Federally Qualified Health Center Strategies to Reach Out to Head Start Programs

National Center on Health
Anne Gibbs, R.D.H., B.S.
National Primary Oral Health Conference
Denver, CO
November 12, 2013
**Rural Colorado FQHC**

**Lamar, Colorado**
- Population 7,836
- 110 mi to nearest city pop 50,000+
- 57.7% white
- 39.7% Hispanic
- 23.6% poverty

**High Plains CHC**
- Only Medicaid dental provider taking new patients for 60 mi

**Local Head Start**
- 79 enrollment slots
FQHC Integration into Head Start

- Staff training
- Classroom education, toothbrush kits, education materials
- Parent presentation
- School-based preventive program, classroom education, parent presentation, oral screenings, prophy, fluoride varnish, sealants, patient navigation

**FQHC Benefits**
- Patient recruitment
- High-encounter production
- Portable dental equipment purchased through grant
- Sustainable program through insurance billing

**Head Start Benefits**
- Dental homes for families
- Help with patient navigation
- Education for families
- Program outcomes met for dental
- Program donations and volunteer hours
FQHC Integration into Head Start

FQHC Keys for Success
• Sufficient team support
• Collect needed information (demographics/billing) at school enrollment
• Efficient billing
• Impeccable paperwork organization (spreadsheet helps keep track of treatment by child and classroom)
• Return requested paperwork to Head Start nurse
• Cultural competency
• Pediatric provider/staff training
• Functioning and ergonomic equipment
• Entice school, students, and parents
• Program flexibility
• Thank the staff

Partners
• State health department
• County health department
• Local pediatric dentist
• Dental/dental hygiene society
Evaluation / Success

• 93% of children at the site have established dental home at beginning of school year
• 94% of children at the site have preventive dental care
• 89% of children at the site complete needed dental treatment
• Many families access care at the CHC
• Continued outreach and support to families and staff
Contact Information

Anne Gibbs, R.D.H., B.S.
Cavity Free at Three Lead
Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
PSD-OH-A5
4300 Cherry Creek Drive South
Denver, CO 80246-1530

anne.gibbs@state.co.us
(303) 691-4907
National Center on Health
Contact Information

Toll-Free: (888) 227-5125

E-mail: nchinfo@aap.org

Website: http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/tta-system/health/center