



Healthy Smile Happy Child

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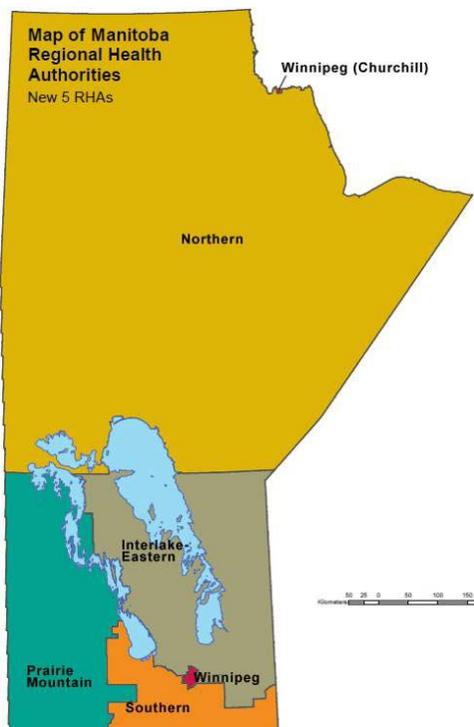
The Manitoba Collaborative Project for the Prevention of Early Childhood Tooth Decay

Healthy Smile Happy Child Activity and Highlights January – March 2013

Submitted by: Janis Gojda, Healthy Smile Happy Child (HSHC) coordinator

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Regional Updates



Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority

(former Interlake RHA and North Eastman Health Authority)

- The HSHC coordinator asked key contacts to complete a short questionnaire to help HSHC determine regional needs/support and to emphasize HSHC's key role of being supportive to the RHAs.
- The HSHC coordinator is also continuing efforts to follow up on the community capacity evaluation forms for the Interlake-Eastern Families First program to help HSHC understand the capacity of the region to provide early childhood oral health support.
- In January, the Wellness Facilitator in Pine Falls provided a 90 minute pre and postnatal presentation in Pine Falls (5 moms in attendance).
- The key contact in Pine Falls requested instructions on how to create/play the sugar bug game that HSHC created. The HSHC display with Sugar Bug game will be at 5 Early Years events throughout the eastern part of the IERHA (1 in French) this spring.
- One participant from Pinawa joined the HSHC Presentation Series via MBTelehealth on January 31, 2013.

Northern Regional Health Authority (former NOR-MAN and Burntwood RHAs)

- The HSHC coordinator is continuing to work with the region for ongoing oral health promotion efforts. Key contacts were asked to complete a short questionnaire to help HSHC determine regional needs/support and to emphasize HSHC's key role of being supportive to the RHAs.

Northern Regional Health Authority (former NOR-MAN and Burntwood RHAs) *continued...*

- A Public Health Dietitian/Healthy Baby Coordinator in Thompson was recently appointed as the new HSHC contact and liaison between the former NOR-MAN and Burntwood regions. The HSHC coordinator introduced her and will be arranging a trainer session in the next quarter.
- HSHC is continuing to search for a local contact to support ongoing community engagement with The Pas community.
- Three participants from Thompson connected to the HSHC Presentation Series via MBTelehealth on January 31, 2013.
- The Public Health Dietitian/Healthy Baby Coordinator is continuing to hand out toothbrushes and oral health resources in Thompson and local communities.

Prairie Mountain Health (former Brandon, Assiniboine & Parkland RHAs)

