

# Summary of State Oral Health Plan Activities for 2010

## SDDA

The total number of **active practicing dentists in South Dakota today is 398** which may be the largest number ever recorded. Thirty two new dentists came to South Dakota in 2010 with three of them locating in a Dental Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA). Note: The breakdown of the thirty two is that seven of the new dentists are in specialties, fifteen are male, seventeen are female, and one of them resides in another state and practices there also. Five of these new dentists were part of the student Dental Externship Program and one is participating in the Dental Tuition Reimbursement Program.

One hundred seventy five SD dentists provide care for patients eligible in the **Donated Dental Services Program**. This is the highest percentage of participating dentists of any state in the Nation. Note: From July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010, 137 people were treated (though that number may be less if they were counted in both six-month periods). A total of 233 people have submitted eligible applications, awaiting pending treatment.

Delta Dental and the SDDF provided funding for the SD Head Start Association to buy toothbrushes and toothpaste for every child in the **Head Start Program** in South Dakota.

In an effort to help protect the teeth and health of South Dakota's high school athletes, Delta Dental of South Dakota and the South Dakota Dental Association have teamed up for "**Save That Smile,**" a pilot project to demonstrate the importance of wearing a mouth guard whenever involved in contact sports.

The "Save That Smile" program provides teams competing in basketball and wrestling with an opportunity to receive free mouth guards to use during the 2010-2011 school year. All team members are expected to wear the mouth guards during all practices and games. Each high school athletic director in South Dakota was extended an offer to have teams from their schools participate in the program. Mouth guards were given to teams on a first-come, first-serve basis. Delta Dental has committed up to \$10,000 toward the "Save That Smile" pilot project. To date, 486 mouth guards have been provided to the following teams:

Freeman boys basketball  
Garretson girls basketball  
Garretson boys basketball  
Hanson girls basketball  
Hot Springs boys basketball  
Irene-Wakonda boys basketball  
Milbank wrestling  
Mt. Vernon boys basketball  
Pierre girls basketball  
Pine Ridge wrestling

Roncalli boys basketball  
Spearfish girls basketball  
Spearfish wrestling  
Viborg-Hurley girls basketball  
Viborg-Hurley boys basketball  
Wagner girls basketball  
Wagner boys basketball  
Wessington Springs boys basketball  
White River boys basketball





## **USD: Educational and Preventive Intervention projects**

The USD Dept of Dental Hygiene provides oral health education to children in many ways and through many activities. Each child seen in any USD-affiliated dental clinic is given individualized oral health information to include etiology and progression of disease; prevention, intervention, and treatment strategies; plus, time for demonstration and participation of oral self-care measures. In addition, students visit daycare centers and preschools providing information at a young age. Students also visit school classrooms in which they prepare lesson plans appropriate to the age of the class and are evaluated by the classroom teacher. Dental hygiene students attend various health fairs and other health events in the surrounding area. Oral health information is disseminated and distributed at each of these events. Providing oral health education to improve children's oral health is a priority of the USD Department of Dental Hygiene.

Attempts were made to schedule as many children into the USD Dental Clinic in Sioux Falls as possible during the academic year and to provide them with dental and dental hygiene care.

Two fluoride varnish events occurred during the year at Title I schools in Sioux Falls. In the fall, USD DH students worked with dental assisting students from Lake Area Technical Institute at 4 schools. Fluoride varnish was applied on 900 children enrolled in Early Childhood through the 5<sup>th</sup> grade. In the spring, USD DH students paired with Sanford School of Medicine students and Physician's Assistant students to provide varnish for 582 (Early Childhood-5<sup>th</sup> grade) students at 4 Title I schools. Basic Screening Surveys were also done to collect information for the SD DOH.

Fluoride varnish was applied for 208 children at the Sanford/USD Health Fair in March. Children who had no dental home or who had not seen a dentist for 2 years were given priority; however, any child was allowed to have fluoride applied. Participants at this event were from many communities surrounding Sioux Falls.

