

Maternal and Child Health Bureau and
Office of Head Start

Head Start – Oral Health

*Improving Oral Health for
Head Start Children:*

WEAVING CONNECTIONS BETWEEN ORAL HEALTH AND HEAD START – AN HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

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Dental Public Health Community and Head Start Intermittent Relationship for Over Forty Years

- ❖ 1960's first Agreement Between Head Start and Public Health Service
- ❖ Full-time Head Start Dental Consultant Assigned to each PHS Regional Office
- ❖ State Dental Programs Used to Provide Training and Technical Assistance to Head Start Programs
- ❖ Public Health Service Regional Offices Used Head Start Priority to Convene State Dental Directors
- ❖ Partnership Weakened over Time---Oral Health of Head Start Given Less Emphasis

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Dental Disease Became a Major Concern of Head Start Programs

- ❖ *Most prevalent chronic Disease of HS Children*
- ❖ *Greatest unmet health need*
- ❖ *Access to dental services is major concern to many grantees and parents*
- ❖ *Dental disease prevents a child's well-being and ability to learn*

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Head Start and MCHB Collaborate to Conduct Head Start Oral Health Forum

National Forum-September 1999

- ❖ *Co-sponsors*
 - ❖ Head Start
 - ❖ MCHB
 - ❖ HCFA (CMS-Medicaid)
 - ❖ WIC
- ❖ *Objectives Co-sponsors*
 - ❖ Develop strategies at federal, state and local levels to improve oral health services to Head Start children
 - ❖ Present evidence-based practices related to:
 - ❖ Nutrition
 - ❖ Access to preventive and treatment services
 - ❖ Prevention, management & suppression of dental decay
- ❖ *Recommendation formulated*
 - ❖ Develop collaborative partnerships with other federal agencies
 - ❖ Develop long-term strategy to prevent dental disease

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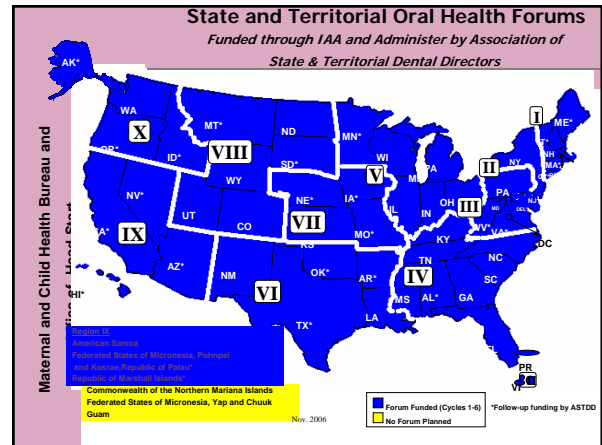
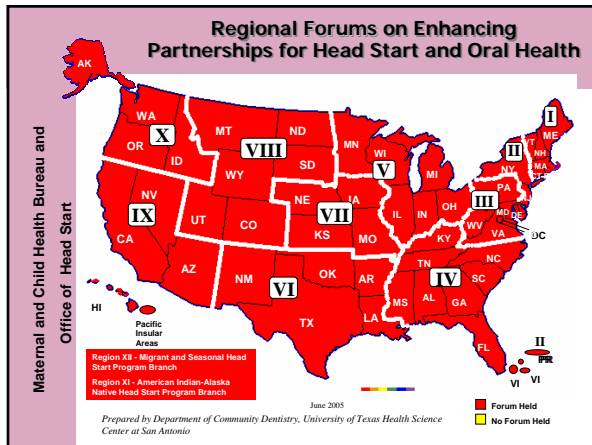
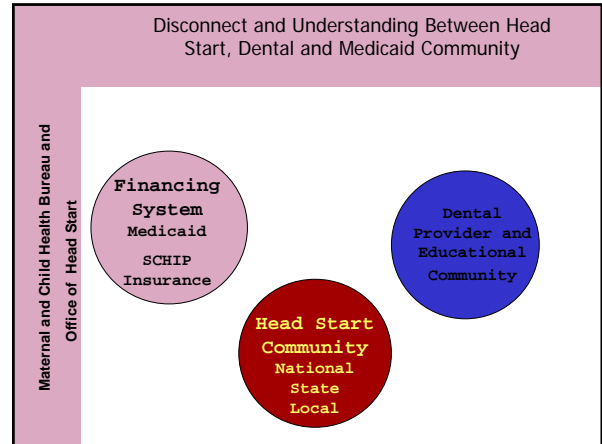
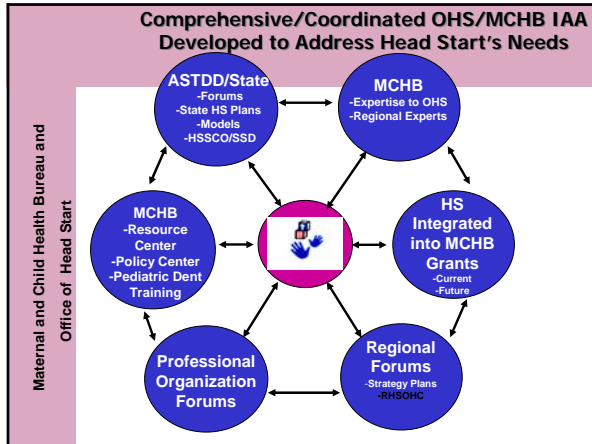
An Assessment By Head Start and Maternal and Child Health Showed Head Start Needed:

- ❖ *Oral health expertise at the national, regional, state and grantee levels*
- ❖ *Increased linkages with MCHB, HRSA, NIH, CDC & other federal oral health programs*
- ❖ *Increased linkages with state dental programs*
- ❖ *Better linkages with public and private dental providers*
- ❖ *Better linkages and understanding of Medicaid and SCHIP*
- ❖ *Better understanding of the state dental practice acts and relationship between dentist and dental hygienists*

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Inter-Agency Agreement Established in 2001 Between Head Start and Maternal and Child Health

- ❖ *Implement Recommendations of Head Start and Partners Oral Health Forum*
- ❖ *Elevate Oral Health Status of Head Start Children to Highest Possible Status by:*
 - ❖ *Building understanding and linkages between HS & dental community (provider, education, payer) using MCHB's current partnerships and programs*
 - ❖ *Increasing effective and proven evidence-based classroom interventions to prevent and manage disease*
 - ❖ *Better linkages and understanding of Medicaid*
 - ❖ *Optimizing the under-utilized strengths of Head Start programs and staff*



Strengthen Professional Partnerships

Stronger linkages with Professional Organizations, such as American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry (AAPD), American Dental Association (ADA), American Dental Education Association (ADEA), the American Dental Hygienists' Association (ADHA), Hispanic Dental Association (HAD)

Maternal and Child Health Bureau and Office of Head Start

National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center

<http://www.mchoralhealth.org/HeadStart>

National Head Start Oral Health Resource Center

HOME ABOUT US CONTACT SITE MAP

ALERT

FAQs

FORUMS

LINKS

MATERIALS

PARTNERSHIP PROJECTS

PRESENTATIONS

Welcome to the National Head Start Oral Health Resource Center!

Your link to Head Start oral health information and materials

New Resources

- Oral Health Resource Bulletin, Volume XIV, Focus on Head Start
- Subscribe to the Oral Health Alert: Focus on Head Start, a free monthly electronic newsletter.
- Read our FAQs for answers based on evidence and expert opinion, including citations of Performance Standards and references.

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National Oral Health Policy Center
<http://www.healthychild.ucla.edu/nohpc/>

Some Accomplishments of Head Start/MCHB Partnership

- ❖ Forums held in all twelve regions
- ❖ Oral health consultants at national and all regional levels
- ❖ Forums held in 54 states and territories
- ❖ Follow up forums held in states and Territories
- ❖ On going collaborative activities initiated between state dental programs and state collaboration offices
- ❖ OHS supported Oral Health Initiative grants
- ❖ Oral health forums and follow up activities with professional organizations and foundations
- ❖ Head Start pediatric oral health residents graduate
- ❖ Head Start integrated into over 40 MCHB grant s
- ❖ Head Start integrated in MCHB Oral Health Policy Center
- ❖ Head Start Oral Health Resource Center Established

IAA Win-Win-Win for OHS, MCHB & Dental Community

- ❖ HS gained collaborative public and private oral health partners, expertise and support systems at national, regional, state & local levels to address its most prevalent unmet health need
- ❖ MCHB gained a target population to optimize its linkages & goodwill with the public and private dental community & a target group for its grant and contract programs
- ❖ Public, private dental communities gained a ready-made target population, infrastructure and model program to focus the energies and resources of their preventive and access to care programs

Why Has the IAA Partnership Been a Success?

- ❖ Common goals of the two agencies
- ❖ Flexible nature of IAA
- ❖ Ability of MCHB to broker partnerships between Head Start and Dental Community at all levels
- ❖ Ability of MCHB to respond quickly to opportunities & unanticipated obstacles
- ❖ OHS support at national and regional levels
- ❖ OHS establishing oral health as a priority
- ❖ Development of well designed implementation plan by MCHB
- ❖ Willingness of MCHB to support HS activities not funded through IAA
- ❖ Collaboration of MCHB partners to supplement funding and support of IAA activities
- ❖ Enthusiasm & energy of MCHB contractors and grantees

Regional Head Start Oral Health Consultants

- John Rossetti D.D.S., M.P.H. (Lead Consultant and Reg. XI, Reg XII)
- Mary Foley, R.D.H., M.P.H (Boston, Reg. I)
- Neal Herman, D.D.S. (New York, Reg. II)
- Harry Goodman, D.M.D., M.P.H. (Philadelphia, Reg. III)
- E. Joseph Alderman, D.D.S., M.P.H. (Atlanta, Reg. IV)
- Karen Yoder, Ph.D. (Chicago, Reg. V)
- Kathy Geurink, R.D.H., M.A. (Dallas, Reg. VI)
- Lawrence Walker, D.D.S., M.P.H. (Kansas City, Reg VII)
- Valerie Orlando, R.D.H. (Denver, Reg. VIII)
- Reginald Louie, D.D.S., M.P.H. (San Francisco, Reg. IX)
- Rebecca Slayton, D.D.S., M.P.H. (Seattle, Reg. X)
- Bonnie Bruerd RDH, PhD (Reg XI)
- Francisco Ramos-Gomez, D.D.S., M.S. (Migrant and Seasonal Workers, Reg XII)
- Magda delaTorre, RDH, MPH (Reg XII)

MCHB GOAL IS TO HAVE A SYSTEM WHERE HEAD START CAN INTERFACE DIRECTLY WITH THE DENTAL AND FINANCING SYSTEMS