




















8

Workforce

Goal 8.1. Improve the oral health of Tennesseans through broadening access to high-quality, low-cost dental care.



					
Promote adult oral health benefits available through TennCare, including increasing the number of dental providers who accept TennCare dental benefits, and expand efforts to insure persons without dental coverage.					
Educate providers on best practices for providing dental care to individuals with disabilities.					
Raise awareness of the importance of oral health to overall health.					
Increase the number of dental providers in Tennessee through expanding dental student externship rotations to rural areas, increasing Tennessee dental school capacity, and promoting educational loan repayment programs for dental providers that practice in high need areas.					



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8

Workforce

Goal 8.2. Enhance and strengthen Tennessee's health professional workforce, including community health workers, nurses, and supportive care staff.



Evaluate evidence and opportunities improving access to care for rural Tennesseans.	✓				
Support employers in promoting community benefits during recruitment and retention activities to demonstrate opportunities to “make your life where you make your living.”	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Explore opportunities to pair loan repayment programs with additional supports to encourage providers to stay past the completion of loan repayment	✓	✓			✓
Improve working conditions to reduce burnout while offering programs that address existing burnout (e.g., peer mentoring programs for all provider types).	✓	✓			



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