



May 2, 2023

Liz Blackwell-Moore, Public Health Director
Cumberland County Public Health Department
142 Federal St.
Portland, Maine 04103

RE: “Strengthening Oral Health”: Building a More Robust Children’s Preventative Oral Health Infrastructure in Cumberland County

Dear Liz Blackwell-Moore:

Portland Community Health Center DBA Greater Portland Health is fully committed as a partner in the collaborative efforts necessary for the duration of the project (May 1, 2023-September 30, 2026) to create a more coordinated and sustainable children’s preventative oral health infrastructure for Cumberland County. Strengthening Oral Health addresses a critical need to expand and enhance a network of preventative oral health care in preschools and schools for children with the most barriers to care.

Greater Portland Health (GPH) is a federally qualified health center that provides medical, behavioral, and dental healthcare services as well as supporting services to the Greater Portland, Maine community. GPH offers a full spectrum of preventive, acute, dental, behavioral, and chronic disease management services to all community members, regardless of their ability to pay. With locations across Portland, South Portland, and Westbrook, including six school-based health centers, GPH provides high-quality, patient-centered care that is accessible, affordable, and culturally sensitive. Oral health care is provided at 31 locations including schools, preschools, and their health centers. In an effort to provide equitable and inclusionary care, GPH also offers patient education, interpretation services, transportation assistance, and community outreach. Since its founding in 2009, GPH has established itself as a trusted community resource that works collaboratively with partner organizations to deliver care that is affordable, accessible, and culturally sensitive.

GPH is committed to contributing to Strengthening Oral Health by:

- Participating as content experts in the mapping and modeling project for Cumberland County.
- Participating in the development of a coverage plan for expanding foundational and advanced preventative services.
- Building internal capacity, with adequate funding, to support the expansion of services identified in the mapping and modeling phase of the project.

Cumberland County and the Children’s Oral Health Network of Maine have established a level of experience managing collaboration of the broad coalition of partners around community health. We value the collaborative efforts that are needed to improve the children’s preventative oral health infrastructure in Cumberland County. We look forward to the successful award of the grant.

Sincerely,

Ann Tucker

Ann Tucker
Chief Executive Officer