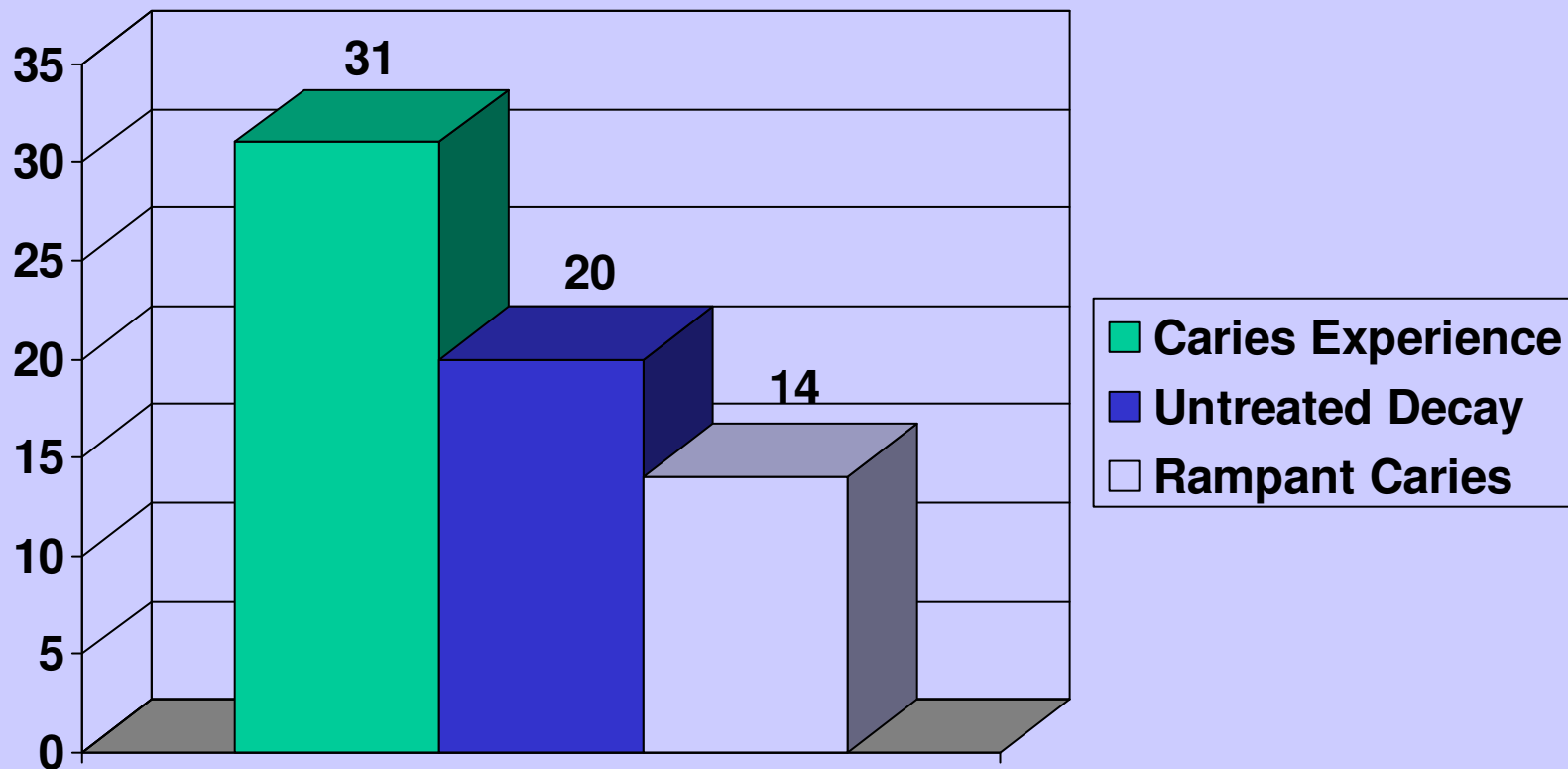


Connecticut Department of Public Health Office of Oral Health's Home by One Program



Tracey Andrews RDH, B.S.