Free fluoride varnish and sealant clinics were held monthly during the Spring semester at both the Sioux Falls and Vermillion clinics. In order to participate in any session, a parent had to be present with his/her child and provide active consent. Health history information was collected in addition to the child's dental history and current provider. Children were assessed for urgent, necessary, and routine dental care needs using the BSS. Fluoride varnish was placed whenever possible, while a clinical exam was completed by a dentist to determine teeth to be sealed. Sealants were placed using 4-handed dentistry. Parents were given follow-up instructions and referred back to their dentist or given referrals if they had no dental home.

Activities to provide preventive interventions for mother and child primarily focused on supplying information to area county health nurses, clinics and community health centers. Posters and brochures created by students along with additional information from other sources was distributed as well.

## **I H S: Delores Starr**

Xylitol program - Delta Dental partnered in serving ten Head Start Centers and 1500+ children, this project included training for the Head Start staff along with monitoring of the FI varnish program provided by IHS dental.

Director of the Strep mutans study included nutrition surveys and cultures, had assistance from the University of Iowa with Dr. Drake serving as the principal investigator.

## **Falls Community Health, Dental**

Staff provided 798 free fluoride varnishes for students at the Hawthorne and Terry Redlin schools in Sioux Falls. They provided 230 comprehensive dental exams, 182 prophylaxes, and 411 fluoride varnish treatments at their school based clinics – advantageous for the students not to have to leave the school building. Oral Hygiene Instruction is included as it's an important component of this project.

## **Lake Area Tech Activities: Rhonda Bradberry**

In an effort to better meet dental workforce needs outside of the Watertown area while continuing to provide quality training for dental assistants, we have added a part-time online hybrid (or e-Degree) option in Dental Assisting. The program is scheduled to start in January. Students who are interested in a dental assisting career and who may have a geographical disadvantage for enrolling for our traditional one year program, or are currently employed and cannot devote a full-time commitment, may find this option better suited for their needs.

Dental assisting students had the opportunity to spend a day at the Dental Clinic of South Dakota Developmental Center. Thirty eight students traveled to Redfield and experienced working with Dave Peterson and his staff providing care for their residents with developmental disabilities. They came back excited and compassionate about the future role they have in making a difference in these individuals' dental health care experiences. In addition, DVD's were purchased to augment their experience in providing oral healthcare for autistic disorders and individuals who show resistance to oral health procedures. These videos will also be used in the future by human service students in providing oral care in group home situations.

DA students and staff provided training in oral hygiene procedures to more than four hundred preschool, elementary and high school students in Watertown and surrounding areas. All of these children received oral hygiene kits to assist them in performing these techniques at home. In addition, I was able to provide oral health training to more than a hundred students from the LATI's allied health programs. These students will soon be working in health professions providing care for people who may perhaps have dental disease or other disabilities requiring specialized care.

In an effort to increase the utilization of the Expanded Function Dental Assistant (EFDA) in South Dakota, Lake Area Tech is offering an opportunity for dental assistants to further their education or to refresh their skills and knowledge in multiple expanded functions with minimal time away from home and work. Eight students participated in year one while four participated in year two.

The new education program, developed by the Dental Assisting Program at Lake Area Technical Institute, includes a curriculum for expanded functions that may be used by advanced dental assistants or dental assistants with a minimum of one-year work experience to provide a career ladder through advanced education, skills and responsibility.

The program's curriculum is organized in multiple modules. The courses may be taken in sections as continuing education for assistants wishing to further their education or to refresh their skill and knowledge in any one expanded function. When completed in its entirety the course will lead to a verification of competency approved by the South Dakota State Board of Dentistry fulfilling the education requirement for an Advanced Dental Assistant.

Lastly, three training sessions for sixty direct care staff at Jenkins Living Center were provided. I also worked with the education director at the facility in taping a presentation that will be used for training future employees in oral health care procedures for seniors.

## Community Health Center of the Black Hills

### Tim Trithart, Chief Executive Officer

- Promoting the dental component of our Community Health Center at various health fairs and providing Fluoride treatments at the Central States Fair.
- Addition of a dentist on-site at our school-based clinic for ease of access for low income students and partnering with General Beadle Elementary School for a dental screening.
- Successfully demonstrated growing need for dental care for low income and the Medicaid population to the Southern Hills and Sturgis United Way agencies, resulting in first-time allocations for dental care.
- Partnering with Youth & Family Services for “Lift the Lip” training for nurses and dental assistants.
- Addition of an oral surgeon one day a week to the Community Health Center of the Black Hills’ team.
- Partnering with Cornerstone Rescue Mission and volunteer dentists to provide an ongoing clinic for free dental care for the homeless in our region.

