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Sponsors

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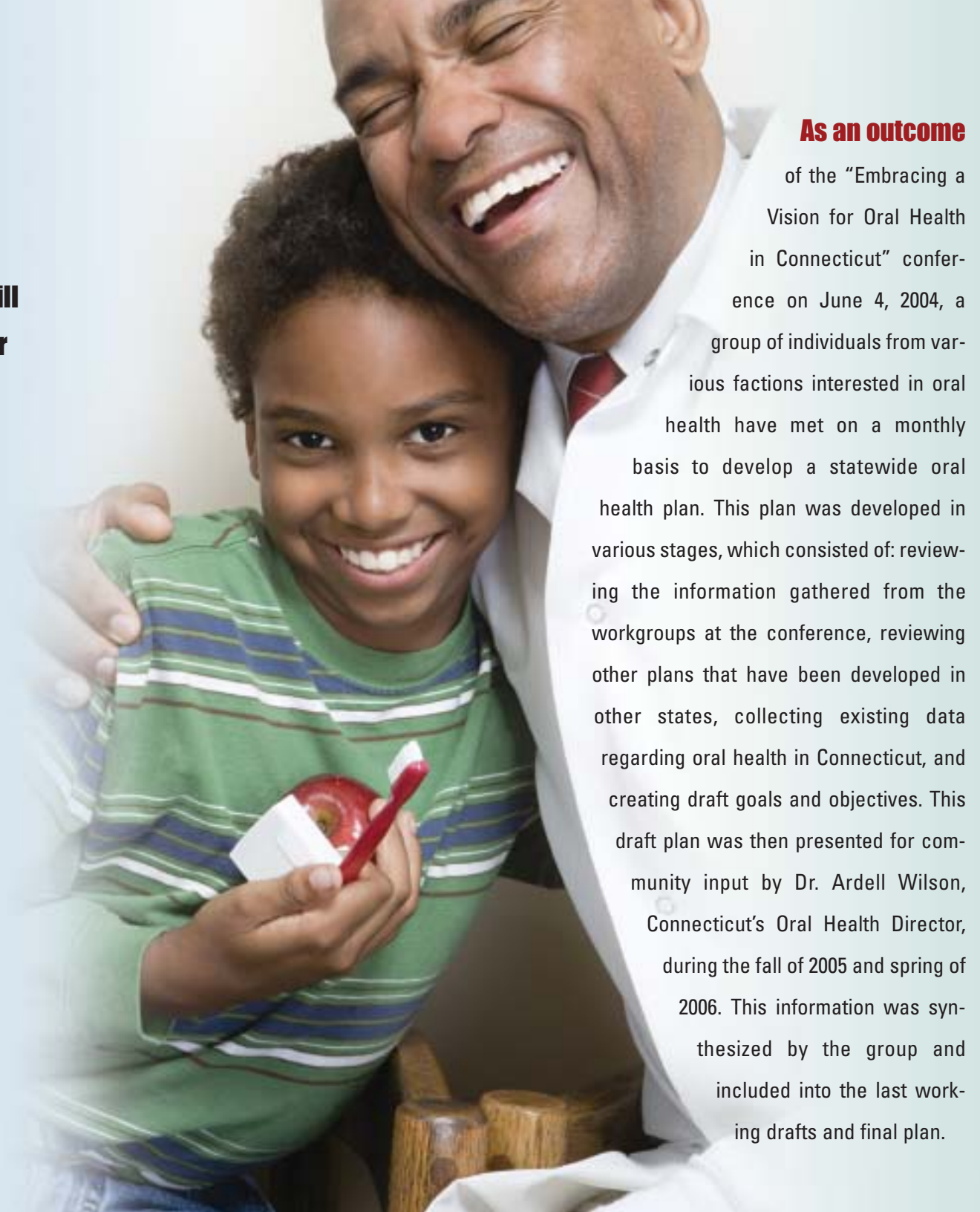
Oral Health Improvement Plan **for Connecticut**

Vision

Connecticut's children and adults will have good oral health as part of their overall health and well-being.

Intent

This oral health plan is intended to set priorities, organize efforts and guide resource allocations for the public and private sectors to improve the oral health of Connecticut's children and adults, with special emphasis on the vulnerable populations.



As an outcome

of the "Embracing a Vision for Oral Health in Connecticut" conference on June 4, 2004, a group of individuals from various factions interested in oral health have met on a monthly basis to develop a statewide oral health plan. This plan was developed in various stages, which consisted of: reviewing the information gathered from the workgroups at the conference, reviewing other plans that have been developed in other states, collecting existing data regarding oral health in Connecticut, and creating draft goals and objectives. This draft plan was then presented for community input by Dr. Ardell Wilson, Connecticut's Oral Health Director, during the fall of 2005 and spring of 2006. This information was synthesized by the group and included into the last working drafts and final plan.

GOAL 1
Increase
integration
of oral health
promotion
into all
aspects of
public health.



- By 2011, increase by 50% the proportion of children, adults, and vulnerable populations who receive annual preventive and necessary restorative oral health care.
- By 2010, 50% of children should receive age appropriate dental sealants
- By 2011, at least 10% of the non-dental providers will promote oral health as an integral part of general health throughout the life cycle.
- By 2010, incorporate oral health education into the education curricula.



GOAL 2
Ensure that
there is an
adequate
dental health
workforce to
meet the
needs of
Connecticut
residents.



- By 2008, double the number of dental providers that actively participate in Medicaid.
- By 2010, improve recruitment and retention of dental providers and support personnel in Connecticut.
- By 2012, increase the number of dental school faculty and dental hygiene school faculty in Connecticut schools, particularly under-represented minorities.
- By 2010, 25% of the Connecticut school districts will provide structured health career awareness programs to promote dental careers to K-12 students to recruit a more diverse and “home-grown” dental workforce.



Integration

Workforce

GOAL 3 Build a strong and sustainable oral health infra- structure.



- By 2008, provide authority for an Oral Health Program Office in the state health agency by legislative mandate.
- By 2008, establish a timely and accurate oral health surveillance system.
- By 2009, implement at least three population-based strategies for the delivery of effective oral health services to underserved children and adults.
- By 2010, ensure that all counties in Connecticut have improved capacity to enhance community level interventions that improve oral health.
- By 2008, develop policies to promote and facilitate the provision of oral health services.
- By 2008, increase public awareness of oral health issues.
- Continually leverage resources to adequately fund oral public health activities.



GOAL 4 Advance best practices for oral health.



- By 2012, promote and implement effective and efficient models that increase access to quality oral health services.
- By 2008, assure ongoing evaluation of effective and efficient oral health interventions.
- By 2012, implement best practices that integrate oral health with overall health.



Infrastructure

Best practices