Prevalence of Decay in Connecticut's Preschool Children



Source: CT DPH Every Smile Counts Survey 2007

www.ct.gov/dph/OralHealth

Lessons Learned from Every Smile Counts survey



- Parents must be empowered to **prevent** decay before age 2
- Health professionals must focus dental disease prevention efforts in children **less than 2 years**
- Statewide **consistent** oral health messages needed

Why WIC Is A Perfect Venue

- Children on WIC program are **already** considered at **high risk** for developing **early childhood caries**.
- **25,000** of the 65,000 WIC participants in CT are **age one or younger**.
- 38% of all CT babies are **already enrolled in WIC at birth**,
- National average is 50%
- Pregnant, postpartum and breast feeding moms
 - Major changes in oral health can occur during this time.
 - Prime time to educate and give oral health messages.
 - 21 existing contact opportunities to integrate components of oral health program.

Home by One Program



Building the dental home network around early childhood partnerships that focus on oral health as essential to the overall health and well being of children in Connecticut



- 100% funded by US Department of Health and Human Services. A TOHSS Grant Recipient 2007-2011

Home by One Program



GOALS

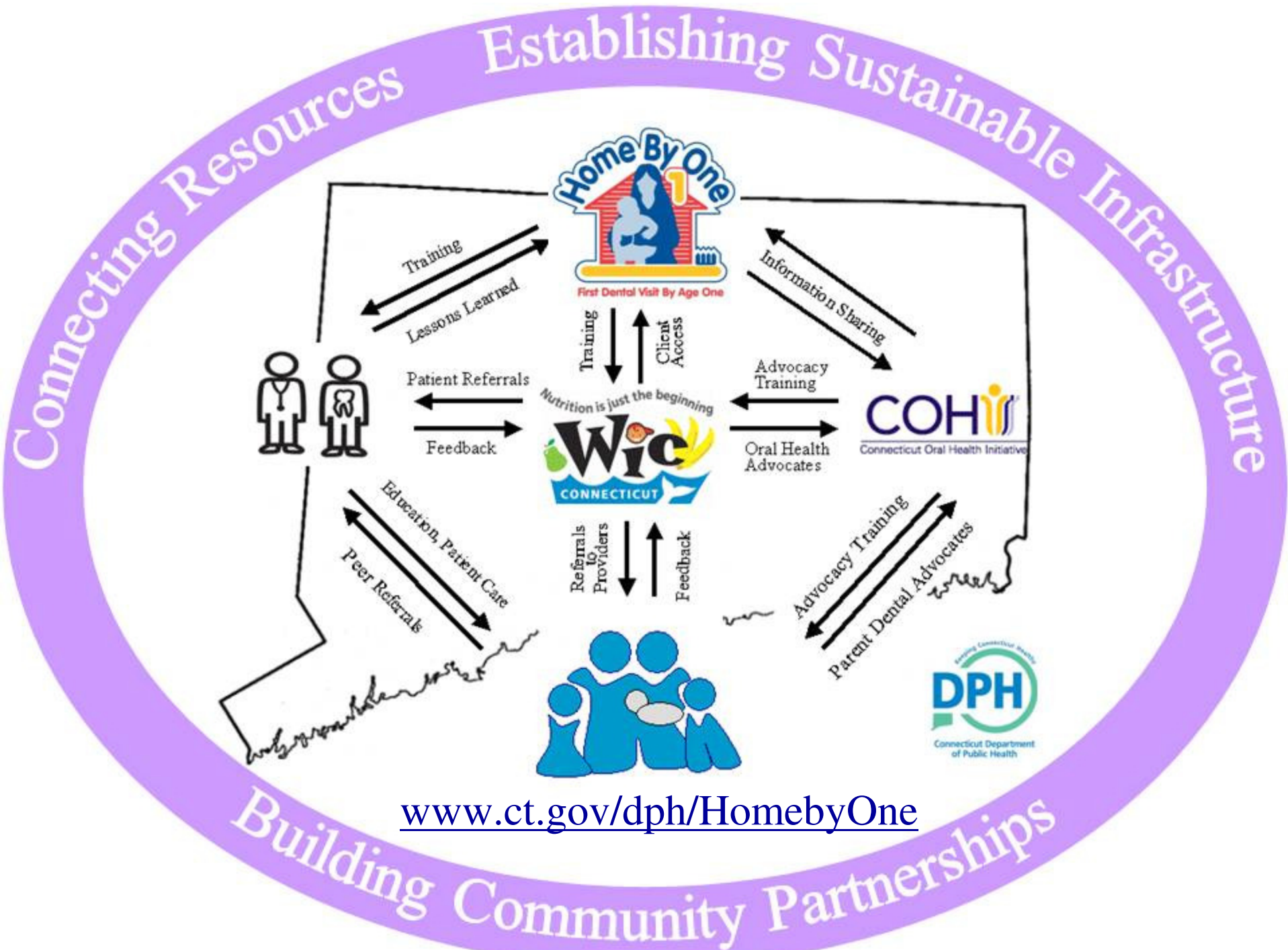
- I. Build a statewide infrastructure of integrated **partnerships** and **referral** patterns between WIC, dental and medical providers, parents and caregivers
- II. Develop a **network** of providers that are knowledgeable, available and accessible
- III. Reduce and **prevent** oral disease by increasing age one dental visits in state of Connecticut
- IV. Parents understand and value oral health

