



Leadership Development

Building the skilled, equity-driven leaders needed to guide strong oral health programs.

The ASTDD Foundation invests in leadership development provided by the Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors (ASTDD) to help state and territorial oral health leaders navigate complexity, build strong programs, and guide lasting progress. By supporting current and emerging leaders, the Foundation helps strengthen the workforce behind healthier communities.

Why This Matters

Strong programs need strong leaders. State and territorial oral health leaders are asked to manage change, build partnerships, respond to emerging public health needs, and guide programs in complex systems. The ASTDD Foundation supports leadership development because lasting progress in oral health depends on people who are prepared to lead with resilience, strategic vision, and a deeply rooted public health perspective.

What We Support

The Foundation supports leadership development offered by ASTDD to strengthen seasoned, current, and emerging leaders across state and territorial oral health programs. This includes cohort-based leadership development, mentoring, coaching, peer learning, curriculum modules, and leadership tools and assessments.

These offerings build practical skills, cultivate strategic thinking, and support leaders as they navigate real-world challenges. Learning is delivered

through virtual platforms, webinars, online learning systems, written materials, and occasional in-person convenings, with support from seasoned subject-matter experts, ASTDD consultants, and Foundation leadership.

How This Pillar Advances ASTDD's Mission and Impact

Leadership development directly advances ASTDD's mission by strengthening the people at the center of state and territorial oral health programs. It builds on ASTDD's longstanding commitment to supporting strong public health systems, workforce development, collaboration, and evidence-based practice.

By investing in leaders, the Foundation helps create a more resilient and culturally competent oral health workforce. It also helps programs improve decision-making, deepen partnerships, and respond more effectively to evolving needs. Over time, this contributes to more-effective programs and a more resilient oral health system overall.

How You Can Help

Support for leadership development helps the ASTDD Foundation invest in the people who guide and sustain oral health systems. Philanthropic funding can help expand access to leadership training, mentoring, peer learning, and expert guidance for current and emerging leaders across states and territories.



Join us in building stronger programs, partnerships, and outcomes.

Contact us to learn more

