



**AmeriHealth Caritas**<sup>™</sup>  
District of Columbia

To:	<b>All AmeriHealth Caritas DC Dental Providers</b>
Date:	<b>October 9, 2020</b>

Dear Dental Provider;

Daily dental hygiene tasks and routine dental services can be a major challenge for enrollees living with a disability. Neglecting these important oral health practices can pose serious health risks, particularly for those with physical or developmental disabilities that directly affect the health of their mouth, teeth and gums. We anticipate additional growth to this population as we begin to manage the care of participants under the AmeriHealth Caritas District of Columbia program.

The Inclusive Dental program will be intended as a community-wide program for which our company will take the lead in developing and promoting. It will be embedded within a community-wide coalition that we will take the lead in creating, to allow us the appropriate forum and interface with any stakeholder that should be part of the conversation. Included in the coalition will be agencies, advocates, providers, dental schools, other educational institutions, governmental and political leaders, private business and others.

With this in mind, we are focusing on understanding the needs of this population and the barriers impacting their access to care and would like to inform you about a new initiative that will begin in the second quarter of 2020. This initiative will commit to improving access to dental care in the community with an added focus of managing care with general anesthesia as a last resort. Solutions that we are working on include:

- Engaging with industry experts to create learning and training opportunities for dental staff, family members and caregivers.
- Developing an enhanced fee schedule that addresses reimbursement for behavioral management needs and desensitization sessions.
- Creating Dental Centers of Distinction that can address the unique and individual needs of this population.
- Give a voice to community advocates, agencies, and members of the disabled and special needs communities to help fine-tune our dental programs to ensure the whole-person needs of our enrollees are being met.

As a dentist who currently treats our enrollees living with disabilities, we are asking you to become part of the solution. As we continue with our efforts to enhance this initiative, your dental Account Executive will be outreaching to you to assist with any questions or feel free to call Cathy Flatley at 267-298-2420. As always, thank you for your continued participation in our network and your commitment to the care of our enrollees.

Sincerely,

Nathan Fletcher, DDS



Dental Director