



Access to Dental Care Programs

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Access Program Purpose

Development and implementation of statewide programs to improve access to oral health services for underserved Ohioans (e.g., medically, physically or mentally challenged; homeless; Medicaid recipients; uninsured; working poor)

Current Oral Health Access Programs

- Safety Net Dental Care Program
- Dental OPTIONS Case Management Program

Safety Net Dental Care Program

- Provides funding to help support safety net dental clinics that serve Ohioans who:
 - are uninsured for dental care
 - have low incomes
 - pay reduced fees for dental services

Safety Net Dental Care Program

- Maintains up-to-date information about safety net dental clinics for the public and social service agencies
- Provides technical assistance to safety net dental clinics

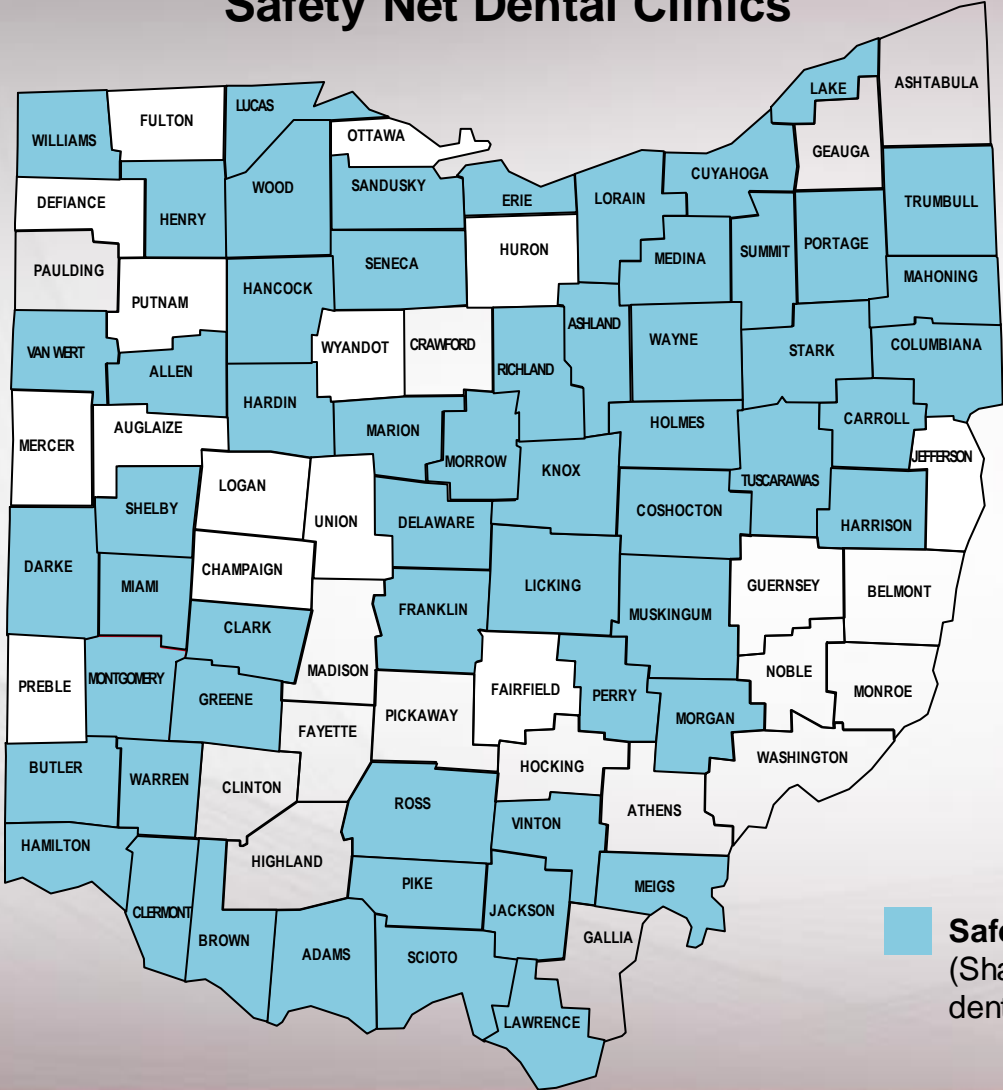
Safety Net Dental Care Program

- 173 clinics currently operating in 58 counties
- 13 provide preventive-only services (e.g. exams, x-rays, cleanings, etc.)
- 7 clinics provide only oral surgery services (e.g. extractions, etc.)

