AAPD Head Start Dental Home Initiative:
Partnering to Provide Dental Homes and Optimal Oral Health for HS/EHS Children Throughout the U.S.

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Project Director

National Primary Oral Health Conference
Orlando, FL
October 26, 2010
2008-2009 Head Start Program Statistics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ENROLLMENT</th>
<th>1,055,674</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ages:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of 5 year olds &amp; older</td>
<td>3 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of 4 year olds</td>
<td>51 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of 3 year olds</td>
<td>36 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number under 3 years of age</td>
<td>10 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Pregnant Women</td>
<td>1 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Racial/Ethnic Composition:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American Indian/Alaska Native</td>
<td>4 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black/African American</td>
<td>30 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>40 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>2 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawaiian/Pacific Islander</td>
<td>1 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bi-Racial/Multi-Racial</td>
<td>8 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unspecified/Other</td>
<td>17 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic / Latino</td>
<td>36 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| # of Grantees (2007)       | 1,604     |
| # of Centers               |           |
| # of Classrooms            | 51,933    |
| Avg. Cost/Child            | $7,727    |
| Paid Staff                 | 211,962   |
| Volunteers                 | 1,275,579 |

Migrant & Seasonal HS:
- ~36,000 children
- Programs in 39 States
- Mostly Hispanic families

- 93% of Head Start children had health insurance.
- 89% of those with health insurance were enrolled in Medicaid EPSDT or SCHIP programs.
Oral Health & Dental Care in Head Start

• Health Services in Head Start:
  – Important, essential component since inception
  – Comprehensive scope, including dental care
  – Emphasize prevention, early intervention and connecting children/families to ongoing care
  – Emphasis on developing healthy habits and parental involvement
  – Performance standards require a determination of whether each child has an ongoing, continuous, accessible source of care provided or supervised by a dentist (i.e., a dental home) and follow-up
    • Within 90 days for ‘regular’ HS, shorter for M&S HS
    • Linked to Medicaid EPSDT requirements
After 30 years...

• “As reported by Head Start and Early Head Start program directors, training and technical assistance providers, and Administration for Children and Families (ACF), poor access to oral health services, particularly treatment services, has been, and continues to be, the number one health issue impacting Head Start and Early Head Start children.” – ACF/OHS, 2007
• “Despite the significant resources the OHS has devoted to oral health over the past several years, and the progress that has been made in raising awareness about the importance of oral health, *the need to have more dentists available to serve as a dental home for Head Start children remains a critical issue that needs to be addressed by the OHS.*” – ACF/OHS, 2007
Common Challenges:

1. Finding dentists willing to serve Head Start families
   - Medicaid (in some States)
   - Some dentists are reluctant to see young children

2. Paying for needed dental services
   - Identifying resources for children who lack coverage
   - Cost of care

3. Overcoming transportation and other barriers
   - Arranging for transportation
   - No shows / missed appointments
   - Limited services in some rural areas

4. Getting parents and HS Staff to understand the importance of oral health and dental care for young children
   - Lack knowledge about modern dental care
   - Negative personal experiences / fear of going to the dentist
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AAPD Head Start Dental Home Initiative: Partnering to Provide Dental Homes and Optimal Oral Health for HS/EHS Children Throughout the U.S.

Funded: September 30, 2007

Purpose of the contract:

• develop a national network of pediatric and general dentists that will provide dental homes for Head Start and Early Head Start children and families

• provide on-site expertise to the OHS in the Washington, DC metropolitan area
Dentists frequently respond to peer-to-peer professional efforts to organize services for various groups, especially if those efforts provide mechanisms for aligning dentists’ interests and skills with local community program needs.
**AAPD Head Start Dental Home Initiative Organizational Structure**

* - AAPD State Head Start Dental Home Leadership Teams (State x, y, etc. - # varies by the # of states in each DHHS region)
Dental Home Initiative State Launches

2011 STATES
- Alaska
- Arizona
- California (So.)
- Georgia
- Massachusetts
- Nebraska
- New Mexico
- North Carolina
- Ohio
- Pennsylvania
- Wisconsin

