



**ASSOCIAÇÃO PORTUGUESA
DE HIGIENISTAS ORAIS**
PORTUGUESE DENTAL HYGIENISTS ASSOCIATION

Country Report | 22-24 **PORTUGAL**

The Portuguese Dental Hygienists Association (APHO) aims to safeguard the rights of the professionals, promote communication and cooperation among dental hygienists and provide its social representation.

By setting standards of excellence in oral health and promoting healthy lifestyles, the association has, over 35 years, been growing in number of members and in importance. It represents around 900 Portuguese dental hygienists, despite having only 120 effective members.

This report presents the activities carried out by the Portuguese Association of Oral Hygienists (APHO) during the 23-24 biennium, with an emphasis on issues that we have been working on in a continuous basis.

KEY ACTIVITIES

1. Participation in the government technical advisory group for designing of the Portuguese strategy for oral health – “Saúde Oral 2.0”

APHO made a determinant contribution for this strategy highlighting the crucial importance of improving the oral health in Portugal and proposes key recommendations to achieve this goal. A proposal for DH/population ratios and the forecast of professionals needed for the National Health Service was also presented.

The implementation of this strategy will allow all Portuguese people to have access to oral health care, which also means establishing a full right to health and, in this way, combating social inequalities and the extent of poverty in Portugal.

2. Proposal to ESCO (European Skills, Competences, Qualifications and Occupations) and to ILO (International Labor Organization) for a new classification of the dental hygienist profession in group 2 “Professionals- Health Professionals”

ESCO provides a common reference terminology for a more effective and integrated European labour market and allows the worlds of work and education to communicate more effectively with each other. The proposed functional

content aims to reflect the academic preparation of today's dental hygienist in a complex, diverse and ever-changing technological and scientific environment. A future work with Portuguese regulatory bodies is being prepared to further develop this subject.

3. Dissemination of the White Paper – “Vale a Pena Ser Higienista Oral”

Continue to disseminate the White Paper that demonstrate the value of dental hygienists' intervention in the Public, Private, Social and Liberal Sectors and to disseminate the role of the dental hygienist and highlight its action as an active and effective component in achieving gains in health and oral health. This White Paper promotes a new strategy framing value-based oral care, universal health coverage and proposing new reimbursement models. For proper implementation and adoption of the new strategy, literacy, education, and information dissemination has a critical role.

4. Professional development of its members:

- During 22-24 two national congresses were held with more than 350 participants;
- 2 annual reunions with the biggest dental scientific society with the themes “Digital oral health” and “Dental imagiology”;
- 2 continuing education courses one about “The importance of a multidisciplinary approach in patients with OSAS – The role of the oral hygienist” and the other about basic life support;

5. Public consultations of legal documents

APHO promote advocacy for oral health by giving its contribution to the public discussion of official documents:

- Oral Health Promotion National Program
- Electronic Health Record
- Health Professional Electronic Card
- Implementation model of the dental hygienist in ULS (Local Health Unit) of the National Health system.

6. IFDH

Dissemination of the IFDH quarterly newsletters and the surveys to all members. Participation in the IFDH 2023 Global Oral Health Summit from which resulted an information to the members.

7. Advocacy for professional self-regulation

APHO actively integrates FTS (Health Technology Forum) which primary goal is to create a Professional Order for Health Technologies Professions.

The existence of a Professional Order capable of establishing deontological rules, technical and scientific standards, and of regulation of access to and exercise of the profession, is an indispensable element in affirming the excellence of the health care provided by Health Technology professionals. Hearings in Parliamentary Committees, Parliamentary Groups and members of the

Government were held to raise awareness, publicize, and support the creation of the Professional Order.

Our efforts were intended to address the primary issues that Dental Hygienists and APHO are presently facing and to inspire us to identify the best answers and form partnerships that will enable us to fulfill our obligations.

By investing in the advancement and evolution of the professional career, APHO has maintained its dominance in Portugal's oral health promotion and disease prevention despite several obstacles and challenges.

Lisbon, 16th April, 2024

APHO Board
Fátima Duarte
Sandra Ribeiro Graça

Country report Netherlands

2024 Dutch Dental Hygienist association

Since November 2023, Manon van Splunter has transferred her presidentship to Loes Velthoven. Sylvia van Houten is the new vicepresident. If we look back on the past year, there have been 3 important points.

