

## National Interprofessional Initiative on Oral Health Announced as a Winner of the 2019 George E. Thibault, MD Nexus Award for Multi-System Implementation



(Minneapolis, Minnesota) – (Friday, September 13, 2019)

The National Interprofessional Initiative on Oral Health was awarded the 2019 George E. Thibault, MD Nexus Award in the category of Multi-System Implementation on August 20, 2019. This award was presented by the National Center for Interprofessional Practice and Education at the University of Minnesota. The National Center is a unique public-private partnership charged by its funders to provide the leadership, evidence and resources needed to guide the nation on the use of interprofessional education and collaborative practice as a way to enhance the experience of health care, improve population health and reduce the overall cost of care

The National Interprofessional Initiative on Oral Health ([NIIOH](https://summit2019.nexusipe.org/)) received the 2019 Thibault Nexus Award at the “Nexus Summit 2019: Optimizing Interprofessional Clinical Learning Environments – Better Care, Better Value, Better Education” (<https://summit2019.nexusipe.org/>). This annual conference is a gathering of over 450 health professions educators, clinicians, policy makers, payers, students, and patients/families who are committed to advancing team-based care in the United States. Anita Duhl Glicker, MSW represented NIIOH to receive the Nexus Award.

The George E. Thibault, MD Nexus Award celebrates exemplary interprofessional collaboration in the United States and those who are thinking and acting differently where practice and education connect in health systems. This award recognizes two Nexus partnerships of health systems, clinics, educational institutions, and/or community organizations for extraordinary contributions to the Nexus: *Redesigning both healthcare education and healthcare delivery simultaneously to be better integrated and more interprofessional while demonstrating outcomes.*

### About the National Interprofessional Initiative on Oral Health

The National Interprofessional Initiative on Oral Health submitted a nomination form titled, *A Systems Change Initiative - Advancing Interprofessional Education and Integrated Oral Health Care*. The National Interprofessional Initiative on Oral Health (NIIOH) is a consortium of funders, health professionals and national organizations with a shared goal of eradicating dental disease. Their stated assumption was that if they could integrate oral health into education and professional coursework, providers would enter the workforce ready and willing to partner with other health professionals to create a new interprofessional standard for oral health in primary care, sharing information and patient management responsive to community and patient needs. The NIIOH was designed as is a systems-change initiative providing backbone support and facilitating agreement and alignment across health professions to ready an expanding interprofessional oral health workforce for evolving care models focused on team-based, collaborative whole person care.

The NIIOH is an innovative cross-organizational, cross-system level partnership, an excellent example of a Multi-System Implementation for the 2019 George E. Thibault, MD Nexus Award.

“Our ability to care for the health of the population is stronger when we join together to create high impact education and delivery models that capitalize on the strengths of the entire health care team,” explains Anita Glicken, Executive Director of the NIIOH.

For more information on the Thibault Nexus Award, please visit <https://summit2019.nexusipe.org/program/nexus-awards>.