



The Community Guide to Adult Oral Health Program Implementation

August 2016

Introducing - Phantane Sprowls, MPA



Office of Nutrition and Health Promotion Programs, Administration on Aging | Administration for Community Living, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Background - Why Does Oral Health Care Matter?

- According to former Surgeon General, Dr. David Satcher “There is no health without oral health.” ¹
- The Academy of General Dentistry: oral health is the “key to general health.” Dental diseases = adverse physical, functional, emotional and social effects ²
- Poor oral health may cause pain and difficulty speaking, chewing, swallowing, and sleeping
- Loss of teeth is associated with loss of self-esteem
- Poor oral health linked to many health problems, including stroke, heart attack, diabetes, and pneumonia (No. 1 cause of death in nursing homes) and development of several diseases in older adults. ³

Footnotes

1. Oral Health in America: A Report of the Surgeon General (2000)

<http://www.nidcr.nih.gov/DataStatistics/SurgeonGeneral/Documents/hck1ocv.@www.surgeon.fullrpt.pdf>

2. http://agd.org/media/54365/7025accesstocarewhitepaper7_31_08.pdf

3. <http://www.healthypeople.gov./2020/leading-health-indicators/2020-lhi-topics/Oral-Health/determinants>

The Statistics

- Socio economic differences are large: 42% of individuals below the Federal poverty line reported no remaining natural teeth compared with 22% above Federal poverty.
- Almost 40% of American adults aged 65 and older have not visited a dental professional in the past year.⁴
- Estimated 20% adults 65+ had untreated tooth decay.⁵
- Labor force participation is a strong predictor of dental coverage; 10,000 people enter Medicare daily/2% have a dental benefit.
- Complete tooth loss is experienced by 15% of adults aged 65-74.⁶
- Stats re: oral health calls to n4a call center

Footnotes

4. <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/databriefs/db104.htm#x2013;2010>

5. <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/products/databriefs/db197.htm>

6. [http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/14.pdf#084](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/hus/14.pdf#084)

Barriers

- Low utilization of dental care: Cost
- Medicaid programs cover dental services for children under age 21. No minimum coverage requirements for adults. No preventive or routine dental coverage under Medicare.

Types of Adult Dental Services Covered for Non-Pregnant, Non-Disabled Adults under Medicaid, 2015

Type of service	Number of states	Services typically included
Emergency only	18	Emergency extractions, other procedures for immediate pain relief
Preventive	28	Examinations, cleanings, and sometimes fluoride application or sealants
Restorative	26	Fillings, crowns, endodontic (root canal) therapy
Periodontal	19	Periodontal surgery, scaling, root planing (cleaning below the gum line)
Dentures	26	Full and partial dentures
Oral surgery	25	Non-emergency extractions, other oral surgical procedures
Orthodontia	2	Braces, headgear, retainers

Source: MACPAC, June 2015 Report to Congress on Medicaid and CHIP

Project Overview

- Funding: Department of Health and Human Services' Office on Women's Health (DHHS/OWH) to Administration for Community Living (ACL) for 3-year contract.
- Purpose:
 - Identify and promote vetted, low-cost, community-based oral health programs for older adults.
- Project Goal:
 - Develop a Community Guide to Adult Oral Health Program Implementation that highlights featured oral health programs.
 - Provide “how to” for communities interested in starting their own program.

ACL and OWH hope to encourage the development of additional oral health programs serving older adults.

