Oral Health Care for Adults with Developmental Disabilities in Delaware

Adults with developmental disabilities in Delaware have less comprehensive access to oral health care services than other adults.

Delaware’s rank in the gap between those with and without disabilities who have visited the dentist in the last year

- Adults with developmental disabilities are twice as likely to not have had a teeth cleaning in the last five years.
- National reports since 2000 calling attention to the disproportionate impact of oral disease on people with disabilities.
- Age after which Medicaid no longer covers routine dental services.
- Percentage of people with disabilities who have seen a dentist in the last year (vs. 78% of those without disabilities).

What can you do?

**Education!**
Routine cleaning, flossing and trips to the dentist play a role in the prevention of cardiovascular disease, stroke and other serious health conditions.

**Prevention!**
There are great online tools explaining oral health challenges adults with developmental disabilities face. (Try nih.gov, cdc.gov and ada.org)

**Access!**
There are locations throughout Delaware specializing in providing accessible, low-cost oral care to those with developmental disabilities. (http://bitly.com/DEdentalresource)

Talk to your legislator about options to provide access to good oral care for those with developmental disabilities. (http://bitly.com/DElegislators)