



TeethFIRST!

Creating healthy smiles for a lifetime.



About TeethFirst!

Our Mission: TeethFirst! promotes early dental visits for very young children in Rhode Island.

TeethFirst! believes

- Early dental visits put our children on a path to healthy smiles for a lifetime
- It's never too soon for dentists and families to team up – making a child's first teeth a priority from the start
- Great healthcare requires a team – and dentists are part of everyone's health care team
- It takes a community working together to keep our little ones healthy

TeethFirst! is for

Parents and Families

- Encourages parents and families to take their children for early dental visits
- Explains dental coverage and how to find a dentist
- Identifies dental providers who will care for their children

Dental Providers

- Provides professional development opportunities for dental providers
- Enhances provider knowledge, skills, and comfort with treating very young children
- Creates a peer learning network among dentists, dental hygienists, and dental assistants

Health Care Providers

- Educates health care providers about the importance of oral health
- Shares resources to build with health care providers' skills in talking about oral health with their patients
- Informs health care providers about how to refer their patients to a dentist

Community Organizations (WIC, Early Head Start, Head Start, Child Care Providers, etc.)

- Educates staff at community organizations that serve families about the importance of oral health
- Shares resources about oral health for staff and families
- Informs staff about how to refer families to a dentist

Who We Are

TeethFirst! is a collaborative group of organizations, including:

- American Academy of Pediatrics, RI Chapter
- Delta Dental of Rhode Island
- Medicaid-CHIP State Dental Association
- Neighborhood Health Plan of Rhode Island
- Office of the Lieutenant Governor
- RI Dental Association
- RI Dental Hygienists' Association
- RI Dental Assistants Association
- RI Department of Health's Oral Health Program
- RI Executive Office of Health and Human Services/Medicaid
- RI Health Center Association
- Rhode Island KIDS COUNT
- RI Oral Health Commission
- St. Joseph Pediatric Dental Center
- Samuels Sinclair Dental Center at Rhode Island Hospital
- UnitedHealthcare Community Plan
- UnitedHealthcare Dental/Rite Smiles
- WIC

