

# A HAPPY MOUTH IS... a basic human right

PROMOTE ACCESS TO  
ORAL CARE FOR REFUGEES



World Oral  
Health Day  
20 March

[worldoralhealthday.org](http://worldoralhealthday.org)  
#WOHD26 #HappyMouth

**fdi**  
FDI World Dental Federation

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Oral health is crucial to the well-being of refugees, who are already vulnerable. They often face limited access to oral health education, disease prevention, and therapeutic dental care. Additionally, language barriers can hinder their health literacy. A unified approach is essential to create an enabling environment for action that leaves no one behind.



## WHAT CAN BE DONE?

Depending on the local context and needs, a range of actions proposed below could contribute to improving access to oral healthcare for refugees.



**Educate families and individuals** about how oral health is an important part of general health by providing multi-lingual oral health education videos or printed materials.



**Coordinate regular dental visits** by allocating the necessary resources such as transportation, babysitting, translation, and service providers who are culturally competent.



**Train personnel**, from refugee camps where relevant, to implement person-to-person communication techniques, such as motivational interviewing.



**Provide fluoridated toothpastes** and other professional fluoride therapies as part of oral disease prevention activities.



**Increase awareness about the importance of self-care** and healthy dietary habits and try to make healthy food choices and self-care hygiene products available.

For more information and support:

[fdiworlddental.org/refugee-oral-health-promotion-and-care-project](http://fdiworlddental.org/refugee-oral-health-promotion-and-care-project)

