

# Fewer Cavities, Lower Cost



**4 in 10**

Head Start children in New York State have experienced tooth decay<sup>1</sup>

Policies supporting care for **high-risk kids** can save money.

The Power of Early Prevention, Ages 0-5

Each \$1 spent → Could Save Medicaid:<sup>2</sup>

 Water fluoridation	\$6.00	     
 Toothbrushing program	\$3.21	  
 Motivational interviewing	\$2.83	  

...and Reduces Dental Disease

↓  
**27%**  
through aggressive treatment of early decay<sup>3</sup>

↓  
**32%**  
through fluoride varnish



1. NYS Health Department, 2007 data. Includes Early Head Start children

2. 10-year savings estimates detailed in "Reducing early childhood caries in a Medicaid population: A systems model analysis," JADA, April 2015

3. Treating white spots before cavities occur