1. Experiment full independent authority dental hygienist
2. Gaining awareness among the Dutch public of the importance of good oral health and the role of the dental hygienist to achieve this
3. To make Dutch politicians familiar with dental hygienists, their tasks and the importance of preventive oral care

1. Experiment full independent authority dental hygienist

The experiment for the full independent authority of dental hygienists is in its final phase. Dental hygienists are already trained to use local anesthesia, to drill and fill primary cavities and to indicate and make x-rays. A functional independent authority already applies for these tasks, this means that a referral from a dentist is necessary, but supervision not needed. The experiment has been used to carry out these actions completely independent after a positive final decision. The experiment will run for a total of 5 years (we are in the 5th year already) and almost 1,300 colleagues have registered. It appears that a positive final decision will be made. However, due to the fall of the Dutch government, we expect a delay in the process. Other outcomes are still possible due to the negative lobbying of dentists. We are nevertheless positive about the development.

2. Gaining awareness among the Dutch public of the importance of good oral health and the role of the dental hygienist to achieve this

Troughout the year we have several campaigns to familiarize the public with the Dental Hygienist. One of those campaigns lasts a week and takes place around the World Oral HealthDay and another campaign occurs in November and lasts the entire month. From spring 2024 we started an always-on campaign, a campaign that, as the word suggests, is continuous. In addition to this campaigns, we are also visible in other ways. For example, we are in the process of placing dental hygienists at well-baby clinics. Although oral care is free of charge in the Netherlands till the age of 18, 40% of young children do not use these service. Most of these children come from the low social economic status group, but deserve an equally fair chance at good oral health and a fair start as well. The association works closely with the government and other organizations to arrange for dental hygienists to start to promote oral health care in well-baby clinics this year. Dutch research shows that by deploying a dental hygienist at this clinics, there is a 25% reduction in the risk of incipient caries and a 30% reduction in dentin caries. When children in the intervention group did develop caries, significantly fewer tooth surfaces were affected for both early caries and dentin caries.

3. To make Dutch politicians familiar with dental hygienists, their tasks and the importance of preventive oral care

We notice for years that 'dentistry' and the 'dentist' are still often discussed in politics. By being visible, involving and informing politicians, by being visible, engaging and informing politicians, we have observed a growing. After the fall of our government in 2023, new elections were held. Many parties believe that oral care should be fully or partially included in basic insurance because approximately 640,000 people cannot receive oral care for financial reasons. Together with the association for dentists and dental prosthetists, we have developed a guideline that describes minimum oral care for this group. This guideline is now being used by politicians and the government as a basis to develop a policy to also attract this group of people to the dental care provider.



REPORT FROM ASSOCIATION OF DENTAL HYGIENISTS IN SLOVAKIA

Dear members of the International Federation of Dental Hygienists, esteemed delegates,

We are excited to introduce new Board of Directors in Slovak Republic, the elections were held in september 2023. Janka Hurtalová, the newly elected president of the Association of Dental Hygienists in Slovakia and the delegate IFDH. Kamila Genšor, new vice president and the delegate IFDH. Denisa Koňošová as a secretary, Daniela Čerňanská as a treasurer and Adriana Beňová as a member of committee. We would like to share an overview of what our Association of Dental Hygienists in Slovakia has been up to in the past year.

It has been a year marked by both challenges and achievements, and we are thrilled connect with you, our international colleagues and partners. We continued our efforts to ensure excellent educational opportunities for our members. Through various professional seminars, webinars and conferences, we have delved into the latest advancements in dental hygiene. These events have empowered our members with valuable insights and skills to deliver top-quality oral healthcare to our patients. We share these events in our social media at our web: www.adhs.sk and also at our facebook and instagram page. We are passionate about improving our website and social networks and providing the newest informations to our members.

Our Association has been actively involved in educating the public about the importance of dental hygiene. Our aim is to increase awareness of oral health and its overall quality. We want people to understand that maintaining good dental hygiene is not only better for the environment but also more cost effective than treating dental issues like cavities. Since cavities are the most common oral problem, our association continues to support the

“GENERATION WITHOUT DECAY” project, initiated by our previous president, Anna Sloviaková. This project begins in gynecological clinics, where doctors recommend professional dental hygiene to pregnant woman. This year we continue with this program in kindergartens and primary schools. It’s a program dedicated to preventing cavities from childhood through adulthood. The initiative offers dental hygiene education, access to fluoride treatments, and sealants to protect teeth from decay. By focusing on these groups, our Association aims to reduce the occurrence of cavities.

Our former president, Anna Sloviaková, and all members of our association are included into carrying forward this initiative into schools. It is the third Module of this project, known as “Protecting the sixth tooth.”

