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**National Association of State School Nurse Consultants, Inc**

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# National Association of State School Nurse Consultants, Inc.

The National Association of State School Nurse Consultants, Inc. (NASSNC) is pleased to introduce itself to the readers of the NASN Newsletter.

In 1974, four state consultants met informally at the American School Health Association (ASHA) meeting in New York City. They decided it was time for more formal meetings of state school nurse consultants. Invitations were sent to consultants, and seven were able to meet in July 1975 in Annapolis, Maryland. The following year, the consultants developed a mission statement. Over the next several years the organization reached out to other state consultants, set criteria for membership, and developed goals and objectives.

The members of NASSNC are registered professional nurses employed by state departments of education, departments of health, or both. They have responsibility for statewide consultation for school health services and services to local, state, and national organizations, agencies, and related organizations, as well as to school nurses and other personnel, parents, and communities.

Their consultation and technical assistance seeks to improve the learning and overall well-being of students by

- impacting and influencing public policy,
- collaborating with other national organizations,
- promoting and supporting research initiatives, and
- influencing school health programs and school nursing practices.

At present, there are 55 state school nurse consultants (active and/or retired) representing 35 states. Find out now if your state has a state school nurse consultant by visiting our Web site (<http://207.28.33.2/swp/tadkins/nassnc/NASSNC.html>) and clicking on "Members." For more information, direct calls to Pat Clemen, treasurer of NASSNC, Inc., and liaison to the NASN newsletter advisory board (Tel. 601-576-7781; Fax: 601-576-7444; e-mail [pclemen@msdh.state.ms.us](mailto:pclemen@msdh.state.ms.us)).

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The advertisement features a central illustration of a hand holding a large, stylized toothbrush. The toothbrush head is decorated with a banner that reads "Bright Smiles, Bright Futures". To the left of the toothbrush are four cloud-shaped buttons, each containing a target audience: "KIDS", "TEENAGERS" (with "CLICK HERE" below it), "PARENTS" (with "CLICK HERE" below it), and "ORAL HEALTH EDUCATORS". The entire advertisement is enclosed in a rectangular border.