

# Oral Health Framework for Telehealth Project (OHFT)

## Integrating Oral Health Prevention Education in Virtual Patient Engagement

### Who are we?

The Healthy Teeth Healthy Children (HTHC) program at PA Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics believes that we can create sustainable systems change to expand the health care safety net, engage and empower patients, and improve the delivery of oral health care for all using an integrated medical-dental educational approach.

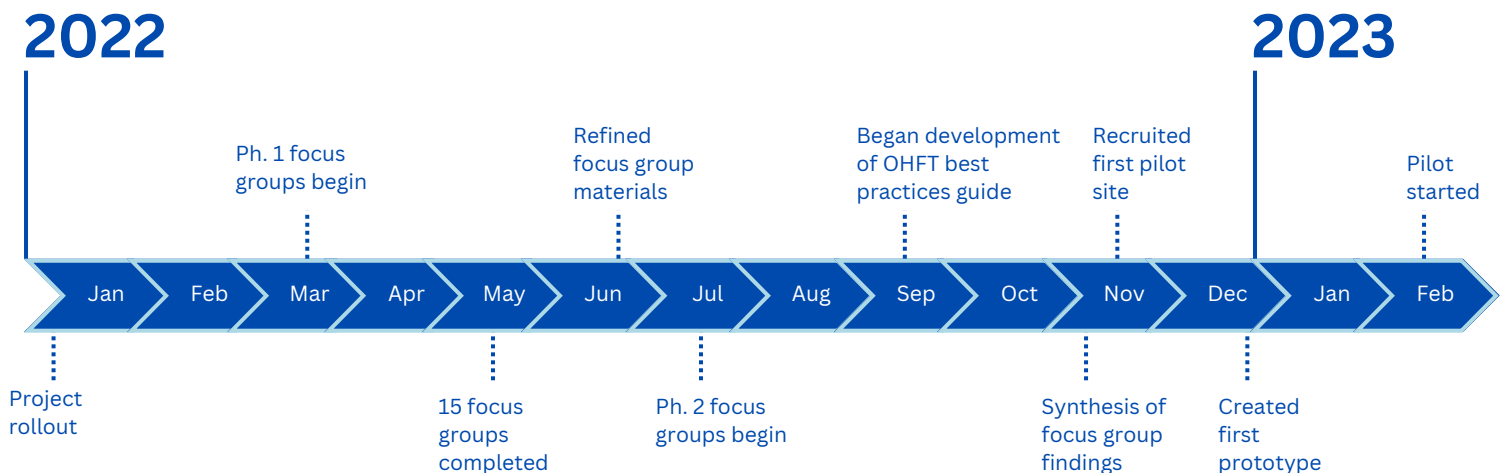
### What is the OHFT project?

OHFT is a multi-year collaborative interprofessional project with a goal of developing virtual solutions to equitably spread validated oral health prevention messages for wide use to improve oral health literacy and reduce ECC prevalence.

In year 1 (2022-2023), we identified needs and challenges specific to oral health integration and the telehealth modality. This provides the foundation for the development of a compendium of effective, virtual oral health prevention education materials and strategies to be made widely available at no or low cost for use by clinicians, community organizations, and individuals. This information will augment public oral health prevention knowledge, particularly in the absence of early and appropriate dental care, enhancing and expanding the health care safety net.

### Key Takeaways - Year 1

- ✔ Telemedicine use has decreased since the peak early in the COVID-19 pandemic but remains important.
- ✔ Primary education needs include **oral hygiene, nutrition, and fluoride**.
- ✔ Patients are interested in virtual resources from a trusted health care professional.
- ✔ There is a need for validated virtual oral health education materials.



For more information or to join our Learning Collaborative, contact us at [hthc@paaap.org](mailto:hthc@paaap.org) or 484-446-3055