### SD DOH Oral Health Program

The Oral Health Program continues to receive HRSA funding to support workforce activities. Collaborations include working with the Office of Rural Health, USD Dental Hygiene Program, Delta Dental Plan of SD, and the *Caries Free* Program with the Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate Tribe. Information available seems to indicate that future HRSA funding efforts will focus on school-based dental health programs, i.e. sealant programs.

A third **Oral Health Basic Screening Survey (BSS)** of 580 third grade students was conducted in thirty randomly selected elementary schools across the state. The Report indicates that dental decay continues to be a problem for South Dakota children, 62% experience dental caries, 29% present with untreated decay, while 8% are in need of immediate care due to pain or infection. Fifty-five percent of the students do have dental sealants

The Oral Health Program provided oral health resources for the DOH Community Health Nurses and WIC staff, for the Healthy Start program serving populations on Native American reservations, for the SD Nurses Assn, for the Perinatal Conference, for the Bright Start Program, for a Childcare Conference, for the School Nurse Conference, for various health fairs, and for distribution statewide through our DOH Distribution Center. In partnership with the Dakota Smiles Program, additional Native American tribal organizations and communities were able to access dental care.

The Oral Health Program partnered with the Nutrition and Physical Activity Program to develop and distribute two new Sugar Sweetened Beverage (SSB) posters. The posters reinforce the fact that soda pop is not the only unhealthy SSB having the potential to destroy tooth enamel.

In partnership with the Cancer Registry Program, the first **Oral Cancer Monograph** was developed and disseminated. During 2003-2007, there was an average of eighty one (fifty six men and twenty five women) new invasive cases of oral cancer diagnosed among South Dakota residents per year. Of those cases, seventy six were white and five were American Indian. In South Dakota, an average of eighteen people died annually from oral cancer between the years 2003 to 2007.

To once again capture the intended target population’s attention, we revised several previously developed brochures to provide a more user-friendly, updated product. The previously developed Oral Health Messaging ads that ADwerks created for TV were provided to City Link Channel 16 for additional airing in Sioux Falls.



## SD DOH Office of Rural Health

Since 2007, the South Dakota Department of Health and Department of Education have joined forces to offer South Dakota high school students the opportunity to explore a wide variety of health careers through “**Scrubs Camps**”. These camps are one-day hands-on learning experiences conducted across the state. The students interact with various healthcare professionals who discuss their job description, daily activities, and process for entering their chosen career field. The student campers are also able to participate in exciting hands-on activities and receive personalized career guidance planning.

Since the inception of the camps, speakers have ranged from nurses to clinical lab scientists to epidemiologists to pathologists. Sessions have also covered medical/health news reporting, pharmacy, forensic science, and biomedical engineering. The past two years have included a focus on dental health careers where each camp is required to provide at least one session addressing career options in dentistry.

Scrubs Camps are designed for 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade high school students who have expressed an interest in the healthcare field. The Scrubs Camp, noon lunch, and scrubs shirt are all provided at no cost to the participating student camper.

The purpose of the Scrubs Camps is to encourage students in South Dakota to consider pursuing a career in healthcare. One of the most pressing issues facing the industry today is the critical need for healthcare providers. This is especially true for South Dakota. Between the years 2006 and 2016, there is a projected increase in healthcare workers needed in South Dakota of over 25%. This is compounded by the fact that the State is also facing a 17% decrease in the number of high school graduates between 2002 and 2018.