This module is designed for children starting from the age of 6. Our focus is on the sixth permanent tooth and cleaning the interdental spaces. Many children still have their sixth permanent tooth near a decayed baby tooth until they reach 12 years old. We point out the importance of removing plaque. As part of this module, dental hygienists will visit primary schools, leisure centers, sports clubs, hobby groups childrens homes and families with multiple children. Additionally, there is module four, Named “Lead and protect”, which motivate students in medical schools to get involved in this project.

Through this project, Association of Dental hygienists in Slovakia aims to increase awareness about dental hygiene, point out the importance of prevention and highlight the impact of oral health on overall health of the body.”

Association of Dental Hygienists in Slovakia, its executive committee, and all members are dedicated to prevention in various age groups. Among other things, we are proud to mention that since the beginning of 2024: we have educated 40 classes of children in preschools and primary schools. The children have learned about tooth anatomy, dietary habits, and tooth cleaning with a toothbrush, interdental brush and flosspick. We also organized World Oral Health Day in Slovakia. First one at shopping center in the city of Žilina. The general public had the oportunity to learn more about oral health. Second one in the city of Topoľčany, where the project „Generation Without Decay“ was presented. The general public had the oportunity to ask questions about oral health and learn about it more. And we are also working diligently on further prevention-related activities. We can mention the upcoming Children’s Day, where a full-day event focused on children’s oral health will take place at a shopping center in the city of Žilina.

Our primary focus is establishing the Chamber of Dental Hygienists in Slovakia. We have already submitted a detailed catalog of dental hygiene procedures to the Ministry of Health, emphasizing the importance of dental

hygiene in our country. Our goal is to ensure that dental hygiene remains a reliable and respected profession. In the future, we plan to meet Magister Marta Krížanová, the founder of the Association of Dental Hygienists in Slovakia, and participate in every meetings alongside her. Additionally, our association has put a lot of energy to strengthen our international connections. We want to express our heartfelt gratitude to our esteemed colleagues from the Czech Association, whom we see as close partners and allies, always willing to support us. This collaboration has provided us with fresh perspectives and approaches to oral healthcare.

For the future, we set ambitious goals. We plan to further enhance the professional development and education of our members, strengthen our international partnerships, and expand our educational activities and projects.





ORAL HYGIENISTS' ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AFRICA

SOUTH AFRICA (OHASA) REPORT

HOD/ISDH 2024

Seoul, South Korea



HOD Reps: Anri Bernardo and Elaine Johnson

OHASA is the Oral Hygienists' Association of South Africa.

In 2023 we celebrated 50 years of Oral Hygienists in South Africa as well as the 45th year of OHASA. The celebrations were held at the AGM and National Conference which was a great success. Our biggest achievements over the years were getting Independent private practice and the 3-year degree program for Oral Hygiene undergraduates.

Currently, we have a membership total of 455 members, an increase from last year, but this is not a reflection of how many Oral Hygienists' are registered with HPCSA – Health Professionals Council of South Africa. We have an increase of Oral Hygiene students registered under our student membership category with a total of 71 students and 96 Independent Private Practitioners as part of our membership. Our membership consists of a majority of Oral Hygienists and then we do have a few Dental assistants, dental therapists, and dentists as part of our association.

The association has 4 branches, namely Gauteng, Western Cape both being the largest, followed by Eastern Cape and KwaZulu-Natal.

Each branch hosts full-day seminars annually, with accredited CPD points. Together with the full-day seminars in specific provinces, the national committee of the association arranges free online webinars throughout the year to help members obtain CPD points and to promote our association to non-members as well. The current regulation for obtaining CPD points is, 30 CEUs in 12 months.

Over the past three years, we have included a virtual seminar running concurrently with a full-day seminar. This virtual seminar may be attended by members from other branches as well.

OHASA has a separate committee that does CPD accreditation for our association and other associations and companies that would like to present accredited CPD courses.

This year will be the third year that we will be hosting our National Conference with our AGM over two days. It will be held in Cape Town on the 25th -26th of October 2024. At our two-day seminars, we are increasing practical hands-on workshops with the latest technology and skills as well as introducing a Psychology practical workshop for our delegates. The conference will also offer top speakers for the full day and we are planning to include our student members to present case studies etc. We will again extend the virtual invitation to this conference to our fellow country's associations via the IFDH communication portals.

