

The Arizona State Dental Services Pilot Program

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A.T. Still University

- **Integrated Healthcare for Body, Mind, and Spirit**
- **Andrew Taylor Still M.D., D.O:** University founder; father of osteopathic medicine and practicing dentist.
- **Integrated, osteopathic approach** stressing knowledge, compassion, and hands-on experience to treat a person's **body, mind, and spirit** i.e. **"Whole Person Healthcare"**.

Arizona School of Dentistry & Oral Health

- **Creating Competent, Caring Leaders in Community Health**
- ATSU's **Arizona School of Dentistry & Oral Health (ASDOH)**, was founded in 2003 as a result of evaluating regional and national needs for training dentists for underserved populations.
- School model influenced by Santa Fe Group recommendations for innovation in dental education.

ASDOH'S Mission

- To educate **caring, technologically adept dentists** who become **community and educational leaders** serving those in need and:
 - to **be the leader** in the lifelong education of community responsive dentists
 - to **prepare graduates** with a strong foundation of critical inquiry, evidence-based practice, research, cultural competency, an orientation to prevention, and interdisciplinary healthcare experiences
 - to **promote the delivery** of optimal patient care and for the transfer of newly acquired knowledge, skills, and technology to the profession and to the community

STATE DENTAL PILOT PROGRAM Methods

- In 2006, the Arizona legislature allotted **\$1,000,000** to fund the **State Dental Pilot Program** to provide dental services to adults (over 21) who are Title XIX eligible and enrolled with the Division of Developmental Disabilities (MR/DD i.e. "Cognitive Disability", Autism, Epilepsy, CP).
- \$925,000 for treatment, \$75,000 for transportation
- The Division of Developmental Disabilities contracted with **ASDOH as the sole provider of dental services** under this program creating a unique **public/private partnership**.



Covered Services

- Routine dental care:
 - Diagnostic & Preventive services
 - Restorative (including necessary crowns)
 - Endodontics (excluding re-treats and surgery)
 - Periodontics (including surgery)
 - Prosthodontics (including implants & implant supported dentures)
 - Oral Surgery
 - Adjunctive services (including behavior management, palliative emergency treatment & sedation)

Excluded Services

- Procedures deemed outside the scope/training of dental students
- GA (but could be provided in hospital setting)
- Orthodontics
- Complicated extractions, orthognathic and craniofacial surgery
- Periodontal soft & hard tissue grafting
- Multiple sets of dentures (unless directed by the faculty dentist)

Exceptions

- Exceptions to the process require District Program Manager Approval
- Consumers that live in ICF/MR settings excluded from program (*Dentistry is already a covered service for this group.*)

Contract Amendment

- Arizona Training Program at Coolidge (ATPC)
 - ASDOH also provides dental services to residents in this long-term care facility and consumers who live in group homes on the grounds

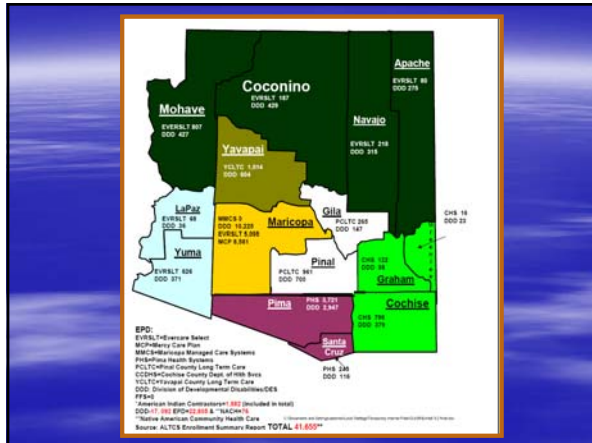


Protocol

- Receive faxed referrals from support coordinators
- Mail out packet to patient
 - Consent
 - Medical history
- Patient phones clinic for appointment once packet is completed
- **FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED POLICY**

DES/DDD Statistics

- **17,092 adults with DD registered with the AZ Dept. of Economic Security**



The Special Care Clinic

- **From Vision to Reality:**
- **Goals:** Training, Service, Workforce development
- **Chronology:**
 - **April 2005** - ASDOH Dental clinic opens.
 - **Sept. 22, 2006** - ASDOH Student treats first SCC Pt.
 - **Oct 2006** – Legislature approves funding for State Dental Pilot Program.
 - **Dec 2006** – SCC Clinical director joins ASDOH Faculty.



The Special Care Clinic

- **Staffing:** Full-time director, (DDS), Full-time faculty (DDS), Adjunct Faculty (1.25 FTE DDS), Part-time Dentist Anesthesiologist, One Full Time RDH, Two Full Time Dental Assistants
- **State of the Art Facility:** Fiber optics, electric motors, wheelchair lift, digital radiography, electronic dental records, cone beam tomography, soft and hard tissue lasers.

The Student Experience

Innovative Modular Curriculum

- **Second Year:** didactic course in special care dentistry

Comprehensive Clinical Experience

- **Third and Fourth years:** Clinical Rotations in Special Care Clinic*
- **Hands-on application** of state-of-the-art techniques utilizing cutting edge technology
 - implants, lasers, tomography, Itero, Cerec, Velscope
- **Integration** of patients with special needs into student practice.

**From Oct 2006 until June 2007, the majority of student involvement was on a volunteer basis. Rotations have been implemented to meet CODA Std 2-26 "Graduates must be competent in assessing the treatment needs of patients with special needs."*



Results

TRAINING & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Clinical Competency

- Class of 2007: 100% of the inaugural class fulfilled CODA std. 2-26
- Class of 2008: ≥48 hrs of clinical experience in special care.
- Class of 2009: >75 hrs of clinical experience in special care.

SERVICE

Patient Benefits

- Individualized attention
- Comprehensive treatment
- Continuity of care
- True "dental home"



Results

Current Data

- Oct 2006 – present- 600 Pts./>6500 procedures/ \$800,000 in dental care provided.
- March 2008 – Over 1800 referrals to date statewide. (approximately 10%)

Results

Capacity Building

- **Statewide symposium** on special care dentistry held three locations (ADA Foundation grant)
- **Hands-on training** of external ASDOH faculty in key geographic areas (HRSA grant)
- **Oral health education** for school and community groups
- **In-service training** for direct care staff

Conclusions

- Pilot Program successful public/private partnership
 - Service
 - Training
 - Workforce development

Moving On

Legislation

- **New ALTCS** (*Arizona Long Term Care Services*) **dental benefit** started 10/1/07 provides \$1000.00/yr of coverage for dental services for adults with developmental disabilities (approximately 44,000 covered Arizonans)
 - This is **not** a pilot program
 - Future funding for coverage will require legislative approval
- **State Dental Pilot Program** sunsets June 30, 2008

Research

- **Oral health related quality of life** study of people with developmental disabilities (*ATSU Strategic Research Fund grant*)
- **Longitudinal study** on the impact of the special care dental training on workforce development (*CVS grant*)

Moving On

DENTAL CARE WEST (DCW)

- **July 2008**
 - *three chair special care clinic with wheelchair lift*

Collaboration & Support

- **Smile Over Miles** (*Legacy Foundation grant*)
 - (homebound program)
- **HRSA teledentistry grant** (In conjunction with AZ State Office of Oral Health)
- **ADA Foundation grant (Project C.A.R.E)** (In conjunction with AZ Dental Association)
- **Aetna** (\$150,000 faculty support)
- **CVS** (\$25,000 research support)
- **Thunderbird Foundation** (\$150,000 build out of DCW)



THE BEGINNING