



# FROM THE FIRST TOOTH

HEALTHY SMILES FOR LIFE



## ANNUAL REPORT

... 2018 ...

FUNDED BY

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THE

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SADIE AND HARRY DAVIS  
FOUNDATION

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DentaQuest  
FOUNDATION

 **DELTA DENTAL®**

NORTHEAST DELTA DENTAL

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From the First Tooth is led and administered by  
MaineHealth and implemented in partnership with  
MaineGeneral Health and other partners.

# 10 YEARS OF CREATING STRONGER SMILES

Launched statewide in 2009, From the First Tooth (FTFT) marks its 10th Anniversary this year. In the decade since our founding, we've grown to become a source of oral health education, clinical training and support to integrate oral health assessments and fluoride varnish into primary care settings, where most young children receive regular preventive care.

The work of children's oral health is taking on a new shape in Maine. FTFT, an initiative led by MaineHealth and funded by the Sadie and Harry Davis Foundation, has been working closely with Maine pediatric and family medicine practices for the past 10 years. As part of a natural evolution, FTFT has joined other partners to build a broader effort to address the challenges of children's oral health under the umbrella of the newly-formed Partnership for Children's Oral Health (the Partnership). The Sadie and Harry Davis Foundation has committed multiyear operational funding to launch and develop the backbone support organization for the Partnership and to seed-fund implementation strategies.

In this report we celebrate the progress the FTFT initiative has made in preventing Early Childhood Caries one smile at a time, powerful lessons we have learned, and the journey ahead as we work toward our vision for the future.

# 10 YEARS OF CREATING STRONGER SMILES

Huge shout out to our Advisory Committee — we would like to thank the From the First Tooth Advisory Committee members for their time over the last ten years. This group has thoughtfully led, guided and supported From the First Tooth from the beginning. In November 2018, the committee held its last meeting and many have transitioned to support the larger efforts of the Partnership for Children’s Oral Health. Each individual has been extremely supportive of the work that we do, has a vested interest, and a passion for our children’s oral health in Maine. We could not successfully serve and engage in our mission if we did not have the leadership of our Advisory Committee — thank you!

## TIMELINE

### PHASE I

#### PILOT

##### WHEN

2007 to 2009

##### WHO

Sadie and Harry Davis Foundation

##### WHERE

6 organizations — 17 sites

##### TARGET

Children birth to 4 years

##### FUNDING SOURCE

SHDF

### PHASE 2

#### STATEWIDE PEDIATRIC ORAL HEALTH IMPLEMENTATION

##### WHEN

2009 to Present

##### WHO

MaineHealth, in partnership with MaineGeneral and Eastern Maine Healthcare Systems for state-wide impact

##### TARGET

Children birth to 6 years

##### FUNDING SOURCE

SHDF, DentaQuest, NEDD



Kelley Bowden



Susan Cote



Barbara Crowley



Deb Deatrick



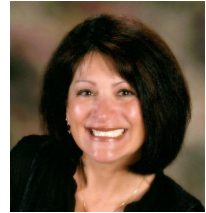
Evie deFrees



Judy Feinstein



Andrew Klingenstein



Demi Kouzounas



Becca Matusovich



Steve Mills



Ginger Roberts-Scott



Sharon Rosen

## PHASE 3

### PERINATAL ORAL HEALTH INITIATIVE

#### WHEN

2015 to Present

#### WHO

MaineHealth in partnership with MaineGeneral

#### WHAT

Oral health for perinatal women

#### TARGET

Perinatal women

#### FUNDING SOURCE

HRSA

## PHASE 4

### THE PARTNERSHIP FOR CHILDREN'S ORAL HEALTH

#### WHEN

2018 to Present

#### WHO

The Partnership and MaineHealth

#### WHAT

Before the First Tooth and From the First Tooth Oral Health Initiatives combine forces with the Partnership