OHASA launched its new website at the beginning of this year. It is a fully functional website with traders' sponsorship. The main exciting future of this new website is that it is public facing as well as professional facing. The public has access to oral health promotional blogs as well as searching for an Oral Hygiene practitioner in their area to make contact with. For the professionals the following are available on the new website: OHASA Journal (4 per

year) with a CPD questionnaire, online membership registration and a payment gate for registrations and event registrations, news and forum portals for members to interact, job opportunities posts, information such as membership benefits, office bearers, code of ethics, our constitution and POPI act documents available.

The new website gives our traders and sponsors a platform to market their companies and products with hyperlinks to their websites, apps, and portals. We are also very active on our Facebook and Instagram pages.

We are very thankful for the continuous support from all our traders and stakeholders. This year we have increased our university engagement session at the 5 different Universities in South Africa that offer the oral hygiene program, with the support of our trader's engagement and sponsorships. We feel that the future of Oral Hygiene starts with the undergraduate programs and are grateful that we could increase engagements with them.

As of last year, we have partnered with Medical Insurance/Dental Protection to increase the awareness of the importance of Dental Protection to our members via ethical webinars, ethical sessions at seminars, and email/social media blasts to members. We have also been partnered with GEMS (Government Employees Medical Scheme) medical aid for years now and we have continued engagement with them regarding fees etc. In the past two years, we successfully reached an agreement with them to add some codes being paid to Oral Hygienist and motivate and successfully received Oral Hygiene treatment codes to be paid to Oral Hygienists at the same rate as Dentists (equal work, equal pay). We continue having these yearly engagements with GEMS/DENIS, by collaboration via webinars, meetings, and submitting Product Development Proposals for Oral Hygiene treatment codes. We are working on strategies to get other medical aids also on board for engagements.

The Oral Hygienist in South Africa will soon be introduced to an expanded scope of practice again. The new scope of practice draft is currently on the Minister of Health's desk to be signed off and then only it will be promulgated. The inclusion of prescriptions – limited to the Oral Hygiene scope of work will be the main change in the current scope of practice. A current academic challenge is that the government wants to merge the oral hygiene and dental therapy professions as one, called oral health therapist. We do not have a lot of info yet but we are ready to participate in stakeholders meetings etc.

Currently, our biggest challenges are membership totals, we would like to see a further increase in membership to have a bigger voice as Oral Hygienists in our country, but a lot of professionals are facing economic/financial challenges even after COVID-19. The association is trying its best to keep membership fees as low as possible and also taking into consideration the duties and responsibilities of the association that are increasing and need financial support to run this smoothly. Our status from an NPO to an NPC has changed and we require an administrator now for the association to help with all the daily admin duties.

We successfully passed the motion for adding an administrator portfolio to our association through a motion that was passed at the AGM last year and we are in the process of making some constitutional changes through a legal process to add the motions that were passed at the AGM as one of them is appointing an administrator for the association.

The way forward for OHASA and the Oral Hygiene profession:

We would like to increase the awareness and collaboration with social responsibilities in our country as this has been a lack over the years. Currently, our only outreach projects are with The South African Pediatric Association in their Social Responsibility project.

As part of the IFDH, we want to increase our association's collaboration with other countries' associations through combined online seminars, webinars, etc to build a stronger relationship with our fellow oral hygiene associations.

Something we are excited about is the discussions we have in our current National Exco to place a Bid for our country to host the 2032 HoD and ISDH.

From myself as President of OHASA, the National Exco, and the members of the association. We want to thank the IFDH committees and Exco for their continuous support and collaboration.

Best wishes from South Africa to your Country.

Anri Bernardo
OHASA President

A Bernardo

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2024-03-25

Country report: Swedish Dental Hygienists Association (STHF)

Established 1969

IFDH member since 1986 (1973 member of International Liaison Committee, ILC)

Total members March 2024: 3338

Active, full paying members: 2242

Independent practitioners: 152

Student members, passive and retired members: 672

Unemployed: 30

DH-programs: 7 - examine approximal 200/year, 180 Ect, Bachelor degree.

Dental Hygienists with PhD: 43, 4 Professors and 5 associated professors

Swedish Dental Hygienist Association, STHF.

Organization:

7 board members, 24 local chapters

Councils: Scientific, Ethical, Marketing, Journal, Leadership

DH- Network – Hospital employed, Community Oral health, Leadership, Independent practitioners, Elderly care, Research educated, Clinical teachers

Congress: 2023 (every three years - next 2026)

Annual conference: TandhygienistDagarna (Dental Hygienist Days) 2023 in person meeting.