- The PROMISE Years Parent Child Program Coordinator position in Virden is still vacant. The North Parent Child Coalition Coordinator in Hamiota has been covering for the South area until the position is filled.
- HSHC is continuing to work with and provide support to the region for oral health promotion and prevention activities. The HSHC coordinator asked key contacts to complete a short questionnaire to help HSHC determine regional needs/support and to emphasize HSHC's key role of being supportive to the RHAs.
- The Community Health Nutritionist in Dauphin worked in collaboration with Public Health Nurses (PHNs) to provide resources, display materials and visuals for a dental health display at the Wellness Fair for 3 year olds in 5 communities in February and 4 communities in March. Sugar in beverages, early childhood tooth decay model and large teeth/toothbrush were provided, as well a sample oral health kit for a 3 year old with appropriate anticipatory guidance messages for parents. The PHNs used a modified American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry (AAPD) caries risk assessment tool for use by non-dental providers to assess children's risk for caries and dental concerns. PHNs conducted dental screenings and identified that many of the 3 year old children had never been to the dentist and the majority also had signs of plaque and dental caries.
 - The Community Health Nutritionist in Dauphin contacted the Public Health Manager regarding results of the dental screening booth at 3 year old wellness fairs– key concerns are parents are not assisting their 3 year olds to brush teeth with plaque and dental caries present.
 - This information was used by a Dietetic intern to develop an article for oral health month and a list of "Fang-Friendly" dental healthy snacks for their April Health Promotion E-News.
 - Information was sent out to health promotion staff on resources that could be used to promote oral health month in April from the Canadian Dental Association website.
- A combined total of 16 participants via 5 MBTelehealth sites (Dauphin, Ste. Rose du Lac, Roblin, Brandon, and Swan River) joined the HSHC Presentation Series on January 31, 2013.

Prairie Mountain Health (former Brandon, Assiniboine & Parkland RHAs) *continued...*

- The City of Dauphin's water treatment plant received a Certificate of Commendation for maintaining good operations from the Minister of Health for water fluoridation.
- HSHC provided contact information of suppliers/distributors who will sell fluoride varnish to non-dental health professionals, as requested by a key contact in this region. The fluoride varnish could be potentially used and applied by local public health staff. This information was also shared with the partnership group.
- The Community Health Nutritionist in Dauphin sent an e-mail to the Roblin health promotion and public health team to determine how to address the issue of early childhood tooth decay, since fluoride will be removed from the water in that community. The Community Health Nutritionist and her Dietetic intern are also working together to develop an article about water fluoridation for the Roblin Review newsletter. Town council recently voted on the issue of water fluoridation.
- The Regional Coordinator from Better Beginnings is searching for individuals to man an oral health booth for a Wellness Fair in Swan River that takes place in May. The HSHC coordinator connected with the Community Health Nutritionist in Dauphin as well as the Manitoba Dental Hygienists Association to help seek out local volunteers. HSHC has offered to provide resources for this event.
- Families First Home Visitors (8) and Public Health Nurses (2) are scheduled to attend the upcoming HSHC trainer session on April 4th.

Southern Health / Santé Sud (former RHA-Central Manitoba and South Eastman Health)

- The HSHC coordinator provided key contacts with a short questionnaire to determine regional needs/support and to emphasize HSHC's key role of being supportive to the RHAs.
- The Healthy Living Program Facilitator reports she has not heard anyone voicing a need for a HSHC refresher/training session. With the amalgamation and shuffling of staffs, she does not anticipate any planned training in near future.
- Approximately 7 participants via 3 MBTelehealth sites (Winkler, St Jean Baptiste, and Portage la Prairie) connected to the HSHC Presentation Series on January 31, 2013.
- The Healthy Living Program Facilitator inquired about the use of fluoride varnish by public health staff purchase and if it could be used with clients with a dentist's supervision.
- The key contact in Steinbach will be attending the HSHC trainer session on April 4th. She will be attending in-person in Winnipeg.

Winnipeg Regional Health Authority (Churchill and Winnipeg RHAs have been merged)

- The HSHC coordinator is continuing to work with the key contacts in Winnipeg and Churchill to incorporate early childhood oral health promotion into their work. Key contacts were asked to complete a short questionnaire to help HSHC determine regional needs/support and to emphasize HSHC's key role of being supportive to the RHAs.

Winnipeg Regional Health Authority (Churchill and Winnipeg RHAs have been merged) *continued...*

- The HSHC coordinator connected with the Winnipeg Community Facilitator in the Point Douglas area to determine if there is opportunity to connect with FNIHB evacuated communities who are currently residing in Winnipeg. The HSHC coordinator is following up.
- Six participants from Winnipeg joined the HSHC Presentation Series on January 31, 2013 at the host site.
- The HSHC coordinator met with the WRHA Community Facilitator in the Point Douglas area to touch base and discuss oral health education/information for service providers in Point Douglas. An in-person HSHC trainer session has been scheduled for April 22nd.
- A trainer session has also been scheduled for public health staff and community workers in the Fort Garry/River Heights characterization area.