The Scrubs Camps are made possible through a collaborative effort of the South Dakota Department of Education Office of Curriculum, Career and Technical Education and South Dakota Department of Health Office of Rural Health. For more information visit [http://healthcareers.sd.gov/ScrubsCamp\\_Web\\_V3/index.html](http://healthcareers.sd.gov/ScrubsCamp_Web_V3/index.html)

South Dakota **Health Occupations for Today and Tomorrow (HOTT)** is a K-12 health career awareness educational curriculum sponsored by the SD Healthcare Workforce Center. HOTT provides teachers, guidance counselors, parents, and healthcare organizations tools and resources that may be used in increasing students' awareness of the wide variety of health careers that are available to them. Lesson plans, fact sheets, websites, and activities are available at no cost. Oral health careers have been incorporated into HOTT via these media. To learn more about HOTT, visit [www.healthcareer.sd.gov](http://www.healthcareer.sd.gov)

The South Dakota Healthcare Workforce Center is currently in the process of preparing an updated **SD Healthcare Workforce Report**. Data from a variety of sources is being collected and analyzed for inclusion in this report. A release date of early 2011 is anticipated. The purpose of this report is to examine the current healthcare workforce in the state and to project future need across South Dakota. (2010 Population of SD is now at 814,180 up from the previous 754,844 in the 2000 census). Oral health careers, in addition to a wide variety of other health careers, will be featured in the final report. “As of July 2010, the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) reported there were 4,377 federally designated dental health professional shortage areas in the United States. HRSA estimated it would take 7,008 full-time equivalent dentists to meet the dental needs in those communities.” US GAO. *Oral Health: Efforts Under Way to Improve Children’s Access to Dental Services, but Sustained Attention Needed to Address Ongoing Concerns*. Published November 2010.





## Delta Dental Plan of SD

Delta Dental's **Loan Repayment Program** provides loan repayment for dentists who agree to treat identified percentages of Medicaid patients. Since 2004, the program has provided roughly \$1.2 million in loan forgiveness to thirty two young dentists who, because of their school loans, may not have otherwise been willing to see Medicaid patients. The program was designed to complement the State's Dental Tuition Reimbursement Program and has provided a recruitment incentive for new dentists looking to locate in South Dakota. For FY 2010, the dentists in the program collectively provided 22 percent of Medicaid patient visits in South Dakota.

The **Partners for Prevention** project is training primary care medical providers in simple aspects of oral health including identification of disease, anticipatory guidance, and fluoride varnish applications. While this project was somewhat dormant for the past couple of years, it is being revived and Delta Dental has assigned Keri Thompson, a dental hygienist, to re-initiate the training of primary care medical providers (including OB/GYNs) in oral health issues.

For two years, Delta Dental has been piloting the concept of a **Regional Oral Health Educator** to work with and educate providers, educators, parents and other advocates in southeast South Dakota. The project provides general oral health information and educates about oral health risk assessment, anticipatory guidance, and preventive interventions including fluoride varnish applications. Additional educators from NE South Dakota were added in late 2010 with anticipation of adding others across the state in the future.

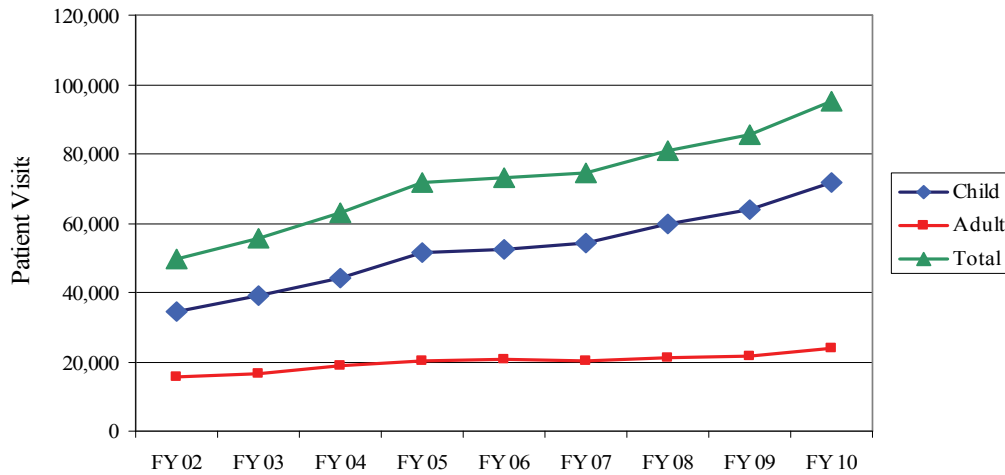
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## Medicaid Access