Operation conference: In person fall 2024 (every three years)

Participation in external fairs: Approx. 6 every year

Scholarships:

The Swedish DH Association member scholarship in memory of professor Sture Nyman.

The Swedish DH Association & Professor Kerstin Öhrn's scholarship for excellent thesis. This scholarship is presented every three years.

The Swedish DH Association & TePe Nordic student-scholarships (one at each DH program).

Journal: TandhygienistTidningen, 6 issues/year

Communication with members and public: Website: www.tandhygienistforening.se, Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, Youtube, newsletters to members.

International collaboration – IFDH, EDHF, ADEE

International Directors:

Fouzieh Eliassy, STHF president, fouzieh.eliasy@tandhygienistforening.se

Ulrika Lindmark, STHF boardmember ulrika.lindmark@tandhygienistforening.se

Association activities

- STHF has issued an opinion on 7 referrals 2023 from authorities and the government.
- STHF has been represented in working groups, investigations, boards, hearings, workshops, investigations and conferences with the government, authorities, boards and employers, both national and international.
- STHF meets regularly, in person or digitally, people from the national authorities, the dental profession, educators, researchers, employers and interprofessional collaboration with other healthcare professionals
- STHF arranges member activities, courses and network meetings, student activities. Symposium at the annual Dental Fair regarding Specialization for dental hygienists. Courses on trade union activities, negotiation techniques, tax liability, leadership, starting a company / independent internship. Using digital technology has been a great resource that will remain in our toolbox for communication with members.
- STHF made a number of digital and in person member recruitment activities at universities with DH programs, labor market activities, local departments and student fairs.
- STHF participates in several working groups that develop a new oral health insurance system.
- The lack of dental hygienists is still a major challenge. STHF lobbies nationally for an additional DH program and vis-à-vis employers to use DH competence more effectively.

STHF's international activities: EDHF member conference and the annual meeting.
president Fouzieh Eliassy is a current member of the IFDH board

STHF key activity:

Specialization project to develop systematic continuing education leading to formal competences in following areas: DH specialized in periodontal health, DH specialized in Caries prevention, DH specialized in child and adolescents care, DH specialized on elderly and care dependent persons. A couple of DH has started this education.

Submitted by, STHF board member and delegate Ulrika Lindmark

Questions concerning the content of the country report can be mailed to:
ulrika.lindmark@tandhygienistforening.se

In 2023 we were still struggling with the effects of the corona pandemic. There was a somewhat lethargic atmosphere among the members about being physically present at specialist conferences and congresses. This year our specialist conference is taking place in cooperation with the Swiss Society of Periodontology. We are fully booked and happy that we can fill the hall without too much advertising.

Our annual strategy meeting will take place in two weeks. This is a good time to think further and define new goals. We enjoy these two days and the shared exchange.

This year, we continued to focus intensively on the professional deployment of qualified dental hygienists HF (DH) and the difference between prophylaxis assistants and DHs. With the "DH HD 2030" project, which has already been reported on several times, we want to ensure that the general public is informed about the differences between the professions in dental practice by 2030. To this end, various projects were initiated in 2023, which will finally be finalized in 2024:

- Newspaper article about the DH-PA activity (reach 3.5 million)
- Collaboration with a major industry partner. All products will bear our logo. It is also recommended to visit the DH at least once a year
- Instagram channel for the general public (tips & tricks on oral hygiene recommendations)
- Brochure on a healthy mouth. Collaboration with unisanté (Centre universitaire de médecine Générale et santé publique, Lausanne)
- Symposium with a "speed dating" (fall in love with your industry). Here, all information on oral hygiene products is provided to our delegates in 1:1 discussions with the industry.
- Promoting independence and mobile working in institutions

We are hopeful that our activities will attract more attention this year.

UK Country Report. IFDH, Seoul, South Korea, 2024.

It is an honour to represent the UK here in Seoul with my colleague, and President Elect, Rhiannon Jones. Rhiannon will become President of the British Society of Dental Hygiene and Therapy (BSDHT) in November 2024 when my term concludes.

In November 2023, we held our AGM and welcomed a new Honorary Secretary to the Executive Team, Juliette Reeves. Following the AGM, we held the OHC (Oral Health Conference) and hosted around 350 delegates over two days. We are now planning for OHC2024 in Harrogate. The BSDHT celebrated its 75th anniversary on 6th July 2024, and so this year's conference theme is *'75 years at the heart of prevention'*.

