



Oral Health Partnerships for School Nurses

The National Association of School Nurses identifies key components of the impact that school nurses have on the lives of children and youth in their 2011 Position Document titled, “The Role of the School Nurse”. It states: “A student’s health status is directly related to his or her ability to learn. Children with unmet health needs have a difficult time engaging in the educational process. The school nurse supports student success by providing health care through assessment, intervention, and follow-up for all children within the school setting. The school nurse addresses the physical, mental, emotional, and social health needs of students and supports their achievement in the learning process.”

This applies to many areas of school nursing but is closely related to the work that a school nurse does in the area of oral health. As the school nurse works to address student health needs, it is often important to partner with community based organizations or national associations to access information, retrieve resources or refer families. NASN recommends the following partnerships (in alphabetical order):

American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry	http://www.aapd.org/
American Academy of Pediatrics	http://www2.aap.org/oralhealth/
American Association of Orthodontists	http://www.mylifemysmile.org/
American Dental Association	http://www.ada.org/
American Dental Hygienists’ Association	http://www.adha.org/
American Public Health Association	http://www.apha.org/programs/schoolhealthed/
Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors	http://www.astdd.org/
Colgate Palmolive Company	http://www.colgateprofessional.com/
DentaQuest Foundation	http://www.dentaquestfoundation.org/
Hispanic Dental Association	http://www.hdassoc.org/site/epage/25562_351.htm
National Assembly on School-Based Health Care	http://nasbhc.org
National Interprofessional Initiative on Oral Health	http://www.niioh.org/
National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center	http://www.mchoralhealth.org/
NYU College of Nursing – Oral Health Nursing Education and Practice	http://nursing.nyu.edu/OHNEP
Oral Health America	http://oralhealthamerica.org/