#### TARGET

Systematic approach of FTFT and BTFT

#### FUNDING SOURCE

SHDF

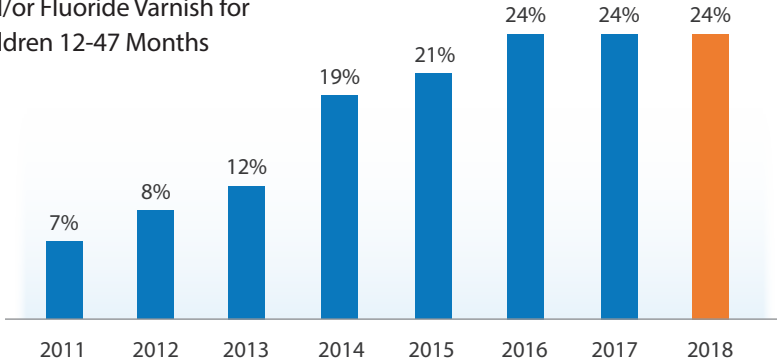
*This report does not reflect prenatal oral health programmatic activity.*

# ACCOMPLISHMENTS

## WELL CHILD VISITS — MAINECARE

Definition: Percent of well child visits with an oral evaluation and/or fluoride varnish for children ages 12-47 months. The percentage of well child visits with an oral evaluation and/or fluoride varnish increased from 7% in 2011 to 24% in 2018.

### Percent of Well Child Visits With an Oral Evaluation and/or Fluoride Varnish for Children 12-47 Months

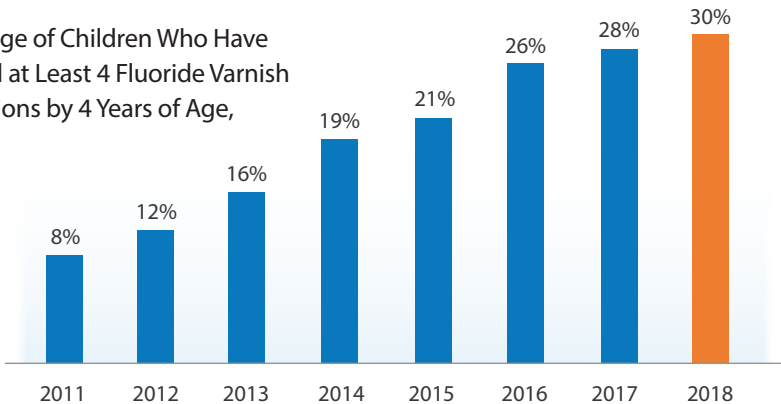


Data Source: MaineCare claims data from the University of Southern Maine Muskie School

## 4 BY 4 — MAINECARE

Definition: Percent of children who received at least four fluoride varnish applications by four years of age. The percentage of children who received at least four fluoride applications in any setting increased from 8% in 2011 to 30% in 2018.

### Percentage of Children Who Have Received at Least 4 Fluoride Varnish Applications by 4 Years of Age, By Year

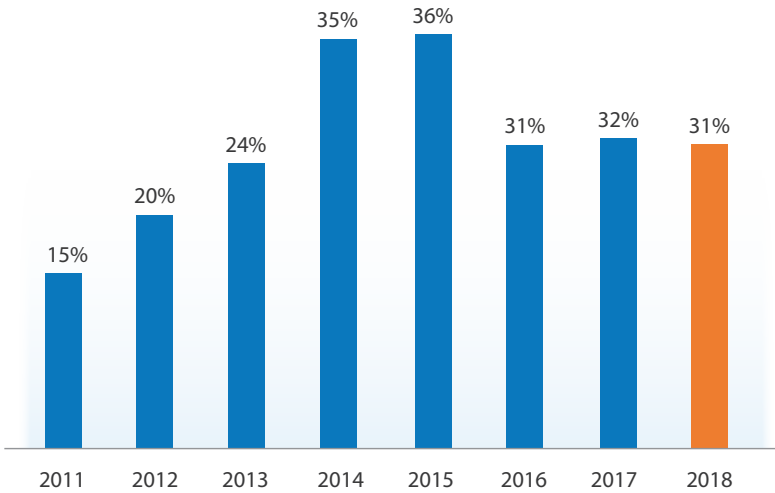


Data Source: MaineCare claims data from the University of Southern Maine Muskie School

## CHILDREN REACHED BY FTFT — MAINECARE

Definition: Percent of children ages 12-23 months with at least one well child visit in a calendar year who have received at least one oral evaluation and/or fluoride varnish in their primary medical care settings. The percentage of children ages 12-23 months with at least one well child visit in a calendar year who have received at least one oral evaluation and/or fluoride varnish increased from 15% in 2011 to 36% in 2015 but declined to 31% in 2018.

