



# Delta Dental of Iowa and Mouth Care Matters

Educating on the oral health needs of older Iowans.

Mouth Care Matters (MCM), administered by Iowa CareGivers, is an initiative of the Lifelong Smiles Coalition and supported in part by the Delta Dental of Iowa Foundation. Since 2014, the Foundation has provided **more than \$284,000** to support program development and implement training throughout the state.



Mouth Care Matters is a one-day specialty training in oral care. MCM was originally designed for home care, hospice, nurse aides, personal assistants, patient care technicians and direct support professionals. The program is also suitable for other health and long-term service and support staff, including licensed nurses.

## Program Successes

Since 2014, the MCM program has had several successes including the following:

Development of a competency-based Oral Health Specialty Curriculum for direct caregivers.

The lives of an estimated **4,020 nursing home residents and recipients of home care** have been impacted by MCM graduates.

**218 MCM program graduates** in Iowa.

**37 dental hygienists** have been trained as MCM instructors and provide trainings throughout the state.

By engaging direct care professionals with dental health education and resources, we can ultimately improve the overall health of older Iowans. [Click here to learn more about Mouth Care Matters.](#)



**LIFELONG SMILES**  
Oral Health Access for Aging Iowans

Visit the [Lifelong Smiles Coalition](#) and the [Delta Dental of Iowa Foundation](#) to learn more about oral health projects for older adults in Iowa.

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