

NEBRASKA DENTAL HYGIENISTS ASSOCIATION

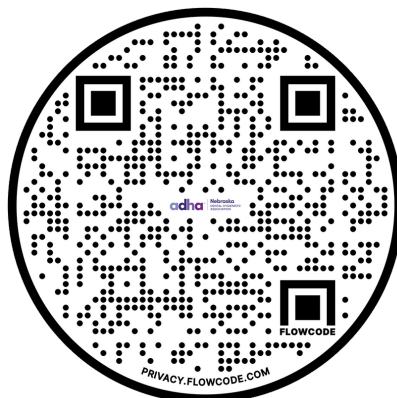
CONNECTIONS

APRIL
2024



LEVEL UP

IN-PERSON EVENT ONLY



2024 Annual Session
REGISTRATION OPEN

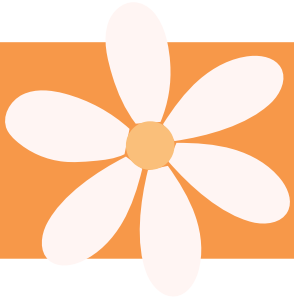
APRIL 26-27, 2024

MAHONEY STATE PARK
ASHLAND, NEBRASKA

Letter from
NDHA President:
Whitney Crist

Register 
Now OR READ MORE ON PAGES 7-8...





A Heartfelt Thanks: Leveling Up Together



I want to extend my deepest gratitude to the NDHA team – including board members, committees, and AAM, our association management firm. It has been a collective effort to achieve everything we have accomplished this year – from introducing a new Fun Run event and hosting a successful virtual Fall session to expanding our local component presence, navigating a busy legislative year, and enhancing our social media visibility. The dedication they have shown should not go unnoticed, and I am immensely grateful for their contributions. This year's theme was 'Level Up,' and they truly exceeded expectations by elevating their performance.

I also want to express my appreciation to you – our members. Your unwavering support not only demonstrates your dedication to our profession but also enables the association to fulfill its mission of promoting dental hygienists in Nebraska. Lastly, I would like to extend an invitation to join us in person at our Annual Session, located at the beautiful Mahoney State Park. Get ready to Level Up – enhancing your career, personal development, and professional connections. Let's come together to learn, socialize, and celebrate the crucial role that hygienists play in the health of Nebraskans.

Sincerely,

Whitney Crist



Nebraska
DENTAL HYGIENISTS'
ASSOCIATION

NDHA Membership Drive

Ring Ring...It's NDHA Calling!!

Over the next 8 months, you'll be receiving calls, texts and emails from NDHA volunteers focusing on connecting with you as members!

As part of our strategic plan, we want to increase membership and we want **YOU** to join NDHA and feel supported in the Dental Hygiene profession!

Become a member today at
www.nedha.org



NDHA Call Day
2024

Support the Nebraska HYPAC

The objective of our Political Action Committee (PAC) is to raise money to contribute to various legislators' campaigns, particularly those that are sympathetic to the issues of our profession. Those legislators that we support financially are those that we count on as friends of Dental Hygiene and we look to ensure their viability in the legislature. In order to maintain and improve the standards of our profession and protect the public we serve, it is imperative that we are visible within the legislative arena and that means political action and money! Consider contributing to our HYPAC T shirt fundraiser.



[Purchase Here](#)

adha™

Nebraska
DENTAL HYGIENISTS'
ASSOCIATION



MESSAGE FROM YOUR ADHA Delegate Chair

As a member of the delegation for NDHA, now in my fourth year, what initially seemed like a daunting task has evolved into a deep-seated passion. Reflecting on my journey, I've come to appreciate the immense dedication and hard work exhibited by the volunteer members who held these positions before me. It's been a humbling experience to witness firsthand the pivotal role our delegation plays within our association.

Being part of the delegation has granted me insights into the inner workings of our profession at a national level. It's a privilege to contribute to shaping policies and initiatives that directly impact dental hygienists across the country. By collaborating with representatives from all 50 states, we collectively advocate for advancements that aim to improve access to oral healthcare for all individuals.

