

Red Lake Comprehensive Health Services

**Red Lake Nation School Dental
Prevention Program**

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The Vision

- Began in 2002 as a two year demonstration project
- 50% funding from Blue Cross Blue Shield *Growing Up Healthy In Minnesota* grant
- 20% funding from Indian Health Services *Health Promotion Disease Prevention* grant
- Red Lake Tribal Council funded employment of team dental hygienist and dental assistant



Who Gets Care?

- Target population is children of the Red Lake Nation ages 3 through 14 living on the Red Lake Indian Reservation-total 1289
- In 2000 access to care for this population at the USPHS Red Lake Dental Clinic ranged from 19%-37% for any dental visit, significantly lower than visit rates for all U.S. population
- In 2000, 74% of 3 year old Red Lake children had untreated dental decay



Project Strategies



- Use project funds to hire a school dental team consisting of a registered dental hygienist and a dental assistant from the Red Lake community.
- Team will utilize portable dental equipment to deliver preventive dental services in each of six school sites on the reservation
- Children will be referred to USPHS Red Lake Dental Clinic based on level of assessed need.

Focal Objective



- To significantly decrease the caries experience of schoolchildren at each grade level, measuring decay experience in decayed, missing, filled and sealed teeth (DMFST & dmft) and decayed, missing, filled and sealed surfaces (DDMFSS & 7 dmfs) from baseline levels in both the deciduous and permanent dentitions. This objective is beyond the two year timeline.

Outcome Objectives (Intermediate)



- Increase the % of children in target population with access to clinical preventive dental services from 10% in the baseline year (2001) to 80% by end of first operational year.
- To provide 2 clinical preventive dental services per child participating in the 2 year demonstration project.
- To establish the provision of clinical preventive dental services in the schools beyond the period of the grant, at least until such time as the disease rates among various groups approximate those for the all-U.S. population.

Services Delivered

- Oral health education on individual and community levels (Headstart staff, daycare provider, diabetes youth camp, Baby Fair for new moms, annual community healthfair).
- Assessment and report to caregivers.
- With signed consent, toothbrush prophylaxis, scaling and root planing where indicated, topical fluoride varnish, resin and glass ionomer sealants.



Evaluation



Baseline vs Year 3	Students	Fluoride Varnish Applications	Resin Sealants <12 yrs	Resin Sealants 12-18 yrs	Resin Sealants > 18 yrs	Glass Ionomer Sed Fill
Jan 01,2000-Dec 31,2001 Baseline year	372	410	330	285	54	
Jan 01,2005-Dec 31,2005 Program Year 3	945	1,830	2,524	1,205	71	317

Future Goals



- **Maintain 98% returned signed consent rate.**
- **Maintain current oral assessment-fluoride varnish program conducted by RN in pediatric well-baby clinics.**
- **Increase participation of family/friend-based child care providers in annual oral health presentations held at New Beginnings center by 25%.**

Future Goals-continued

- **Establish a referral system to Hospital Dental Clinic RDH for adolescent periodontal referral within 2008, target population children at risk for diabetes as evidenced by acanthosis, excessive weight, tissue inflammation/bleeding not related to plaque accumulation.**
- **Increase access to hospital dental clinic through regularly scheduled appointments instead of emergency room medical visits by 30%.**
- **Use expanded function restorative skills to assist DDS in delivering pediatric care during summer school break in 2008.**
- **Secure Tribal support for a second School Dental Team to allow inclusion of students ages 14-18 for school-based dental preventive services by 2009-10.**