Home by One Program



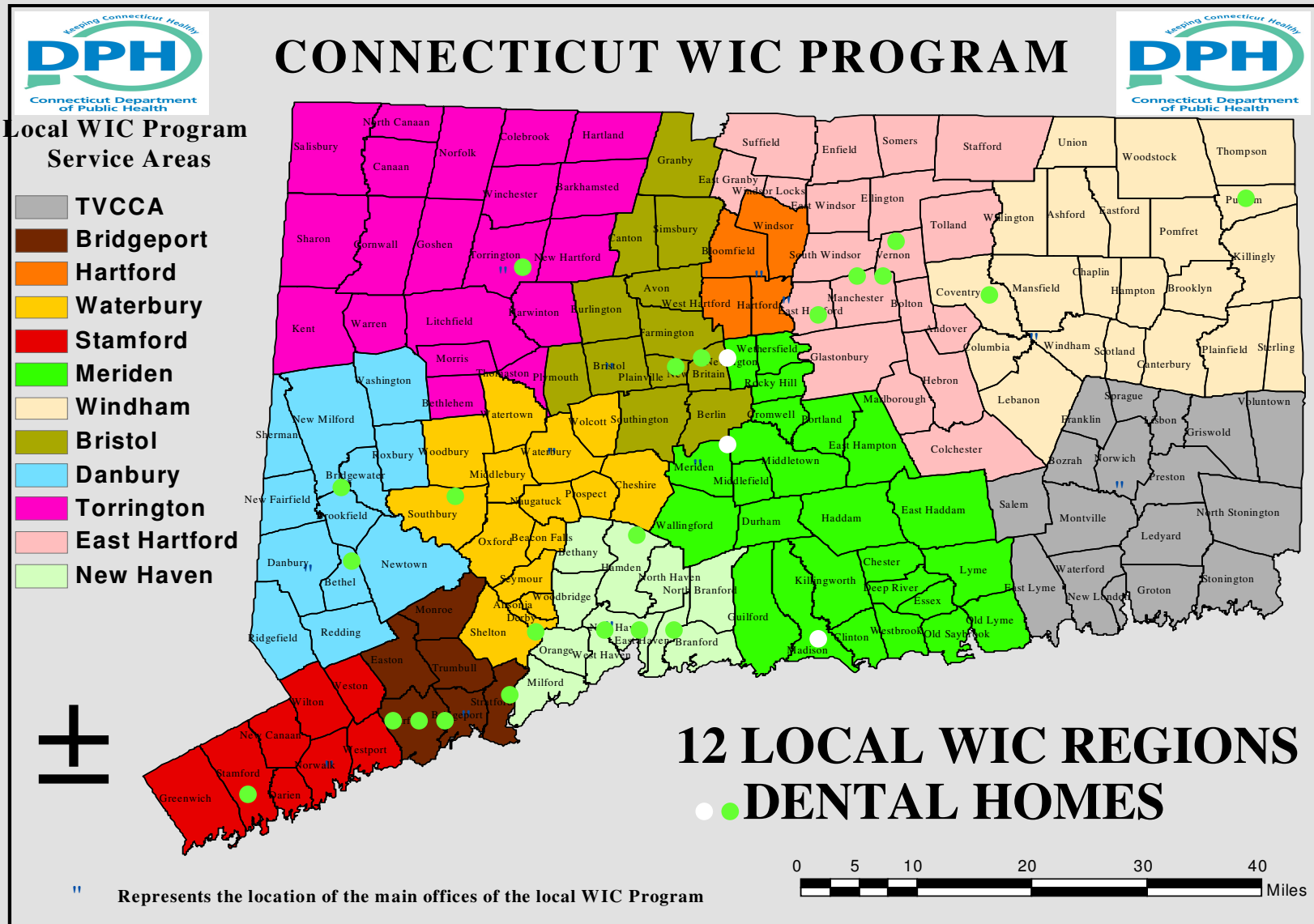
ACTIVITIES

- Parent Training/Education
- Physician Training/WIC Staff Training
- Integration of Systems of Care
- **Dental Home Development/Age One Dental Visit Training**
- Consistent Oral Health Messages Throughout State



www.ct.gov/dph/HomebyOne

12 CT WIC Regions & Dental Home Networks



Key Factor for Building Successful Collaboration with WIC

Contact, personalized attention, one to one

Overcome Challenges, troubleshoot

Orchestrate links to community dental resources

Recruiting parent dental advocates

Develop dental provider networks, relationships

Integration of oral health education into site

Navigate patient's to dental home

Availability to answer questions from WIC staff

Travel out to sites, special events, presentations

Online training including consistent messaging

Resource for education materials, connections

Develop Resources to Enhance WIC Nutritionists Existing Oral Health Education



First Smile
 First Tooth
 First Dental Visit by Age 1

Keep your baby healthy and cavity-free with a well-baby dental visit by age 1.