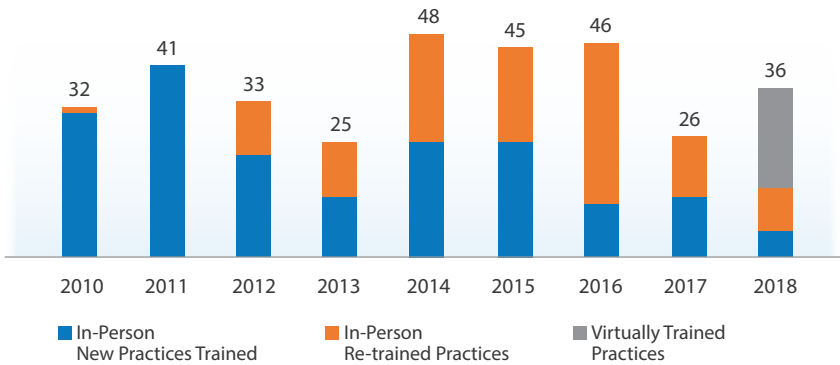
Percent of Children Reached by FTFT with at Least One Well Child Visit in the Measurement Year, By Year, Ages 12-23 Months



Data Source: MaineCare claims data from the University of Southern Maine Muskie School

# ACCOMPLISHMENTS

From the First Tooth Trainings  
2010–2018



- Published article in the American Association of Public Health Dentistry highlighting the impact of training primary care practices and providers on the oral health status of young children. The article revealed that Maine had the greatest percentage of dental services from non-dental providers among six New England states.
- Launched the FTFT Clinical Virtual Training Module
- Developed Pediatric Referral Guidelines to improve communication across the medical neighborhood through standardization of pediatric specialty referrals. Two guidelines were developed focusing on dental trauma and dental caries for both primary and permanent teeth.



A special thank you to the following organizations and advisors for supportive partnerships and collaborations over the last ten years:

American Academy of Pediatrics — Maine Chapter	American Academy of Pediatrics — National	American Association of Public Health Dentistry	Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors	Boston University
DentaQuest	Head Start	Maine Academy of Family Physicians	Maine Board of Dental Practice	Maine Dental Association
Maine Dental Hygienists' Association	Maine Medical Association	Maine Oral Health Coalition	Maine Oral Health Funders	Maine Osteopathic Association
Maine Primary Care Association	Maine Quality Counts	MaineCare Dental Advisory Committee	Maine Families	MaineGeneral Health
MaineHealth Accountable Care Organization	Muskie School of Public Service	National Network for Oral Health Access	Northeast Delta Dental	Northern Light Health
Maine CDC	Oral Health Knowledge Network — AAP	Smiles for Life	University of New England College of Dental Medicine	Women, Infants, and Children — WIC
Raul Garcia, DMD, MMSc Boston University Goldman School of Dental Medicine	Burton Edelstein, DDS, MPH Columbia University College of Dental Medicine	Gary Rozier, DDS, MPH University of North Carolina Gillings School of Global Public Health	Ralph Fuccillo, M.A. DentaQuest Foundation	