I've learned that effective representation requires unity, collaboration, and a deep commitment to our profession's core values. Through our collective efforts, we amplify our voices and ensure that the concerns and needs of dental hygienists are heard and addressed. Every state delegation brings unique perspectives and experiences to the table, enriching our discussions and broadening our understanding of the challenges and opportunities we face.

Beyond the professional growth it has afforded me, being part of the NDHA delegation has instilled in me a profound sense of gratitude and responsibility. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve and contribute to the advancement of our profession. Moving forward, I am committed to continuing this journey with unwavering dedication, knowing that together, we can make a meaningful difference in the lives of dental hygienists and the communities we serve.

Sincerely,

Carrie Graves

Hygienist Tip

Remember to consult attending physicians regarding pre-med status whether 2 years post surgery or life.



Legislative Committee Update

This February over 50 Dental Hygienists, students and Senators gathered for the NDHA legislative breakfast! This annual event is a great opportunity to build relationships with our lawmakers and establish ourselves as dental subject matter experts that they can rely on when making decisions that impact our profession. This legislative session has been very active with several Bills pertaining to dentistry. Below is a summary and status report for these Bills as of mid March.

LB824: DDH Compact Bill has been advanced from Committee and is on General File, without a priority designation. This Bill would make license portability for dentists and hygienists in participating states available via compact privileges. Virginia passed their Compact Bill into law on March 8th, marking the 5th state to enact the Compact. Two more states must pass legislation to activate the compact in all participating states.

LB1138: Has been added onto LB1215, which is the HHS Committee Priority Bill and is currently on Select File. This Bill provides an exemption to the general electronic prescribing requirement for controlled substances for prescriptions issued by a prescriber who issues FEWER than 50 prescriptions for controlled substances in one calendar year.

LB834: Is a Speaker Priority Bill and is currently sitting on Select File. The Bill would establish requirements for a resident dental license and recognize the ADEX exam for this specific license type.

LB358: This Bill has carried over from last year and is in Final Reading. This Bill would increase dental reimbursement rates by 25%, infusing about \$20M of state and federal funds into the Medicaid dental program. Advancement of the Bill is contingent upon passing of the State budget and could be subject to amendment depending on the budget. The following Bills are still in Committee with no priority designation:

Continued on next page....

LB1015: This Bill would establish loan repayments to dentists who see a disproportionate amount of Medicaid patients.

LB1387: This Bill would put water fluoridation measures on the ballot. NDHA testified in opposition to this Bill at the hearing.

LB1110: This Bill regards Dental Loss Ratio requirements in dental insurance, which refers to the insurance premium revenue that is spent on patient care instead of operating costs. This Bill aims to set a minimum ratio that dental plans must meet, with a corresponding rebate requirement for plans spending less than that minimum.

Thank you to everyone who has taken an active role in attending events, providing testimony, and being a contact hygienist for their district. To learn more about Bill status and the pathway to becoming law in the Nebraska Unicameral, visit <https://nebraskalegislature.gov/bills/>.

Legislative Committee Co-Chairs
Joey Enright, RDH
Kerri Dittrich, PHRDH

Sponsor Highlight



Summit Dental Health's mission is to improve the lives of others by living our values every day. We define our core values as caring for everyone, sharing abundantly, building relationships, and expressing gratitude. We live these values in a variety of ways, one being a member of the Crown Council and participating in the Smiles for Life fundraising campaign annually, which kicked off March 1 and runs through June 30.

The Crown Council is an alliance of dedicated, leading-edge dental teams who have committed to sharing ideas and best practices to improve dental care. Through its charity arm, the Smiles for Life Foundation, the Crown Council partners with dental practices across the country to raise money for children's charities by donating all proceeds from whitening services.

Stop by our booth at Annual Session this April and find out more about our employee owned company and how our mission positively impacts our team, our patients, and our community!





TAKING NDHA TO THE NEXT LEVEL!

The 2024 NDHA Annual Session is dedicated to providing all Nebraska dental hygienists, dentists, and dental assistants with the most up-to-date information and continuing education practices. Through interactive lectures and sessions, participants will be able to learn the latest techniques and best practices. Networking opportunities are available to provide the opportunity for colleagues and professionals to network and exchange ideas on research, clinical practice, and products.