Subject Matter Expert Working Group

- Lori Kepler Cofano, RDH, BSDH, The Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors
- Mark Doherty, DMD, MPH, CCHP, DentaQuest Institute
- Nathan Fletcher, DDS, AmeriHealth Caritas District of Columbia
- Timothy Followell, DMD, MS, Nisonger Center UCEDD
- Mary Foley, RDH, MPH, Medicaid-CHIP State Dental Association
- Julie Frantsve-Hawley, RDH, PhD, American Association for Public Health Dentistry
- Steve Geiermann, DDS, American Dental Association
- Paul Glassman, DDS, MA, MBA, University of the Pacific School of Dentistry
- Suzanne Heckenlaible, Delta Dental of Iowa Foundation
- Michael Helgeson, DDS, Apple Tree Dental
- Irene Hilton, DDS, MPH, National Network for Oral Health Access
- Judith Jones, DDS, DScD, MPH, Boston University School of Dental Medicine
- Renee Joskow, DDS, MPH, FAGD, Health Resources and Services Administration
- RADM Nick Makrides, U.S. Public Health Service
- Lynn Mouden, DDS, MPH, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
- Diane Lowry Oakes, Washington Dental Service Foundation
- David Pena, Jr., Hispanic Dental Association
- Dionne J. Richardson, DDS, MPH, New York State Department of Health
- Beth Truett, Mdiv, Oral Health America
- Don Weaver, MD, National Association of Community Health Centers
- Katherine Weno, DDS, JD, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Key Project Components

1. **Environmental scan** of community-based oral health programs for older adults
2. **Community Guide** on how to start an oral health program
3. **Identification** of featured programs
4. **Searchable registry** of oral health programs to be housed on ACL's website

Environmental Scan



Systematic review

- Reviewed national, state, local level organization websites
- Conducted searches using pre-determined list of keywords



Program submission form

- Disseminated to over 500 stakeholders; received over 200 submissions



Key informant interviews

- Interviewed 11 individuals



In-depth program information research

- Collected all available programmatic online information
- Contacted each program to request additional information

Why A Community Guide?

- The Community Guide for program implementation will include guidance for communities interested in starting, enhancing, or replicating an oral health program for older adults
- The site will include resources to help programs:
 - Conduct a needs assessment
 - Develop a vision, mission, and goals
 - Establish partnerships
 - Design the program
 - Finance the program
 - Implement the program
 - Evaluate the program
 - Ensure sustainability

How Featured Programs were Selected

- Development of performance criteria:
 - Improves Health, Reduces Cost, Sustainable, Accountable, Expandable, Equitable, Comprehensive, Integrated, Replicable
- Each program was independently reviewed by 5 individuals and assigned a numeric score
- Similar programs were grouped together by service delivery model
- Programs that scored in the top quartile of each model type were identified as “featured programs”



Program Profiles

- All program profiles include:
 - Program name and location
 - Program overview
 - Information on program model, target population, services delivered, etc.
- *Featured* program profiles include additional information on:
 - Program history and development
 - Program sustainability
 - Program impact

Community Guide to Adult Oral Health Implementation Promising Program Profile



Senior Dental Day Grand Rapids, Michigan

Program Overview

Senior Dental Day, organized by the Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan (AAAWM), is an annual event that serves low income older adults in Grand Rapids, Michigan and the surrounding areas. AAWM works with nonprofit agencies to identify and invite older adults based on financial need. Participants receive free dental cleanings, x-rays, screenings, and referrals to a permanent dental home. The events are staffed by volunteer dental students, dental school faculty, dentists, hygienists, and dental assistants.

Program History and Development



Senior Dental Day 2014 at Grand Rapids Community College

Senior Dental Days began in 2011 as a partnership between AAWM, the Coalition for Oral Health for the Aging (COHA), and Dr. Elisa Ghezzi. AAWM recruits and schedules participants, completes forms, and arranges meals and transportation for volunteers. Grand Rapids Community College (GRCC) staff recruits hygienists and obtains use of a facility and equipment. In addition, GRCC Dental Clinic provides space for the event and needed supplies. Hygienists and dental assistants can earn continuing education units by participating in the dental day; this was approved by the state of Michigan after Dr. Ghezzi initiated conversations with legislators.

Program Sustainability

- Senior Dental Day is funded by grants from the Delta Dental Foundation, the Michigan Dental Association Foundation, the West Michigan Dental Society, Grand Rapids Community College, Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan, and Health Intervention Services – Grand Rapids.
- The entirety of the program's funding comes from foundation grants.
- One hundred dental students, dental school faculty, dentists, hygienists, dental assistants, and AAWM staff volunteered their time in 2014.
- The annual budget of the program is \$2,000.