# HEALTHY SMILES CHALLENGE — GOING THE EXTRA SMILE

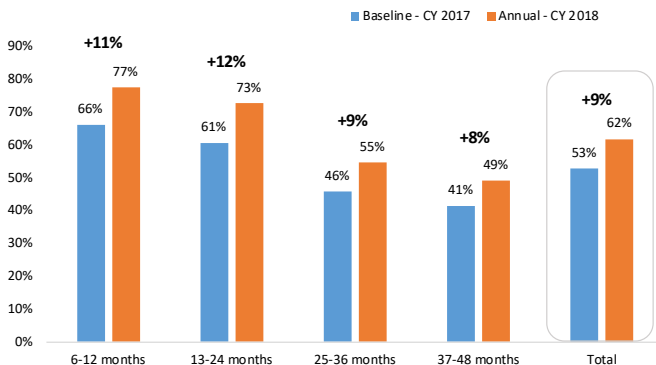
Healthy Smiles 2020 — Going the Extra Smile is a statewide clinically-based challenge and recognition program developed by Maine’s From the First Tooth Initiative. The challenge was designed to engage with primary care practices to integrate a critical evidence-based practice into clinical settings in order to improve public health and the quality of children’s health care. This challenge aims to increase the fluoride varnish application rate by 10% each year, starting with a CY 2017 baseline of 30%; the goal being that by 2020 the fluoride varnish rate exceeds 60%.

Metric: Percent of patients ages 6-48 months, with teeth, in CY 2018 with at least one documented fluoride varnish application in the measurement period, applied in the office or recorded as completed outside of the medical home.

CY 2018 marks the Challenge’s inaugural year, and has proven great success! The metric goal in 2018 was 40%, which participating practices collectively exceeded with a 62% average rate.

Additionally, the rate of fluoride varnish applications as compared to CY 2017 baseline data increased by over 9%!!

CY 2018 Rate of Fluoride Varnish Applications By Age



# HEALTHY SMILES 2020

Going the Extra Smile



## RECOGNITION LEVEL

BRONZE  
TOOTH



SILVER  
TOOTH



GOLD  
TOOTH



Display the From the First Tooth  
“Baby Teeth Matter” Poster in waiting rooms



Provide From the First Tooth (FTFT)  
patient education materials



Designated practice FTFT champion



Submitted baseline and bi-annual data



Practices have been trained the past 3 years  
in the From the First Tooth in person or virtual  
training in fluoride varnish application



Practices have a system in place to ensure  
delivery to all children in the practice receiving  
fluoride varnish (established workflow)



Met baseline and submitted bi-annual data



Practice has built metrics into their EHR to guide  
quality improvement and measure performance



Exceeded annual metric challenge goal



Practices document dental home within the EHR



Practices have a standard clinical workflow in place



Toot your own horn — willing to be involved in  
one mentor call with another pediatric practice  
in coordination with FTFT — virtually



# HEALTHY SMILES CHALLENGE RECOGNITION

Participating practices have shown commitment, perseverance and dedication to increasing access of preventative dental services for young pediatric patients! FTFT staff have met with participating practices, congratulating them on the achievement, and are working closely with each practice to improve their measures. Staff are hosting coaching calls with Bronze Status offices to assist them with their specific needs and have a Gold Status practice offer advice and strategies so that they may improve their process and increase the percentage of children receiving fluoride varnish.



CONGRATULATIONS TO  
OUR GOLD PRACTICES



Maine Medical Partners  
Westbrook Pediatrics



Southern Maine Health Care  
Biddeford Pediatrics



Waterville Pediatrics

PRACTICE 2018  
RECOGNITION AWARDS



# IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS

## PRESENTATIONS

JUNE 28, 2018, AUGUSTA, ME  
MAINE GENERAL MEDICAL CENTER,  
PEDIATRIC GRAND ROUNDS

### Pediatrics & Perinatal Oral Health

Target Audience: Pediatric Providers and Residents

NOVEMBER 12, 2018, SAN DIEGO, CA  
AMERICAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

### Referrals to No Where: Reducing Barriers to Oral Health Access for Pregnant Women in Rural Communities

Target Audience: Public Health Professionals

NOVEMBER 12, 2018, SAN DIEGO, CA  
AMERICAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

### Statewide Oral Health Challenge Set to Increase Fluoride Varnish Rates

Target Audience: Public Health Professionals

NOVEMBER 7–8, 2018, NEWRY, ME  
NEW ENGLAND RURAL HEALTH ROUND TABLE

### Statewide Oral Health Challenge Set to Increase Fluoride Varnish Rates

Target Audience: Public Health Professionals

NOVEMBER 29, 2018, PORTLAND, ME  
MAINE MEDICAL CENTER, PEDIATRIC GRAND  
ROUNDS

### Preventive Oral Health Care Delivery in a Medical Setting

Target Audience: Medical Providers and Residents

## WEBINARS CONDUCTED

JANUARY 31, 2018  
HEALTHY SMILES CHALLENGE 2020—  
GOING THE EXTRA SMILE!