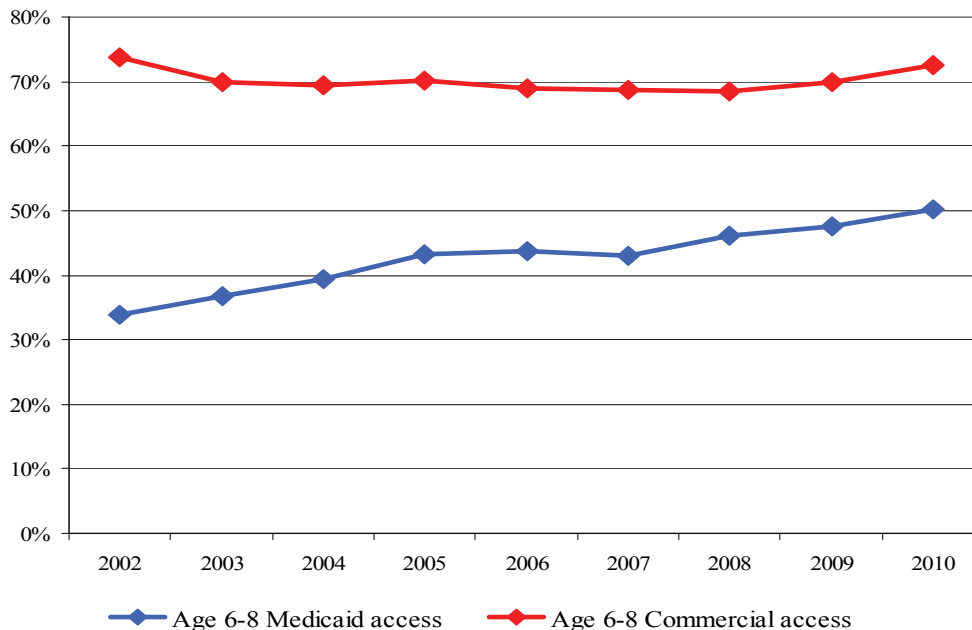
From FY 2000 to 2010, there was an increase of 138 percent in total Medicaid patient visits. Age one dental visits have increased more than 400 percent since 2002, and the number of dentists treating these young children has nearly tripled from 48 to 139 dentists.

### SD Medicaid Dental Program Patient Visits



Members of the Oral Health Coalition agree that one measure of success is the comparative change in access to care for Medicaid/CHIP-eligible patients vs. commercial patients of related age. Across all ages, the gap has closed significantly.

### Comparative change in access % - ages 6 - 8



## Medicaid Report Card – Eligible During the Year

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
<b>% yearly increase</b>									
Medicaid children - total enrollment		5.9%	4.3%	2.2%	2.0%	1.0%	1.3%	3.2%	5.6%
Medicaid children receiving treatment		11.1%	11.1%	13.3%	4.2%	2.0%	8.3%	7.8%	14.9%
<b>Age 1 through 20</b>									
Medicaid children - total enrollment	65,919	69,833	72,854	74,480	75,966	76,757	77,758	80,242	84,724
Medicaid children receiving treatment	17,632	19,583	21,750	24,642	25,670	26,178	28,345	30,550	35,087
# of visits	33,721	38,159	43,318	50,053	51,185	52,388	56,891	59,248	69,549
% receiving treatment	26.7%	28.0%	29.9%	33.1%	33.8%	34.1%	36.5%	38.1%	41.4%
# of dentists providing treatment	280	286	291	299	310	301	316	329	338

*Note: these Medicaid utilizations numbers do not include patients treated at Indian Health Service clinics nor children before age one.*

**Note: The CMS 416 Annual EPSDT Participation Rate for South Dakota indicates in 2009 that only 14,969 of our total eligible children received dental treatment services compared to 33,347 receiving any dental services. National data from 2008 indicates 19% of Medicaid children in the U.S. received any dental services. Recent SD data indicates there were 304 Medicaid/CHIP treating dentists with at least one paid claim, 105 of them billed for 50 or more patients under age 21, with only 55 billing for 100 or more patients under age 21.**

“Children continuously enrolled in Medicaid for five years who received their first preventive dental visits by age one had 40% lower dental costs over five years than children who received their first preventive visit at a later age.” Savage, Lee, Kotch, Vann. Early preventive dental visits: effects on subsequent utilization and costs. *Pediatrics*. 2004;114 (4):418-423.