Program Impact

- In 2014, the program served 42 older adults during the one-day event.
- Senior Dental Day surveys both volunteers and participants regarding program effectiveness and satisfaction.
- Awareness was raised in Kent County about the continuing need for accessible low cost dental care for seniors.

*You all made me feel so welcomed and cared for, this day truly was a blessing."
– individual who received dental care at
Senior Dental Day 2013*

Program Contact Information

Program Website: http://www.aaawm.org/organizational_news/tag/Dental

Six Service Delivery Models

Identified programs are organized into six common service delivery models:

1. Dental Clinic Model (e.g., permanent setting)
2. Mobile-Portable Model
3. Eligibility and Enrollment Model (e.g., referrals, care coordination)
4. Virtual Model (e.g., telehealth)
5. Event-based Model
6. Outreach and Education Model

Searchable Registry of Programs

- The ACL website will have a searchable registry of oral health programs targeted to older adults identified and reviewed by this project. Searchable categories for the programs include:
 - Age
 - Specific Populations
 - Geographic classification (e.g. urban/rural)
 - Setting type
 - Program model
 - Services delivered
 - Integration with other services
 - Funding and payment for care
 - Staffing
- The registry will include the programs identified in the environmental scan
- Featured programs will include profiles with additional information

Introducing - Cindy Gruman, PhD



Vice President, The Lewin Group

Dental Clinic Model

- **Walker Methodist Dental Clinic** provides oral health care to older adults in the Minneapolis, Minnesota community as part of the larger Walker Methodist Health Center network.
- The dental clinic opened in 2006, and through a major grant-funded expansion in 2015, the clinic doubled its capacity to provide oral health care and oral health education.
- The clinic is open four days a week and is staffed by University of Minnesota School of Dentistry faculty and students, with additional support from Walker Methodist staff.
- In addition to providing oral health care to older adults, the program teaches geriatric oral health care continuing education courses to dental professionals.



Mobile-Portable Model

- **Senior Mobile Dental** is a nonprofit organization that brings portable dental equipment to community facilities and provides oral health services to older adults.
- In 2013, the program expanded its staff and services to provide a full range of oral health services, including fillings, extractions, and denture services.
- The program is staffed by dentists, hygienists, a denture technician, and a full dental support team.



Eligibility and Enrollment Model

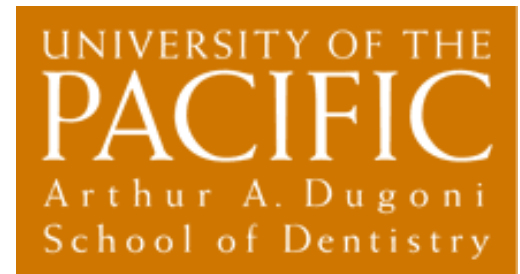
- The **Elder Dental Program** is a community-based nonprofit program dedicated to helping low-income older adults in southern Massachusetts access quality oral health care at reduced costs.
- Financially eligible individuals are matched by the program's manager to a participating dentist located in the community.
- All appointments occur in the office of the participating dentist.



Massasoit Community College Dental Assisting students screening seniors in 2015 with the Elder Dental Program.

Virtual Model

- The **Virtual Dental Home** program provides oral health services in multiple locations across California.
- Dental hygienists and assistants gather diagnostic records, provide basic oral health services to individuals in the community, and communicate with dentists using a telehealth system to form treatment plans.
- The Pacific Center for Special Care at the University of the Pacific, Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry created the Virtual Dental Home program in 2009.
- Fifteen different communities in California have implemented the model, and programs in Hawaii, Oregon, and Colorado are in the process of adopting and adapting the program.



Event-Based Model

- **Senior Dental Days** is an annual event organized by the Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan that provides free dental cleanings, x-rays, screenings, and referrals to low-income older adults in the Grand Rapids, Michigan area.
- The event is staffed by volunteer dental students, dental school faculty, dentists, hygienists, and dental assistants.



