



Strong Siblings Program

Every day, we protect the oral and ocular health of our nearly 10 million members across the country. But caring for our youngest members is crucial as they begin to establish the habits that can affect their health for the rest of their lives. The Strong Siblings Program works to improve our members' oral health by identifying siblings of children who have already had extensive dental restoration services.

The Guardian Strong Siblings Program is designed to start our youngest dental members with good oral hygiene habits.



Here's How It Works

- 1** Identify child Medicaid members who are at high risk for serious future dental disease or who have had significant dental work due to excessive decay.
- 2** Work with health plans to link these members with siblings in the same home.
- 3** Visit and educate the whole family, through our dental community worker program, training each family member on proper dental care and stressing the importance of regular dental appointments.

Today, dental caries (cavities) are the most common chronic disease for Americans aged 6 to 19.¹ And they're mostly preventable. Here are just a few factors that can affect the oral health of children:²

- Income
- Ethnicity
- Insurance Status
- Geography
- Education/ Age
- Culture
- Genetics

Learn More

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2020-104799 (07/21)

Sources:

- 1 https://www.cdc.gov/healthywater/hygiene/disease/dental_caries.html, September 2016
- 2 <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4884054/>, May 2016

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