

# DENTAL CARE

COLORADO  
COALITION  
FOR THE HOMELESS



For more than 40 years, the Colorado Coalition for the Homeless has responded to the specialized health needs of adults and children experiencing or at-risk of homelessness. We offer medical and behavioral health care, substance use treatment, dental, vision, and pharmacy services to reduce as many barriers as possible for our patients.

In 2025, nearly 14,000 individuals received healthcare through the Coalition. One in every four of our patients also received dental care, onsite at our Federally Qualified Health Center.

## HOMELESSNESS AND HEALTH

People experiencing homelessness have medical conditions such as diabetes, heart disease, and HIV/AIDS at rates three to six times higher than their housed counterparts. Nearly half (45%) of adults experiencing homelessness rated their health as poor or fair—four times higher than the general population.

And these negative health trends continue in oral health. People experiencing homelessness are twelve times more likely than individuals with stable housing to have dental complications, and even those living in a hotel or staying with a friend or relative are still six times more likely to have dental problems. Just as with other basic health issues, dental care is best addressed through regular, consistent care and check ups that are harder to access while unhoused or unstably housed.

Living on the street often means that a person does not have access to routine check-ups, clean drinking water, and the necessary oral hygiene tools to maintain dental health. In a nationwide survey, 83% of people missing a tooth while homeless had not had a dental cleaning in the previous 4 years, a rate 4.6 times higher than in the general population.

When someone walks into the Coalition's dental clinics, common problems include emergency pain and swelling associated with infected teeth, gum disease, infections, broken teeth and cavities, missing teeth, and lost dentures. That is when our dental team works together to address their needs.



*The dental team takes a well-deserved break at the Coalition's Champa location*

## CARE AT THE COALITION

The Stout Street Health Center in downtown Denver is a Federally Qualified Health Center which is home to the Coalition's main dental clinic, with nine chairs onsite. The dental team at CCH also serves clients at additional brick and mortar locations such as 2111 Champa and the 48<sup>th</sup> Avenue Health Center, and meets client needs remotely through street outreach, mobile care, and more.

Our dedicated staff of nine dentists, three dental hygienists and other support staff provide an array of services including preventative care, x-rays, cleanings, fillings, crowns, root canals, dentures. Dental hygiene tools such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, denture adhesive and floss are made available anytime at no cost.

**3,204** CLIENTS RECEIVED  
CARE IN 2025

**1,288** CLIENTS WERE  
AGED 55+

## CARE AT THE COALITION, CONT.

In addition to addressing oral health concerns, the Coalition's integrated Dental team can cross-consult across health center operations.

For instance, a client coming in to address dental needs will also be tested for their blood pressure and blood sugar (A1C) levels, and receive a brief mental health assessment. With this comprehensive information, dental staff can quickly connect patients to a medical or behavioral health staff member, and work with the client to address multiple issues simultaneously.

## INNOVATION IN OUR WORK

Serving a unique population with specialized needs, the CCH dental team prioritizes innovative approaches, particularly those that focus on prevention of oral disease and arresting decay. Living on the streets contributes to conditions that can only be addressed surgically and the dental team is able to meet these needs within the team or via external referrals. Recently, the team integrated numerous non-surgical additions to traditional approaches to combat decay and periodontal disease including use of Curodont, Silver Diamine Fluoride, POV1-1, and Hybenex. These solutions are all cleared by the FDA and in use in various private practices and Community Health Centers.



## FIND US:

The Stout Street Health Center, located at 2130 Stout Street, Denver, CO 80205, is home to the main dental clinic for CCH.

## OTHER LOCATIONS INCLUDE:

- 2111 Champa Street
- 48<sup>th</sup> Avenue Health Center
- West End Health Center
- Street & Mobile Outreach

## WE OFFER:

- Dental care (adults and children)
- Examinations
- X-rays
- Fluoride treatments
- Cleanings
- Fillings
- Stainless steel crowns
- Deep Cleanings (scaling and root planing)
- Periodontal maintenance visits
- Urgent needs and extractions
- Root canals
- Full or partial dentures
- Patient education


*"Removing pathology and restoring function are the priorities of the CCH Dental team. Our goal is to renew dignity, honor, and hope one patient, one smile, and one life at a time."*



— Carol Niforatos, DDS  
Director of Dental Services

## CONTACT US

[COLORADOCOALITION.ORG/HEALTHLOCATIONS](https://coloradocoalition.org/healthlocations)

 303-293-2220

@COCOALITION