Hosted by Maine Quality Counts and  
From the First Tooth — 78 Participants

AUGUST 14, 2018  
IMPORTANCE OF AGE ONE DENTAL VISITS,  
HOW PEDIATRICIANS AND DENTAL  
PROVIDERS CAN WORK TOGETHER!  
Hosted by Rachel King DDS, Jeffrey Stone DO,  
and Amy Belisle MD — 73 Participants

## PUBLICATIONS

APHA ABSTRACT: STATEWIDE ORAL HEALTH  
CHALLENGE SET TO INCREASE FLUORIDE  
VARNISH RATES

NEW ENGLAND RURAL HEALTH ROUND TABLE:  
STATEWIDE ORAL HEALTH CHALLENGE SET TO  
INCREASE FLUORIDE VARNISH RATES  
AND DENTAL CARIES FOR BOTH PRIMARY  
AND PERMANENT TEETH

# IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS

PRACTICES TRAINED  
IN PERSON IN 2018

15

STAFF TRAINED IN PERSON  
IN 2018

78

FACILITIES VIRTUALLY TRAINED  
IN 2018

23

STAFF VIRTUALLY  
TRAINED IN 2018

80

MATERIALS DISTRIBUTED  
IN 2018

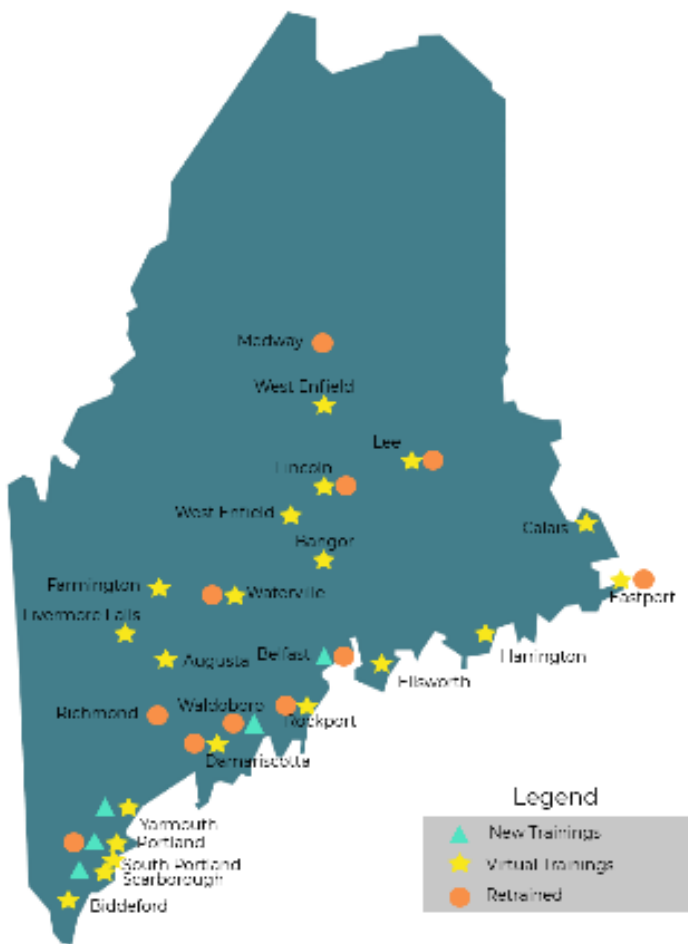
7,364

PEDIATRIC REFERRAL  
GUIDELINES VIEWED

116

“I thought that the videos were very educational and the quiz at the end of the module helped to reinforce the information from the video.”

— JWilson Mei, first year medical student, University of New England



## STANDARDIZING NEW STAFF TRAINING

From the First Tooth staff work to standardize family medicine and pediatric practice new and current staff trainings during orientation and onboarding. In 2018, the FTFT virtual training module and competency check list were incorporated within the structure of Maine Medical Partners' onboarding process as a mandatory requirement. FTFT staff attended multiple staff skills fair events for an opportunity to engage with 428 staff.

# IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS

## DINING WITH DENTISTS

A forum to enhance inter-professional communication within medical/dental communities, to introduce clinicians who are treating the local pediatric population. From the First Tooth provides a venue to strengthen professional relationships, facilitate connections and begin to discuss referral processes from medical to dental care within a given community.

October 17, 2018, Augusta, ME

24 dental and medical staff/employees/students attended the meeting. A slide presentation and overview of the Before & From the First Tooth programs were given. Attendees discussed current referral mechanisms between medical and dental providers. All dental providers that attended were very engaged and already scheduling age one visits and accepting MaineCare patients.

“Continuing to network with healthcare providers and dentists will only broaden the demographic and area of patients we can serve.”

—Dining with Dentist Augusta attendee





## November 14, 2018, Farmington, ME

12 dental and medical staff members attended. Franklin Pediatrics expressed commitment to developing a closed loop referral system with their community dental practices. Another meeting will be scheduled between Community Dental and Franklin Pediatrics to solidify a protocol and closed loop referral. A suggested referral agreement was created to assist with identification of expectations regarding different provider.

Community	Date	Medical Staff	Dental Staff	FTFT Staff	Other	Total
Augusta	10/17/18	7	15	1	1	24
Farmington	11/14/18	8	5	3	0	16

“It was helpful to know more about dental resources in our community.”

—Dining with Dentist Franklin County attendee

# KEY CONTRIBUTORS

## STAFF

### MAINE HEALTH

Laura Robbins, CHES  
Director, From the First Tooth

Audrey Patin, RDH, CHES  
Program Manager, From the First Tooth

Julie Carvelli, BA  
Program Coordinator, From the  
First Tooth

## IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERS

### MAINEGENERAL HEALTH — ACTIVE PARTNER

Laura Mrazik, MPH, CHES  
Director, Accountable Care  
Population Health Management

Wendie Lagasse, MCHES  
Public Health Specialist, Center for  
Prevention and Healthy Living

### MAINE QUALITY COUNTS

Amy Belisle, MD, MBA  
Senior Medical Director

Kayla Cole, CSP-SM  
Project Manager

## ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Andrew Klingenstein, JD  
President, Sadie and Harry  
DavisFoundation

Barbara Crowley, MD  
Executive Vice President, MaineGeneral  
Health Chairperson, From the First Tooth  
Advisory Committee

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Children's Oral Health

Deborah Deatruck, MPH  
Senior Vice President, MaineHealth

Demi Kouzounas, DMD  
General Dentist, Dunstan Dental  
Past President, Maine Dental Association

Evelyn deFrees  
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Harry Davis Foundation

Ginger Roberts-Scott, LSW, CPC  
Former Maine DHHS,  
Office of MaineCare Services

Judith Feinstein, MSPH  
Former Director, Maine DHHS,  
Oral Health Program

Stephen Mills, DDS  
Pediatric Dentist, Just for Kids  
Pediatric Dentistry

Sharon Rosen, PhD  
Former Executive Director, Sadie  
and Harry Davis Foundation

Kelley Bowden, MMC  
Perinatal Outreach  
Nurse Educator

## CLINICAL ADVISORS

Jennifer Dubail, MD  
Pediatrician, Maine Medical Partners  
(MMP)

Jeff Stone, DO  
AAP Maine Chapter, Oral Health Advocate  
Pediatrician, Waterville Pediatrics



“It’s all about prevention — that’s why I got into this field! I have worked with From the First Tooth for ten years; Waterville Pediatrics has successfully integrated oral health assessments and fluoride varnish within our well child visit workflow. I have seen a noticeable decrease in patients with cavities at Waterville Pediatrics and have seen first-hand how effective this intervention is, I am happy to be one of the Clinical Champions for FTFT.”

—Jeffrey Stone, Pediatrician

From the First Tooth is a pediatric oral health initiative promoting the oral health of infants, toddlers and preschool children.



FTFT

MaineHealth

[WWW.FROMTHEFIRSTTOOTH.ORG](http://WWW.FROMTHEFIRSTTOOTH.ORG)