## CMS 416 ANNUAL EPSDT PARTICIPATION RATES FOR SOUTH DAKOTA

Line 12a. Total eligibles receiving any dental services

	Total	< 1yr	1-2 yrs	3-5 yrs	6-9 yrs	10-14 yrs	15-18 yrs	19-20 yrs
<b>2009</b>	33,347	11	1,873	7,152	9,135	8,948	5,301	927
<b>2008</b>	29,803	26	1,571	6,374	8,067	8,016	4,936	813
<b>2007</b>	27,259	16	1,117	5,618	7,536	7,480	4,656	836
<b>2006</b>	26,527	8	919	5,309	7,421	7,534	4,560	776
<b>2005</b>	25,806	12	682	4,923	7,268	7,665	4,432	824
<b>2004</b>	22,935	7	499	4,253	6,526	6,973	3,981	714
<b>2003</b>	20,504	10	395	3,667	5,819	6,440	3,540	633
<b>2002</b>	18,550	5	359	3,327	5,219	5,765	3,237	638
<b>2001</b>	16,443	6	367	3,248	4,675	4,943	2,691	513
<b>2000</b>	15,118	1	154	1,585	2,889	2,430	1,185	6,874
<b>1999</b>	14,367	0	202	1,492	2,526	2,045	1,057	7,045

Line 12b. Total eligibles receiving preventive dental services

	Total	< 1yr	1-2 yrs	3-5 yrs	6-9 yrs	10-14 yrs	15-18 yrs	19-20 yrs
<b>2009</b>	30,499	9	1,851	6,863	8,394	8,035	4,571	776
<b>2008</b>	28,754	25	1,566	6,290	7,838	7,687	4,611	737
<b>2007</b>	26,200	15	1,114	5,517	7,313	7,187	4,304	750
<b>2006</b>	25,550	8	916	5,211	7,227	7,237	4,239	712
<b>2005</b>	24,794	12	681	4,847	7,069	7,335	4,105	745
<b>2004</b>	21,872	7	494	4,181	6,291	6,615	3,640	644
<b>2003</b>	19,446	10	387	3,571	5,611	6,092	3,217	558
<b>2002</b>	17,553	4	351	3,208	5,011	5,441	2,976	562
<b>2001</b>	15,626	6	362	3,118	4,516	4,669	2,485	470
<b>2000</b>	12,673	1	151	1,480	2,647	2,254	1,031	5,109
<b>1999</b>	8,624	0	136	1,063	1,720	1,384	642	3,679

Line 12c. Total eligibles receiving dental treatment services

	Total	< 1yr	1-2 yrs	3-5 yrs	6-9 yrs	10-14 yrs	15-18 yrs	19-20 yrs
<b>2009</b>	14,969	3	269	2,384	4,564	4,187	3,011	551
<b>2008</b>	13,802	5	240	2,342	4,086	3,827	2,804	498
<b>2007</b>	12,806	1	199	2,056	3,819	3,574	2,649	508
<b>2006</b>	12,511	2	162	1,863	3,731	3,597	2,705	451
<b>2005</b>	12,814	4	129	1,786	3,884	3,836	2,670	505
<b>2004</b>	11,589	1	101	1,662	3,516	3,509	2,345	455
<b>2003</b>	10,415	2	94	1,413	3,128	3,269	2,111	398
<b>2002</b>	9,428	3	102	1,397	2,771	2,858	1,883	414
<b>2001</b>	8,219	1	117	1,403	2,463	2,408	1,523	304
<b>2000</b>	2,445	0	3	105	242	176	154	1,765
<b>1999</b>	5,743	0	66	429	806	661	415	3366

# SOUTH DAKOTA HEALTH PROFESSIONAL SHORTAGE AREAS DENTAL HEALTHCARE January 11, 2010