The Source for Seniors

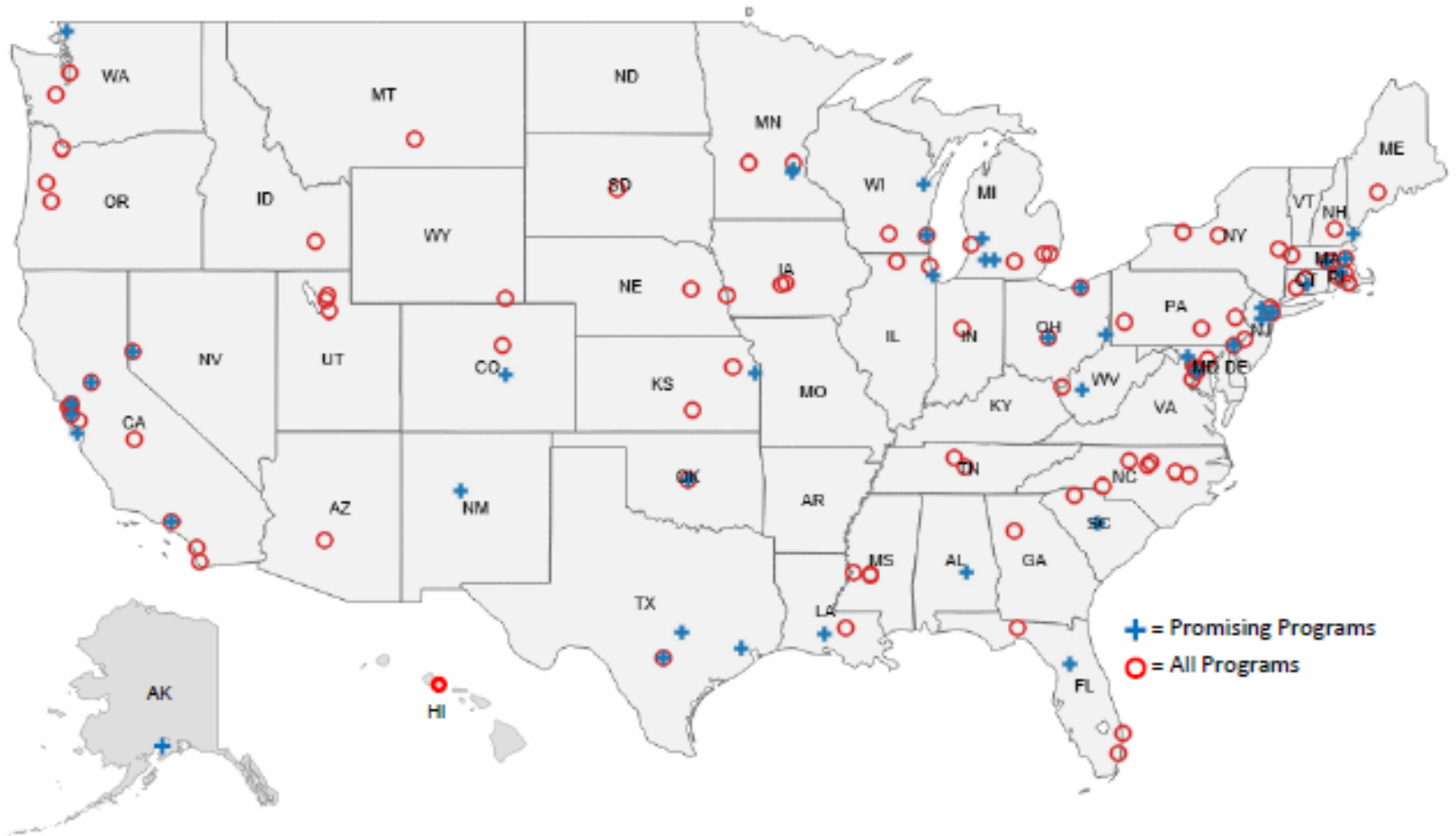
Outreach and Education Model

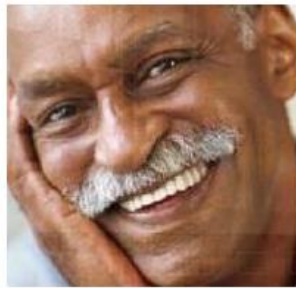
- **Alaska Dental Health Aide Therapist (DHAT) Educational Program** educates dental providers to live and work in Alaska's rural communities.
- Modeled after a dental therapist training program in New Zealand, was the first program of its kind in the United States.
- As of 2016, 32 DHATs provided oral health prevention and restorative care to nearly 40,000 Alaska Native people in more than 75 villages.



Photo courtesy of Alaska DHAT Educational Program.

Programs Identified, by State (n=207)





Welcome to the ACL Community Based Oral Health Programs Website!

Welcome! This website is intended to help communities, governments, nonprofit organizations, foundations, and private businesses start community-based oral health programs for older adults. This website has two main components, a database of 200 community-based oral health programs and a Community Guide, as described below. These aim to provide assistance in starting a community-based oral health program for older adults.

Introducing - Patrick Finnerty, MPA



