



LIFELONG SMILES

Oral Health Access for Aging Iowans

Office of Education and Training

The Office was established in 2014 and is within The University of Iowa College of Dentistry and Dental Clinics. The Office will coordinate, develop, and promote training opportunities for oral health professionals, the direct care workforce and those providing care for older adults in Iowa.

The goal of the Office is to increase access to oral care for nursing home residents and homebound adults by increasing the number of dentists, hygienists, and direct care workers involved with oral health care.

The Office will actively seek opportunities to further the education of dental and allied health care teams through joint support of the numerous organizations who are a part of Lifelong Smiles project. The Office also serves as a hub in coordinating education and training opportunities for all projects under the Lifelong Smiles Coalition.

Past and current presentations by Dr. Cowen include:

1. The New Approach to Geriatric Dentistry, Rotary Club International, Iowa City, IA, May 5, 2014.
2. Geriatric Dentistry/An Overview/Strategies for Effective Care of the Older Adult, GV Black Study Club, Des Moines, IA, October 6, 2014.
3. Treating the New Geriatric Patient in Your Practice, Des Moines District Dental Society, Des Moines, IA, October 17, 2014.
4. Lifelong Smiles Coalition Update/An Oral Care Curriculum for Care Providers, Iowa Dental Hygiene Association, Fall Event, Ankeny, IA, October 24, 2014.
5. Geriatrics & Special Needs Dentistry: Improving Access to Care, CE Live Distance Course, Iowa City, IA, April 3, 2015.
6. Medical & Clinical Considerations When Treating the New Geriatric Patient, Des Moines County Dental Society, Des Moines, IA, April 28, 2015.
7. Presenting to the Iowa Health Care Association Iowa Center for Assisted Living, Des Moines, IA, September 30, 2015.
8. Presenting to the Scott County Dental Association, April 8, 2016.

Past and current activities:

1. Curriculum development of Units 2, 3, 4, and 6 by Dr. Cowen, January – June, 2015.
2. Submission of recognition of Lifelong Smiles Coalition in the Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors Best Practice Approach Reports.
3. Working on ADA Foundation Access to Care grant submission – due July 1 – Up to \$10,000

4. Supplies negotiated and received for the Oral Health Specialty Training (Mouth Care Matters) for Direct Care Professionals – picked up on May 26, 2015.
5. Penni participated in the Health Workforce Technical Assistance Center webinar on Entry and Exit of Workers in Long-Term Care, May 20, 2015.
6. Table Clinic “Access to Oral Health Care for Long-Term Care and Homebound Elderly of Iowa” developed by Penni and Dr. Cowen was presented at IDA Annual Meeting and handouts from the Prepare to Care Mouth Care Matters were copied and distributed, Des Moines, IA, May 2, 2015.
7. Display “Lifelong Smiles Coalition at a Glance” was developed by Penni and Dr. Cowen for the IDHA meeting and handouts from the Prepare to Care Mouth Care Matters were distributed, Des Moines, IA, May 2, 2015.
8. Dr. Cowen and Penni met with Harder and Company for the grant review on April 24 to review the draft framework for the grant review. Working on suggested changes/edits.
9. Penni and Dr. Cowen participated in Lifelong Smiles Coalition Legislative Breakfast on Capitol Hill, Des Moines, IA, January 26, 2015.

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