

**CDC-RFA-DP18-1810 Project Title:** State Actions to Improve Oral Health Outcomes  
**Applicant Organization Name:** Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health, Oral Health Program

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**Funds requested:** Salaries and wages, fringe benefits, travel, educational materials, oral health equipment, and collaborative water fluoridation and oral health surveillance bi-annual meetings.

**Funding Priorities Identified:** 1 creating new school sealant programs, 2 expanding community water fluoridation, 3 establish Nevada oral health surveillance plan

**Purpose.** The purpose of this program is to build the administrative capacity of the Nevada Oral Health Program and in so doing establish a strong foundation for the delivery of oral health preventative programs throughout the state. This program will have three foci: 1) expand school sealant programs thorough the state through established partnerships with school sealant organizations, 2) support water systems that maintain optimal fluoridation levels and increase education and public support for expansion of water fluoridation, and 3) develop a state oral health surveillance plan, collect oral health data, and report annual finding through a written report. Throughout the life of the project, the Oral Health Program will also establish advisory committees where appropriate to assist in the development of written plans of action, provide accountability, and evaluate program performance.

**Methods:** Elements of the ecological perspective of health promotion and practice will be incorporated into this innovative program which will engage not only the individual patient but focus on the sociocultural environment. Tenants of this theory will be used in developing the school sealant program and informing Nevadans of current water fluoridation policies and the impact these methods have on a patient's overall oral health. Strong relationships with current school sealant organizations will enable the program to meet all outlined objectives and increase school sealant activities across the state. The program will provide training and support to collect fluoride data for community water fluoridation, develop a fluoridation plan, and launch an educational water fluoridation campaign. A written oral health surveillance plan will guide the development of data monitoring systems and findings will be collected and reported to policy makers and oral health stakeholders. Building a strong team culture will enable all Oral Health Program personnel to synergistically work to provide assessment and management of all recipient activities.

**Results:** The creation and establishment of oral health prevention strategies will improve oral health outcomes throughout the state of Nevada. Key areas of concentration will include expansion of school sealant programs through establishment of partnerships with school sealant organizations, support of public water systems that maintain optimal fluoridation levels, increase in education and public support for expansion of water fluoridation, and development of state oral health surveillance plan, collecting oral health data, and reporting annual findings.

**Summary:** This program will be under the direction of Dr. Antonina Capurro, State Dental Health Officer, and Ms. Judy White, State Public Health Dental Hygienist. Assessment and evaluation of all program elements will include current school sealant program enrollment, community water fluoridation logic model, and oral health surveillance plan. This initiative will result in the creation of new school sealant programs, expansion of community water fluoridation, and written statewide surveillance plan.