President, Virginia Dental Association Foundation Board of Directors

Virginia Dental Association Foundation - Mission of Mercy (MOM)

- MOM is one of three dental programs sponsored by the VDAF to care for underserved populations in Virginia
 - <http://www.vdaf.org/Missions-Of-Mercy/mission-of-mercy.html>



Virginia Dental Association Foundation (VDAF)

- The VDAF is a 501(c)(3) Charitable Organization
 - Supporting organization for Virginia Dental Association
- 17 member Board of Directors
- Three full time staff:
 - Executive Director
 - MOM Director of Logistics
 - DDS/GKAS Program Manager



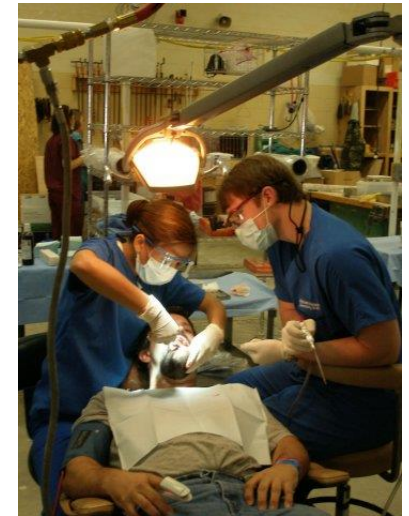
Mission of Mercy (MOM) Project

- Founded in 2000 by Dr. Terry Dickinson, Executive Director of the Virginia Dental Association
- MOM has been replicated in at least 29 other states.
- MOM operates mobile clinics in strategic locations across Virginia providing care to low-income individuals via two- or three-day events.
 - To date, MOM Projects have been held in 16 locations across the Commonwealth



MOM Provides a Broad Range of Dental Services

- Hygiene/Dental Cleanings
- Restorative Care
 - Fillings
 - Endodontics
- Oral Surgery
- Prosthodontics (dentures)
- X-Rays



