

Dental Care is OUT OF REACH

COVERAGE
does **NOT** equal care.

45
out of
dentists
DO NOT accept
MEDICAID.



34 out of **39**
DON'T counties
have enough dental professionals
to serve the public.

Dental complaints are the number-one reason why uninsured Washingtonians visit the emergency room.

People across Washington state are suffering:

"There are no pediatric dentists in this county; families have to travel over 50 miles for treatment of severe dental disease • Many local dentists do not accept Medicaid • It is very expensive • Services under Medicaid for adults are inadequate and hard to access • We are a Head Start site and without our regular screenings the children wouldn't see a dentist at all • You learn to live with the toothaches and with the headaches • Dental insurance only allows minimal help, it's too expensive • We have VERY little access, we need to travel to find a place that will accept state insurance • Even with insurance, the cost for dental care is high • I have friends who lose teeth because they cannot afford dentists • Many do not go due to cost and will wait until a dental emergency exists before seeking treatment • Low-income people cannot afford dental care • At my programs I have had children and teens in DESPERATE need of care: Children who can't eat my free lunches because it hurts too much to chew."

Sources: Federal Dept of Health & Human Services; Wash. State Hospital Assn.; 2013 Children's Alliance Member & Community Survey.



Washington
DENTAL ACCESS
Campaign

Join us:
www.wadentalaccess.com