Safety Net Dental Care Program

- 65% open full-time (≥ 32 hours per week)
- ~ 60% located in urban areas
- Not all clinics provide all services

Safety Net Dental Clinics



Safety Net Dental Clinics
 (Shading indicates one or more dental clinics in the county)

Updated October 2019

DENTAL OPTIONS

Ohio Partnership To Improve access to Needed Services

Dental OPTIONS

- Case management program began in 1997
- Partnership between the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) and the Ohio Dental Association (ODA)
- Mission is to improve access to dental care for vulnerable Ohioans, in particular the elderly and those with special health care needs who have low incomes and are uninsured for dental care

Dental OPTIONS

- Once operated as regional grants with 6.0 FTE case managers
- Clients are referred first to safety nets and/or to Medicaid
- Program of last resort

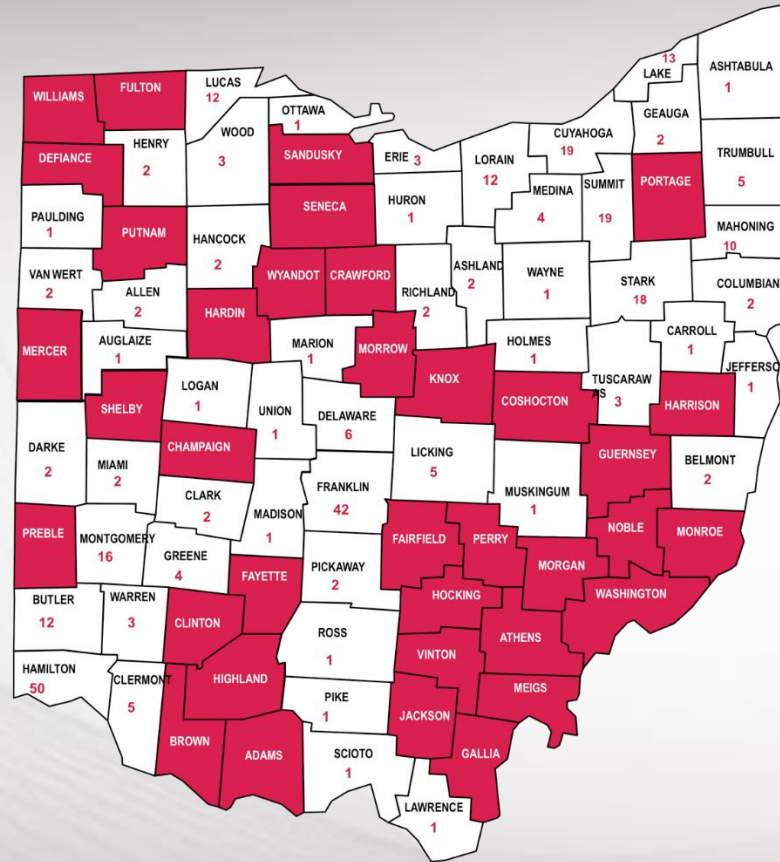
Dental OPTIONS

- More than 900 dentists are enrolled in the program
- Only ~ 300 are actively accepting patients
- > 700 clients on wait list, most since 2015-2016
- Funding for program reduced and currently operated internally at ODH with 0.5 FTE staff

Dental OPTIONS

- 900+ patients completed care in 2012
- Only ~ 20 patients completed care in the past year
- ODH is currently paying for lab services (e.g. dentures, crowns, etc.)
- ODH would like to collaborate at the local level to connect seniors in need with resources

2019 DENTAL OPTIONS PROGRAM DENTIST ENROLLMENT



308 ACTIVE PROVIDERS



Contact Information

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