MOM Also Provides Other Patient Services

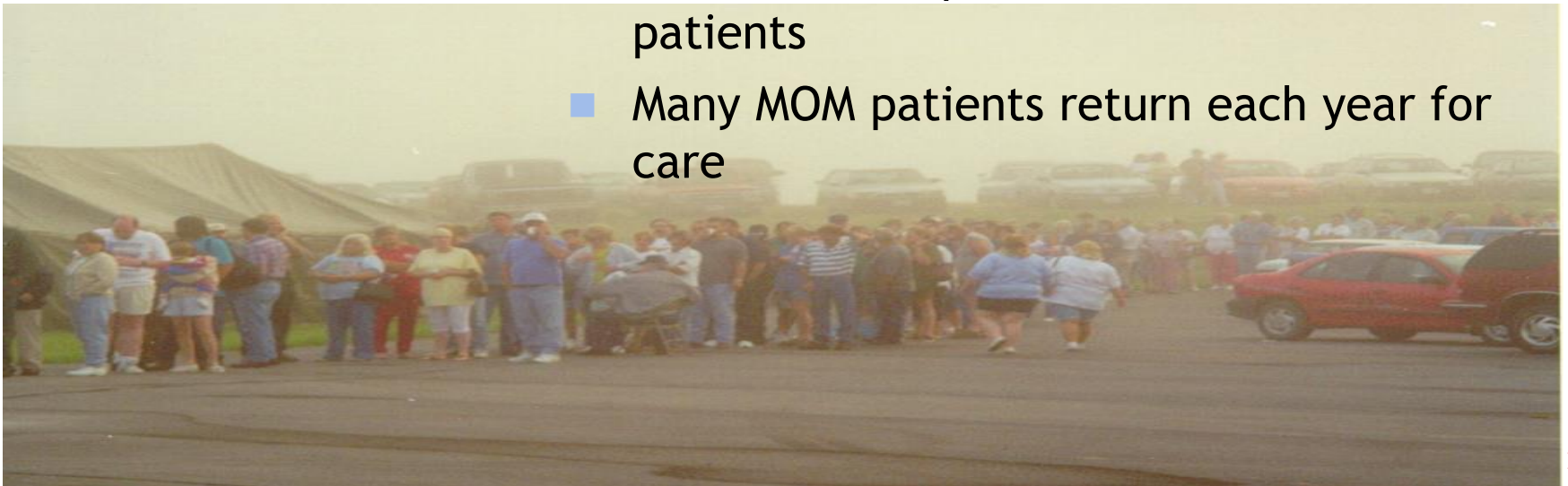
- Referrals for dental, oral health and medical services
- Patient education
- Pharmacy
- Transportation
- Translation



MOM Patients



- Vast majority of patients are Virginia adults
 - Virginia has not expanded Medicaid and offers limited dental benefits for adults
 - Most are low-income and uninsured/underinsured; but there is no income or insurance requirements
- Many come from neighboring states; some travel from distant states (FL, NY, GA, etc.)
- Dental care is provided at no cost to patients
- Many MOM patients return each year for care



MOM Settings Include Fairgrounds, Schools, Convention Centers and Nursing Homes



MOM Is The Only Source Of Care For Many Virginians

MOM TOTALS SINCE JULY, 2000	
MOM Projects	89
Patients Treated	62,000
Volunteers	25,000 +
Value of Donated Care	\$41 Million*

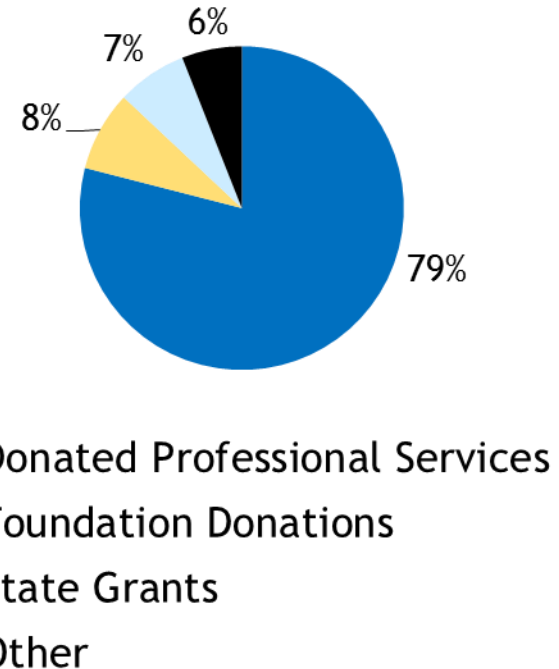
* Includes value of donated professional services



MOM Financing

- The total annual budget of the MOM program in 2015 was \$1,152,672 (includes the value of donated professional services)
- VDAF raises funds through grants, corporate sponsorships, support from other foundations, individual solicitations and events
- MOM supplies often are donated or provided at discounted cost

