

Dr. Zachary Hairston has over 40 years of experience as a dentist beginning his clinical practice in Danville, Virginia. He graduated from the Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) School of Dentistry in 1983, and received further study from the United States Dental Institute and Gerety Orthodontics. Dr. Hairston is a 1975 graduate of Norfolk State University in Biology and completed the Meharry Medical College Biomedical Sciences program.

Since 2015, Dr. Hairston has served as the Dental Consultant with the Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) Medicaid Smiles for Children (SFC) program. In this capacity, Dr. Hairston oversees all clinical aspects of the SFC program which now includes comprehensive dental care for adults. As the State Dental Consultant, Dr. Hairston also works with the dental benefits administrator to assure provider network adequacy, compliance to contractual standards and providing oversight for the program's Office Reference Manual. He is instrumental in reviewing provider appeals.

An original member of the DMAS's Dental Advisory Committee, Dr. Hairston was integral in establishing the SFC program in 2005, providing comprehensive dental services to members 20 years of age and younger. In 2015, he assisted DMAS in expanding dental services to pregnant women enrolled in Medicaid. Most recently, Dr. Hairston served as the clinical lead for the Department's expanded dental coverage for adult Medicaid members and the 30% increase for statewide dental benefits.

Dr. Hairston is a member of the American Dental Association, Virginia Dental Association and is a Past President and current member of the Old Dominion Dental Society and Peter B. Ramsey Dental Society. He is a former Virginia Dental Director for DentaQuest and currently serves on the Admissions Committee for the VCU School of Dentistry. Dr. Hairston is a member of CMS Oral Health Technical Advisory Group and has worked with NASHP/SDOH and Oral Health Policy Workgroup.

Dr. Hairston has been an active member of the church he grew up in for over 60 years. Chairing the Constitution and Bylaws committee. The Danville Redevelopment and Housing Authority named its inaugural scholarship in honor of Dr. Hairston in 2023. Dr. Hairston has served as Chairman of the Board for First State Bank and is currently a board member for MoveMent Bank. He holds life membership in Kappa Alpha Psi, NAACP, VCU/MCV alumni and NSU alumni. Dr. Hairston is married and a proud father and grandfather. He is a consummate jazz enthusiast, a former private pilot, and enjoys swimming, biking, playing tennis, fishing, and completing marine life jigsaw puzzles.

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