BSDHT hosts regional group study days, and offers the hands-on educational opportunity, *'Refresh and Refine'*. Members also meet their Continuing Professional Development requirements with webinars, and by reading the journal, *'Dental Health'*, which they receive 6 times a year. The Publications Team produces the *'Annual Clinical Journal'*, and this year we have a special edition in collaboration with the International Journal of Dental Hygiene as part of the anniversary celebrations.

The BSDHT takes its social responsibility obligations seriously and within the anniversary celebrations we are encouraging members to volunteer in their communities with the *'75 hours for 75 years'* initiative. By the end of the year, we will have arranged for 75 trees to be planted across the UK to also mark the anniversary. The *'First Smiles'* programme, which is a volunteer-led schools toothbrushing project, will run again in June. Last year members visited 52 schools, this year it would be amazing if we could reach 75 schools as part of the theme for the year!

One of the biggest achievements we have enjoyed in 2024 has been that the UK government has agreed with the outcomes of a consultation we have worked on for the last 11 years. There is still some work to be done, namely the dissemination of an educational programme for dental hygienists and dental therapists to be able to work within this mechanism. Once initiated, they may supply high-strength Fluoride toothpastes to patients, and to administer topical and local anaesthetics, and Fluoride varnish to patients. Previously a prescription from a dentist was required for this. This is a massive step forward in us having more authority to work to our full autonomy.

BSDHT offers student prizes for the universities to award each year to a student who has excelled, and BSDHT members can enter themselves for the *'Member of the Year'* competition each year. Encouraging our members to excel personally and professionally, is supported by awarding a poster prize each year at the OHC, and inviting nominees to win the Gerald Leatherman award for career-long dedication to the profession. These awards are a highlight of the OHC each year.

Rhiannon and I are delighted to join you all in Seoul this year, and the next time that you meet, it will be Rhiannon and the next BSDHT President Elect who will represent the UK. It has been a privilege to work with you all, and I offer you my good wishes for a happy conference, and a successful, blessed future.

This report is respectfully presented by Miranda Steeples, BSDHT President, on behalf of the UK – July 2024.



2024 Annual Country Report to the International Federation of Dental Hygiene

Number of DH programs

- Entry level (includes Associate & Bachelor of Science)- 340
- Degree Completions to Bachelor of Science- 58
- Masters Degree – 17
- PhD – 0

Number of Registered Practitioners in the Country

- Dental Hygienists – 220,000
- Dental Therapists - Not tracked at ADHA
- Dual Trained – Not tracked at ADHA

Associations Activities

- Launched new subscription to ADHA's online learning platform CE Smart.
- Formed new Industry Relations Council to grow the dialogue between ADHA leadership, industry partners, and the dental hygiene community.
- Dentist/Dental Hygienist (DDH) Compact – this initiative is designed to support the mobility of licensed dentists and dental hygienists through the development of a new interstate compact. This compact will create reciprocity among participant states and reduce the barriers to license portability. To date 5 states have enacted DDH Compact legislation including Iowa, Washington, Tennessee, Wisconsin, and Virginia. Seven states are needed to enact the compact.
- Launched a new content platform "Hygienist Hub" for articles, content, multi-media to feature clinical updates, career strategies, highlights and can't-miss stories.
- Grew ADHA's social media following across 3 primary channels by 5,100+ followers and fans in the past year.
- Partnered with RDH Magazine for an article per month in 2024 on clinical, advocacy and association matters.
- The 2022-23 IOH Scholarship winners are here: <https://www.adha.org/ioh/>
- Fostered impactful collaborations with both new and longstanding partners, enabling ADHA to broaden influence, introduce innovative programs, and fortify alliances dedicated to promoting awareness and progress within the dental hygiene field.

- ADHA's partnerships with Colgate, Heartland Dental Care, Crest+Oral-B, Philips, onDielm, and Henry Schein were instrumental in various initiatives, including National Dental Hygiene Month, student activities, health & wellness programs, membership discounts, and prevention-focused workshops. These collaborations exemplify ADHA's commitment to advancing the profession and enhancing the overall oral health landscape.

Future Plans

- Annual Conferences:
 - ADHA24 – New Orleans, LA – July 26-28, 2024
 - ADHA25 – Long Beach, CA – July 25-27, 2025
- Continue to support passing the DDH Compact in individual states. Once the 7th state passes legislation (expected in Spring 2024) ADHA will work with partners to establish the commission that will develop and oversee the process of applying for compact privileges.
- Continue to foster and develop exciting programs with corporate partners.