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

National Center on Health
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National Center on Health Partners

- American Academy of Pediatrics
- Education Development Center, Inc.
- Center for Child and Human Development at Georgetown University
- UCLA Health Care Institute at the UCLA Anderson School of Management
- National Training Institute for Child Care Health Consultants at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center at Georgetown University (OHRC)
  - Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors
Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors

• National nonprofit organization representing state oral health programs (SOHPs) and other partners
• Helps SOHPs improve the oral health of all state residents
• Worked with Head Start programs from 2002 to 2008 through the Health Resources and Services Administration’s Office of Head Start intra-agency agreement
• Subcontractor to OHRC on the Head Start National Center on Health Oral Health Project
  — Dental Hygienist Liaisons
Federally Qualified Health Centers

• Partnering with federal qualified health centers to expand services to all Head Start programs
  • Attend trainings on providing preventive and clinical care for young children and pregnant women
  • Communicate with Head Start programs to offer exams and preventive services in their programs and regular care and treatment in clinics or mobile vans
  • Collaborate with community health center medical staff on anticipatory guidance for caregivers, fluoride varnish application, and healthy eating and feeding practices
  • Communicate with Head Start staff on best strategies for interacting with families to reduce barriers to care
  • Offer to serve on Head Start health services advisory committees
What is the Role of Head Start–Dental Hygienist Liaisons?

- Dental hygienists in every state are serving in volunteer roles to:
  - Provide a communication link between NCH and Head Start oral health activities and programs.
  - Collaborate with state organizations and ongoing networks (e.g., Dental Home Initiatives), including state dental directors and Head State collaboration office directors, to address prevention and access-to-care issues.
Speakers

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