Other Provinces/North America

- A Dental Hygienist from the Haldimand-Norfolk Health Unit in Ontario is interested in using and slightly modifying the HSHC Newborn – 6 years pamphlet and the Flipchart to post on their dental site. Modifications would be made to target their population of Low German Mennonites. The HSHC coordinator connected her with the designer and photographer of the Flipchart to negotiate changes. HSHC requested a draft of the pamphlet to review before finalizing.
- A Dental Hygienist, currently working on her BDSoc at the University of British Columbia, is conducting a literature review on teledentistry. She was put in contact with HSHC through one of the partnership members. The STEP students linked her with some of HSHC's past and current use of MBTelehealth.
- The Executive Director from the Greater Moncton Family Resource Centre in New Brunswick was searching for additional Oral Health bins that were created by Healthy Smile Happy Child and Healthy Start for Mom & Me in 2011 (funded by PHAC). Although no English kits remain, a French kit will be sent and HSHC encouraged downloading resources from the webpage and replicating the bins.

Collaborative Activity

Schools and Community Organizations

- A 3rd year dentistry student from the University of Manitoba requested to use some of the HSHC resources and activities, such as the tooth brushing puppet for a presentation to a grade 1 class in April. He heard about HSHC through word of mouth by his classmates.

Dental and Medical Organizations

- The HSHC coordinator is continuing to work in collaboration with the Manitoba Dental Hygienists Association (MDHA) to connect local dental hygienists with community schools and prenatal and parents of young children groups who would like oral health information sessions. One request

was sent from HSHC to the MDHA to help connect volunteer hygienists for a community wellness fair in the Prairie Mountain Health region.

- Funding to support the 0.5 EFT provincial coordination functions for the current fiscal period has been received from MB Health via the WRHA. This will be ongoing. As a result, longer term support commitments will be made to all RHAs.

Provincial HSHC Activity

- The HSHC partnership is revisiting the project's logic model that included the three pillars, including community development, knowledge exchange, and evaluation. HSHC will collaborate with all regions to renew the HSHC's key role of supporting and enabling RHAs to include oral health as a key component of overall health and well-being.
- The HSHC team submitted a full application titled, *Providing Early Childhood Oral Health Information to Newcomer Families*, to the Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba and the Child Health Advisory Committee (CHAC) for the Health Promotion and Prevention Grant on October 31, 2012. HSHC's application was unsuccessful. In February 2013, HSHC revised the grant application and submitted to the William J. Spence ICD Memorial Foundation, the humanitarian arm of the Canadian Section of the International College of Dentists. Other funding opportunities are being pursued. Funding would be used to develop and distribute pictorial oral health resources specifically for newcomers to Canada. These resources would promote good oral health during the early childhood period, provide messages on how to prevent ECC and provide information on accessing dental care.
- The fourth HSHC MBTelehealth presentation series titled "*Looking for oral health resources? A closer look at what's online*" took place on January 31, 2013. A total of 11 sites (including host site) and approximately 35 individuals participated via MBTelehealth. The next presentation will be on the topic of Motivational Interviewing and will take place on April 18, 2013 from 10:30am – 11:30am. Past presentations will be posted on the HSHC webpage on the WRHA website in the near future.
- A HSHC trainer/refresher session is scheduled on April 4, 2013 from 10:00am – 11:30am via MBTelehealth. All RHA key contacts have been invited and encouraged to disseminate to other interested parties in their communities.
- HSHC members attended the Manitoba Dental Association's annual convention on January 25, 2013. A display board was created that revealed key findings from the Free First Visit evaluation activities and focus groups with dentists and parents/caregivers of young children. HSHC resources were also handed out and a few resource requests were fulfilled following the convention.
- HSHC team members are in the initial stages of planning and preparing for multiple upcoming summer community events. These events include Teddy Bears Picnic in May, as well as Tooth Fairy Saturday and the GO4Health Expo, which both take place in June.
- The Pearly Whites project submitted for inclusion to the Canadian Best Practices Portal Oral Health section, which was reviewed by the committee in January 2013. The project coordinator

is awaiting feedback. HSHC was recently notified that the HSHC page on this portal received the most hits for the oral health section for January – December 2012.