2010 STATES
- California (Ct.)
- Colorado
- Idaho
- Illinois
- Louisiana
- Mississippi
- Missouri
- Montana
- New Hampshire
- New Jersey
- South Carolina
- Virginia
- Washington, DC

2009 STATES
- Alabama
- Hawaii
- Indiana
- Iowa
- New York
- North Dakota
- Oklahoma
- Oregon
- Rhode Island
- South Dakota
- Vermont
- West Virginia

2008 STATES
- Connecticut
- Maryland
- Michigan
- Tennessee
- Texas
- Washington
Resource Development

- GIS Software & Provider Databases
- Electronic Communications
- State Leader Handbook
- Review of Existing Materials
- Development of Instructional DVDs
  - Targeted to dentists & other health professionals
  - Targeted to Head Start staff & caregivers
- Continuing Education
The Dental Home and Children’s Oral Health  
(For Dental/Other Health Professionals)

This instructional DVD is intended for use by dental and other health professionals:
- causes and effects of early childhood caries,
- how to perform a quick oral exam on infants and toddlers using the knee-to-knee method,
- preventive counseling measures for parents,
- treatment options,
- information related to the benefits of partnering with Head Start programs.

Parent/Staff Instructional Video Segments on Oral Health Care for Young Children

- How Does Tooth Decay Occurs
- The Dental Home
- Fluoride
- Tooth-brushing
- Healthy Food Choices
- Oral Health Starts During Pregnancy
- A Child’s First Dental Visit
- Making a Child’s Dental Visit a Success
Peer-to-Peer Networking at It’s Best…
Thanks to Pitts Hinson, TN State Leader, for this example!

Identify the need – Recruit providers – Develop the relationships

“The initiative is working throughout the state – not just here. For the first time in over twenty years, all five (Telamon M&S) centers have partnerships with dentists.”

• J. Davis,
State Director, Telamon Corporation
Telamon Migrant & Seasonal HS, TN

- On-site exams
- In-office exams & follow-up treatment
- Dentist participation in parent night
- Staff training & participation in advisory council
- Classroom oral health activities
Local Partnerships: Service Delivery

- Requirements Linked to EPSDT
- Evaluations
  - On-site
  - Dental office – group field trip
  - Dental office – individual appointments
  - Other locations

- Preventive Services
- Follow-up Appointments
- Payment for Services
Successful Local Partnerships

- Communication
- Creative problem-solving
- Win-Win situations
- M&S → Flexibility!!!
Communication

- Consent
- Record keeping
- Appointments
- Treatment needs
- Oral hygiene

Mendy Herke, South Dakota HS
Educational Activities

• Parent meetings
• “Health fairs”
• Classroom curriculum and activities
• Staff training
• Anticipatory guidance

Tiffany Baker, TN Telamon Corp.
Logistics

• Scheduling appointments
  – Families make own appointments
  – Staff assist families in making appointments
  – “Block scheduling”

• Transportation
  – Families responsible for own transportation
  – Staff transports

• Translation services
Head Start Dental Home Initiative

Program Updates

The American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry is pleased to announce the selection of the 12 states to enter the network development phase to provide quality dental homes to Head Start children. State launches for these states will take place spring 2009.

The initiation of the contract between the Office of Head Start and AAPD represents an extremely important opportunity for our members to carry out the mission and vision of the AAPD. The steps we are taking with the Head Start Dental Home initiative will allow access to a Dental Home for the 1 million children in the Head Start program. This initiative can provide the opportunity to fulfill the hope of every pediatric dentist to help alleviate unnecessary discomfort and bring a healthy smile to each and every child.

Please contact the state leader for your state if you are interested in participating in the initiative.

Region I: Rhode Island and Vermont
Region II: New York
Region III: West Virginia
Region IV: Alabama
Region V: Indiana
Region VI: Oklahoma
Region VII: Iowa
Region VIII: South Dakota and North Dakota
Region IX: Hawaii
Region X: Oregon

About Our Initiative

Program Information

Head Start Initiative State Leaders and Regional Consultants

Matthew’s Story

Click to view one Head Start child’s oral health story.

The Importance of Oral Health