for children up to age 21, pregnant women, and those with IDD. Fridays are free for veterans. Northland continues to offer our CE programs free to Northland members! Funds raised through non-members and dental staff attending our CE help support our annual 2nd-year dental hygiene student scholarships. We are proud to announce that we have awarded two \$500 scholarships this year! One of the criteria for scholarship recipients is that their primary residence is in our component area. Our recipients this year are a 2nd-year dental hygiene student from Delta and Ferris. Our scholarships are designated to help offset the expenses of board exams.

Northland's upcoming events, announcements, and CE opportunities can be found on our Facebook page—Like Us at Northland Dental Hygienists' Association.

East Shore Dental Hygiene

ESDH has been making big moves within the component. For the first time in many years, we have a full board and we are so excited. Two of our long-term serving members Angela Blan and Katelyn Fontana have stepped up into the state roles of MDHA and we couldn't be more proud of them. Currently, ESDH offers two full-day CE courses with a wide variety of topics. This year we are planning to arrange a member meetup in a local winery to connect with our component members,

we will also be introducing a new fundraiser idea for our component at our CE courses. Follow our Facebook page for more activities and fun

Capital Region

The Capital Region Component attended a fun painting event at Board and Brush on November 11th. Mott Community College hosted 542 faculty and students at the MADHE Day event at Riverfront Conference Center in Flint on November 3rd. In September, Cheryl Doyle and Mary Grab, Capital Region members and faculty members at Mott Community College along with student delegate to HOD Annette Powell received awards for accumulating 100 or more hours of community service during Mott's Centennial Celebration. Cheryl Doyle also received a Faculty Impact Award and junior Hygiene student Samantha Pray received a Student Impact Award. On October 20, Capital Region members Jennifer Walker, Angel Hernandez, and Cheryl Doyle volunteered with Team Smiles and the Detroit Lions at Ford Field and provided dental hygiene care to adolescents





Greater Detroit

The Greater Detroit Dental Hygienists' Association held an event at the Rochester Hills Library in celebration of National Children's Dental Health Month. The students from Macomb Community College, Oakland Community College, Wayne County Community College District, and the University of Detroit Mercy all gathered to educate children and their parents on the importance of caring for their teeth, made crafts, and read stories. It allowed the students to meet each other and compare notes on what they were all experiencing. A wonderful time was had by all!

Council Updates

Membership Council

Our focus is on increasing MDHA membership numbers. Non-renewed members were officially dropped in mid-February. MDHA will be working toward increasing membership numbers in the coming months. You are encouraged to “bring a friend” to the association. The results of a recent survey will be discussed at upcoming meetings to begin working on membership initiatives. We will also be sharing graduation packets with dental hygiene students statewide soon.

If you have connections or plan to reach out to your local DH programs, please contact us before you go so we can share resources. Any recommendations, questions, or comments can be shared with Samantha Mishler mishlerrdh@gmail.com or Nichole Gale nmarieg44@gmail.com

Public Health Council

The PHC has been off to a great start for the 23-24 year! There are so many volunteer events happening in the next few months! The sign-up has opened for the Mission of Mercy (MOM) which will be held at the Dort Convention Center in Flint, June June 14-15, with a setup day on the 13th/tear down on the 16th. RDH can receive CEs for volunteering 1 CE for every 2 hours of volunteer time and many are needed to serve in all capacities-.For more information on MOM, see [Mission of Mercy - MDA Foundation](#)

For something a bit smaller and more centrally located in the state, the Special Olympics will be hosting their games including the Healthy Athletes area that conducts Hearing, Vision, Agility, and Dental screenings- complete with a mouth guard and fluoride varnish application. This will be held at the CMU Sports Arena in Mt. Pleasant, from May 31st-June 1st. Sign-up will be coming out

shortly! This event is held yearly, so if you enjoy working with these wonderful athletes, your skills are more than welcome. Information is here-[2024 State Summer Games | Special Olympics Michigan](#)

One issue happening in the UP, in Norway, Michigan- the city council is discussing removing fluoride from the water system. For an area that is in a Dental Shortage, removing this public health measure is a serious blow to the residents. If you're a Yooper, let your voice be heard by the Norway City Council, ASAP. https://www.norwaymi.gov/government/city_council/index.php

If you'd like to join the PHC, our meetings are quarterly, 30 minutes long- the next is March 4th, June 3rd, and September 9th - the link stays the same for all meetings! All are welcome-
Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88011726548?pwd=RmlmQldlcWxrZ0orNEtqVUNBeE1SZz09>
Meeting ID: 880 1172 6548 Passcode: 307917

Thank you for all you do to enrich our profession!
Sandy Sutton, RDH, BS, and Mona Riaz, RDH, RDA, MS

Finance Council

Finance Council Co-Chairs: Nancy Kyser and Valerie Nieto

Meeting Dates:

Monday, March 11th, 7pm

Monday, June 10th, 7pm

Monday, September 16th, 7pm

The 3rd Annual MDHA Golf-Outing is scheduled for Saturday, August 3rd at the Wheatfield Valley Golf Club 1600 Linn Road Williamston, MI 48895. Details about sponsorship and registration will be made public soon! Please advise local components and members to keep an eye out for Golf-Outing announcements.