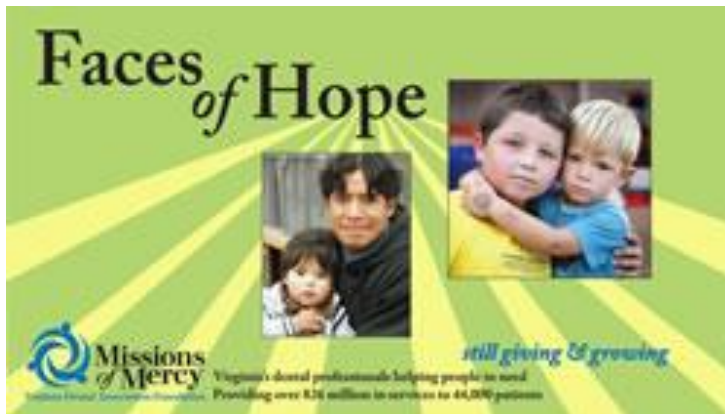
MOM Funding Sources



For every \$1 raised, \$32 of dental care is provided to MOM patients.

MOM Data Collection

- The MOM program collects data on:
 - Participant demographics
 - Client satisfaction
 - Number and type of services provided
 - Program revenue and expenses
 - Number and type of volunteers, including students



Notable Features of VDAF's MOM Project

- The Virginia Health Care Foundation provides instructions and guidance on how to conduct a Mission of Mercy project
 - <http://www.vhcf.org/for-those-who-help/resources-for-providers/resources-for-dental-care-providers/mom-projects/>
- Partnership with Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) School of Dentistry
 - Faculty and students play an integral role in providing staff support, clinical services and patient education.
- Special Olympics and Homeless Connect MOM Projects
- VDAF owns its equipment, sets up, and staffs its projects; other states often contract with America's Dentists Care Foundation to conduct a MOM Project
<http://www.adcfmom.org/>



VIRGINIA
HEALTH CARE
FOUNDATION



VCU

VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY
School of Dentistry



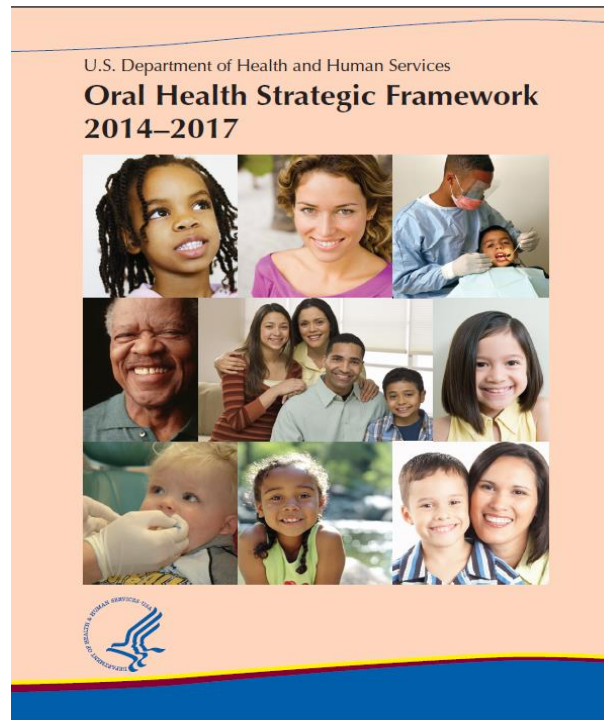
Patient Testimonials

- Over 90% of MOM patients "Agree" or "Strongly Agree" with the following two statements:
 - "I am satisfied with my treatment today."
 - "I would recommend a MOM project to friends/family."

"My whole life and whole persona has changed since getting this marvelous, wondrous gift (dentures). Everyone in my family talks about how much more outgoing I am ... I am so grateful for this experience. I feel like I've been given the gift of life again." - Lisa



The Oral Health Coordinating Committee (OHCC)



Thank You!

Have questions?

Please contact Oral.Health@lewin.com

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