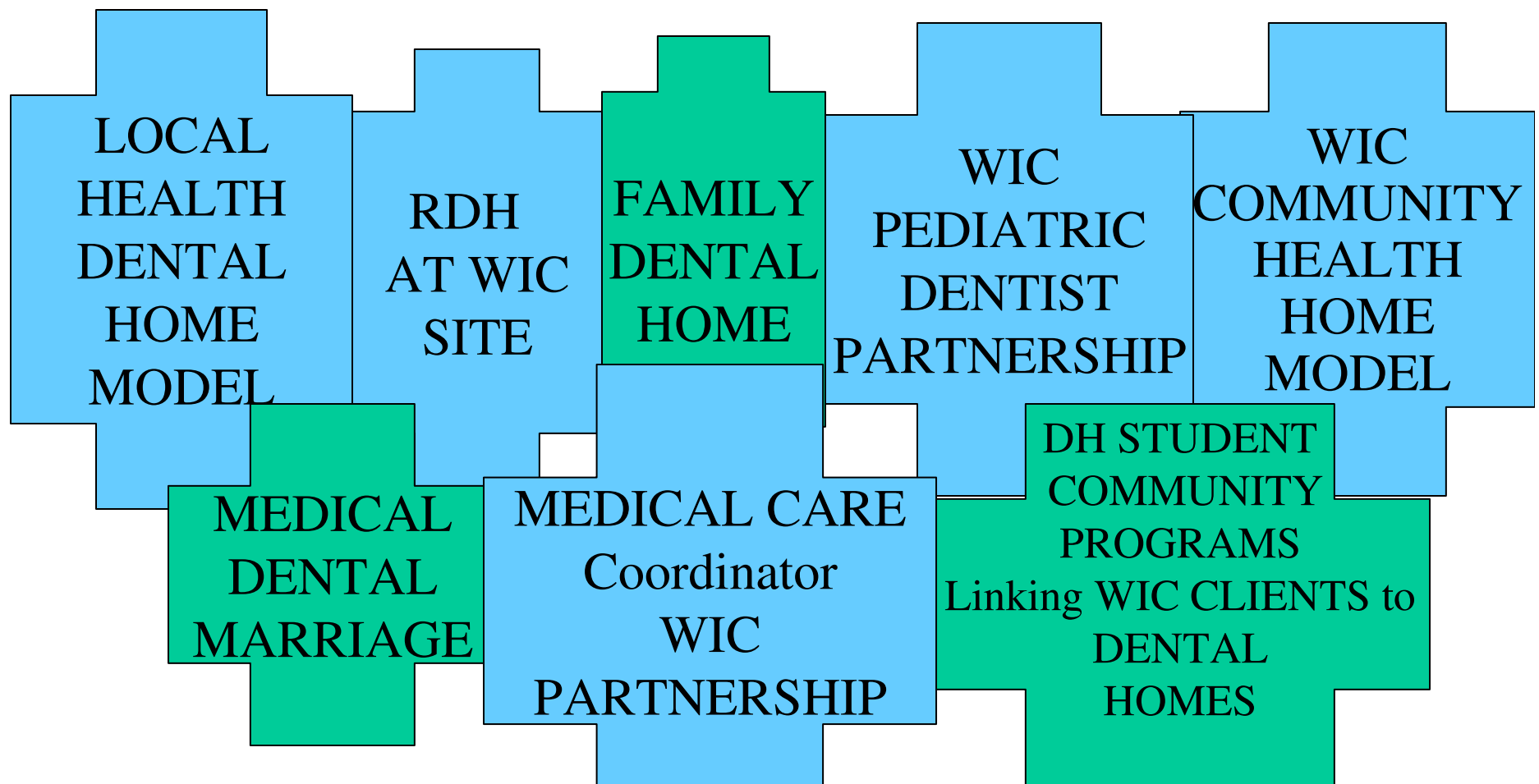
Call 2-1-1 for a dentist near you.



2-1-1 United Way 100% funded by US Department of Health and Human Services First Dental Visit By Age One Keeping Connecticut Healthy Connecticut Department of Public Health

- Fact sheets for parents and caregivers
- Referral forms to dental homes
- Contact information of Regional Dental Care Specialist
- Caries risk assessment tools
- Educational Resources for WIC secondary education classes focusing on early oral health disease prevention

Dental Home Models Developed Around WIC





Factors For A Successful Program

<p>Increase # of Dental Medicaid Providers</p>	<p>Increase Reimbursement Rate for Medicaid Dental Services (at least for children)</p>	<p>Establish a Single ASO for Dental Medicaid</p>	<p>Establish Regional Care Specialists, who help navigate participants to providers</p>	<p>Establish Advisory around early childhood oral health</p>	<p>Buy in from State Dental Association & Age one Visit Education</p>
<p>Establish Relationship with WIC Coordinators</p>	<p>Recognition of Local WIC staff's daily challenges & help reduce barriers through active partnership</p>	<p>Collaborate With Other Existing Early Childhood Initiatives</p>	<p>Consistent Message Campaign For Age One Dental Visit</p>	<p>Advocacy & Oral Health Parent Education Programs</p>	<p>Develop Website for Resources & collaboration</p>

LESSONS LEARNED & FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS



www.ct.gov/dph/HomebyOne

Key Concluding Points



- Exercise **flexibility** when building collaboration and work with community needs to develop a successful program around **consistent messages**.
- **Coordinator** is key to building and *sustaining* collaboration and developing an active partnership with WIC.
- Leverage **existing** resources.