

Covid-19 impact on dental/vision

Suzanne Heckenlaible
Vice President, Public Affairs



Federal Relief Efforts for Providers

Relief & Recovery Efforts

- CARES Act: inclusion of SBA Payroll Protection Act forgivable loans for dental / vision providers (small businesses)
 - 60% of funds must be used for payroll
- \$30 Billion HHS Provider Relief Fund – included dental providers in Medicare, Medicaid, CHIP and even those not involved in any government funded programs
 - Funds can be used for personal protection equipment (PPE)
 - Extended deadline (twice) and expanded eligibility
- Next relief package – possibly tax credits for providers on purchased PPE

Key Issues Across the Country

Key Issues:

- **Dental Providers - PPE costs**

- Cost shifting when able to the consumer
- Dental societies have expressed desire to mandate coverage of PPE services through legislation
- Insurance Divisions issuing bulletins that protect consumers from the PPE costs

- **Telehealth**

- Limited usage in dental and vision
- Potential to address rural areas workforce access issues

Key Issues:

- **Access to care issues for Medicaid/underserved populations**
 - Limited chair time being allocated by providers
 - Schools at 100% online – dental & vision screenings not available
 - Barriers on scope of practice / top of licensure deter access
- **Dental Leasing Networks**
 - Across the country – legislation to require opt-in /opt-out for provider contracts
 - May accelerate further due to dental practice financial constraints



DDIA Relief Efforts

Together, Delta Dental of Iowa and Delta Dental of Iowa Foundation committed more than

\$20 MILLION

to community relief and recovery efforts around COVID-19.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Over **\$1 million in COVID-19 relief** to Iowa non-profits, and community health centers focused on food insecurities, shelter and providing health and wellness services. In addition, funds were distributed to not-for-profit professional associations for recovery and relief efforts to Iowa small businesses and their employees.



EMPLOYERS

Delta Dental gave Iowa employers offering fully-insured dental and vision plans a **25% premium relief credit** for April and May premiums.

Delta Dental provided **\$4.3 million** in combined premium relief credits efforts.



MEMBERS

Iowan's Helping Iowans

More than **2,300 members** donated **\$140,000** with Delta Dental match to the Iowa Food Bank Association.

Members could choose to receive a **25% premium credit** for April and May or they could donate the credit to the Iowa Food Bank Association and Delta Dental would double the donation.



DENTAL AND VISION PROVIDERS

Advance Claims Payment and DeltaVision Provider Relief Programs
Committed up to \$10.5 million in advance payments to support dental and vision provider.

Dentist Reopening Support Payment
\$10 for each Delta Dental of Iowa member claim over four months totaling **\$4 million to assist with reopening costs for dentists.**