Thanks so much!

Nancy & Valerie

Legislative Council

The Michigan Dental Hygienists' Association Legislative Council is focused on prioritizing legislative initiatives that improve the profession of dental hygiene and create better access to oral health care services for Michiganders. The council chairs are Danielle Lamsa and Elizabeth Pitts. The annual MDHA Legislative Luncheon is approaching!

Wednesday, March 20, 2024

Anderson House Office Building

124 N. Capitol Ave, Lansing MI - Mackinac Room

10:00 AM - Legislative Update

11:30 - 1:30 PM - Lunch

If you would like more information, please contact

Danielle or Elizabeth:

Danielle Lamsa: daniellerauch@me.com

Elizabeth Pitts: eiester1@gmail.com

DEI Council

The Michigan Dental Hygienists' Association Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Council is dedicated to supporting and cultivating an environment of inclusion, diversity, equity, and access. The council is chaired by Elizabeth Pitts and Misty Davis. For this upcoming year, the DEI Council is sponsoring an implicit bias continuing education webinar on working with special needs/IDD populations. This will be a free webinar for MDHA members and held on March 13th, 2024 @ 6:30 PM. If you are interested in attending please register: [Implicit Bias and the Impact on Persons with Intellectual/ Developmental Disabilities](#). - Michigan Dental Hygienists Association (mdhatoday.org)

Our next meeting council meeting will be held via Zoom on Tuesday, March 5th, 2024 at 7 PM. Please reach out to Elizabeth or Misty for more information:

Elizabeth Pitts: eiester1@gmail.com

Misty Davis: mdavis@mpca.net

Education Council

Education Council has been working hard on securing topics for CE Credits. The first to be offered is on March 13th, 6:30-8:00 pm. "*Implicit Bias and the Impact on Persons with Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities*" *Speaker*: Holli Seabury EDD Executive Director- Delta Dental Foundation. Please see the flyer above for more details

Best regards,

Iwonka Eagle

Communication Council

Currently communication council has been working hard to keep everyone up to date on our Facebook page with events, flyers, and all things related to MDHA and ADHA. this council has been working closely with all councils to ensure that all important information is relayed. currently, we are searching for members who would like to help make short clips or videos about all things related to dental. if you have ideas please submit them to dentallover22@gmail.com

Thank you.

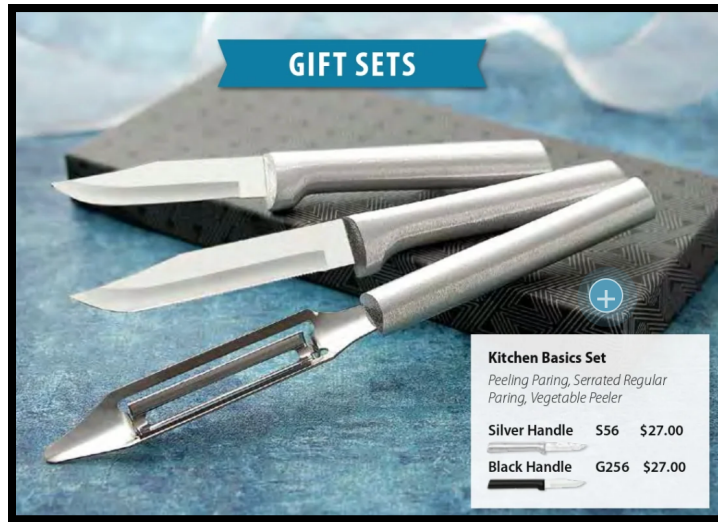
Paige Forth- dentallover22@gmail.com

Amanda Mishler -mrsamandamishler@gmail.com

MDHA Fundraisers

Need a gift for BBQ season? Support the MDHA by purchasing from RADA Cutlery at the following link:

<https://radafundraising.com/?rfsn=4290307.11c98e>



Get some swag and support the MDHA. <https://www.bonfire.com/store/mdha/>



Feel Our Impact

Gov. Whitmer meets with MDHHS staff in recognition of oral health assessment legislation

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer met with MDHHS staff members last week in recognition of new legislation that helps increase access to dental care for young Michigan children.



The legislation, signed into law in December, requires dental oral assessments for children who are registering for the first time in kindergarten or the first grade in a Michigan school. The program will serve 112,000 kindergarteners through MDHHS and Delta Dental.

Before enactment, the program was optional, with parents needing to “opt-in” for children to receive services. Requiring parents/caregivers to have their children receive a dental assessment, provides families with information on the child’s oral health status and resources to refer to if additional care is needed. It also moves the state closer to establishing a dental home for children in Michigan. The program aims to identify needs early and can provide a foundation for improved oral and overall health, setting children up for success.

“These bills will prioritize the health and safety of our children by testing dental health at a young age,” Gov. Whitmer said in December. “Since I took office, we have expanded access and lowered the cost of health care. Let’s keep working together to make sure every child is safe, and healthy and can build a bright future in Michigan.”

Pictured above with Gov. Whitmer holding the signed legislation are Chardae Burton, director of Legislative Affairs (at left), and Chris Farrell, director of the Oral Health Program (at right).