

Report of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Work Group  
To: House of Delegates  
September 2025

The Board of Directors established the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Work Group in 2021. The Work Group has identified the following priorities for its work:

- While talent exists in every community, opportunities are not equally distributed. The Work Group is committed to achieving a dental workforce that reflects the diversity of our state and sustainably thrives within our dental community.
- The Work Group is dedicated to expanding equitable access to mentorship, leadership, and professional development to all dentists.
- The Work Group strives to foster and sustain a culture of inclusiveness within the organization, grounded in open dialogue, thoughtful reflection, and an assumption of good intent.

Over the last year, the Work Group completed its review of the WSDA's governance documents and has requested, through the Board of Directors, that the Work Group be formalized as a Standing Committee. This request is a portion of HD-12-2025 Regarding Standing Committees. The Work Group also continued to support the Black and African American Dental Professionals Affinity Group and explore the creation of new affinity groups.

The following individuals served on the Work Group in 2025:

- Dr. Dennis Bradshaw
- Dr. Caitlin Burelson
- Dr. Brittany Dean
- Dr. Joseph de Jesus
- Dr. Douglass Jackson
- Dr. Aimi Mizutani
- Dr. Harlyn Susarla
- Dr. Ashley Ulmer

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