



INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE OF DENTISTS

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Katelyn Whitlatch



During dental school, Katelyn Whitlatch developed a strong passion for outreach, public health, and pediatric dentistry. She worked with peers to reactivate The Ohio State student chapter of the American Association of Public Health Dentistry and currently serves as its president. One of the most impactful experiences of her dental school career was serving as Community Outreach Co-Chair for the Ohio State Chapter of the American Student Dental Association, where she helped plan an international service trip to Xenacoj, Guatemala. This initiative is now being integrated into The Ohio State College of Dentistry's new Global Initiatives Program, launching in 2026 and will allow students to provide hands-on care and oral health education at a year-round clinic. In addition to coordinating international outreach, she has volunteered in several local service efforts, including Smiles for Schools, Give Kids a Smile, Ohio Special Olympics, and Central Ohio Girls on the Run. These opportunities have allowed her to connect with her community and reaffirmed her goal of expanding access to care, particularly for underserved children and families. Her interest in public health also led her to pursue research focused on nationwide variation in Medicaid reimbursement rates for pediatric dental procedures. This work has broadened her understanding of systemic barriers in care delivery and strengthened her belief in the importance of policy-informed, evidence-based practice.