Take part in meaningful conversations, learn from presenters, and become part of the larger Nebraska dental hygiene community.

CONFERENCE LOCATION

Located at the beautiful [Eugene T. Mahoney State Park](#), which is conveniently situated between Omaha and Lincoln, the Crete Carrier Riverview Lodge is a 11,600-square-foot, multi-function event space that takes advantage of a stunning hilltop location overlooking the Platte River Valley. The event hall and large patio provide sweeping panoramic views and room for up to 300 guests. State-of-the-art amenities are blended thoughtfully to provide a unique event experience.

Crete Carrier Riverview Lodge

Eugene T. Mahoney State Park - 28500 W. Park Highway | Ashland, NE 68003

Book your lodging before
March 25!

A block of cabins has been reserved at Mahoney State Park for conference attendees (2 night minimum required). There are cabins with 2+ bedrooms available, so connect with your friends and book together or bring the family for a weekend getaway!! Contact Mahoney State Park directly at 402-944-2901 (Monday-Friday 8:00 am - 4:30 pm) to reserve your cabin before March 25, 2024, to book your room!

A hotel room block is also available at the Hampton Inn & Suites Omaha - Southwest La Vista with a room rate of \$140 + tax.

To reserve in this block use code NDHA or follow this link: [Available Rooms - Hampton Inn & Suites Omaha Southwest-La Vista \(hilton.com\)](#)

Additional Lodging options nearby: The Roost Bed & Breakfast and Kimberly Creek Retreat

LEVEL UP BY BECOMING A MEMBER!

Through NDHA membership, you will help to secure a future for dental hygiene. We are working to protect the value of your educational credentials and to preserve the integrity of your license. Only through uniting in one voice can we continue to represent dental hygienists successfully at the National, State and Local levels. Your membership will provide you with the opportunity to apply for various types of insurance - professional liability, disability, and major medical - less than you can purchase on your own.

VISIT [NEDHA.ORG](#)
AND BECOME A MEMBER TODAY!



AGENDA

Thursday, April 25, 2024

- 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM - NDHA Executive Board Meeting

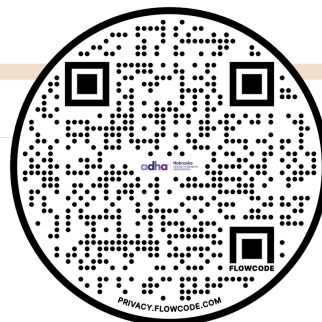
Friday, April 26, 2024

- 8:00 AM - Registration Open
- 8:30 AM - Welcome & Opening Remarks
- 8:35 AM - 9:30 AM - AI in Dentistry (1 CE) - *Presented by: Tiffany Cavazos - The Hygienpreneur*
- 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM - Prophy to Perio Communication (1 CE) - *Presented by: Tiffany Cavazos - The Hygienpreneur*
- 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM - Getting Real with Reels (1 CE) - *Presented by: Jerry RDH*
- 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM - Student Presentations & Vendor Time (1 CE)
- 12:30 PM - 2:00 PM - NDHA Awards Luncheon and General Membership Meeting
- 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM - Mega Issues Session (1 CE)
- 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM - From Chaos to Calm (2 CE's) - *Presented by: Janiece Ervin*
- 5:00 PM - Installment of NDHA Officers
- 5:15 PM - Smile, Sip & Socialize! Beverages and light hors d'oeuvres will be served.

Saturday, April 27, 2024

- 8:00 AM - Registration Open
- 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM - Dentistry Rebalanced: Ergonomics and Movement Workshop - *Presented by: Whitney Crist*
- 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM - 5 Ways to spot a Myofunctional Disorder (1 CE) - *Presented by: Patricia Brinkman-Falter*
- 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM - Next Level Hygiene: Advancing your Periodontal Program (2 CE's) - *Presented by: Natalie Hittner*
- 1:00 PM - Adjourn

**LEVEL
UP** 



*Register
Now*