The Pearly Whites oral health poster has also been translated and finalized. Nurse Educators from the Children's Hospital have offered to take the lead on printing/distribution.

- HSHC members made contact with Alberta Health Services regarding their "Lift the Lip" brochure. HSHC is awaiting feedback regarding permission to reproduce as well as to add the HSHC logo to this resource. This resource is generally found to be helpful in promoting oral health to families with young children.
- HSHC created a Facebook webpage as a way to connect with the public and a means to promote early childhood oral health through social media. HSHC STEP students are continuing to work on enhancing and building the Facebook page to better promote HSHC and connect with the public. Pictures of HSHC display boards and community events will be posted as well as updates and information on upcoming activities, such as MBTelehealth sessions. A link to the HSHC's Facebook page is available on HSHC's webpage on the WRHA website.
- HSHC is working to finalize the *Pediatric Dental Surgery Support and Information for Families* handout. Since the recent changes and integration of to the Manitoba RHAs, the HSHC project coordinator is reassessing key contacts, changes in contact information, and consent. Following will be strategy for dissemination and use of this resource.
- The HSHC partnership's proposal the Provincial Strategic Investment Council (PSIC) was approved to proceed with the implementation of Telehealth into the HSHC initiative located at the John Buhler Centre (JBRC). First Nation Inuit Health Branch will be loaning a videoconferencing Telehealth unit for a one year pilot project aimed at evaluating the potential benefits to First Nation communities, although not exclusive of other communities. The HSHC team met with members of MBTelehealth to review the Business Process Redesign, and training sessions were provided for the HSCH team with the new equipment and software. Next steps include working with communities to determine which of their needs could be met by this proposal. The purpose of this special project is to use Telehealth to promote early childhood oral health across Manitoba.
- HSHC is continuing to work with the WRHA Research & Evaluation Unit to complete the postal code mapping data of pediatric surgeries for Severe Early Childhood Caries in Manitoba; Manitoba Health transferred data over to WRHA to begin this process. A sample of current data was sent to RHA contacts to determine how this postal code mapping information could be utilized in their regions, what form of information is most meaningful, and how they would like to receive updates or reports as new data become available. Feedback will be incorporated for future reporting to RHAs.
- In January 2013, HSHC shared findings from the Free First Visit (FFV) program evaluation activities with the Manitoba Dental Association (MDA) and its members. This knowledge exchange occurred through meetings & presentations to the MDA and board as well as at the MDA convention. HSHC members also created a display board with the FFV findings that was exhibited at the MDA convention on January 25, 2013.

Staff Development:

- The two current STEP students' positions, supported by MB Health, are continuing to work in a part time capacity through the school year. These positions are active until May 3, 2013. HSHC will be searching for a new STEP student in May as only one of the current students will be rehired over the summer.

Feedback/Evaluation/Research:

- "A Qualitative Evaluation of a Community Developed Early Childhood Oral Health Initiative" manuscript is being revised and looking for alternative journals for submission.
- The follow up manuscript 'Evaluating the Effectiveness of the Manitoba Collaborative Project for the Prevention of Early Childhood Tooth Decay' is be reworked for resubmission.
- Qualitative Cultural study - A manuscript of findings is nearing completion and will be reviewed by the partnership before submission for journal publication.
- HSHC is involved in the evaluation study of the Free First Visit program. A manuscript on the survey of Manitoba dentists on their views of the FFV program was submitted and is under peer review. Two other papers are being prepared (one focusing on the tracking form data and the other on the focus groups. One of the STEP students is also working on a one-pager "*Did You Know*" that highlights the Free First Visit Survey and focus groups findings.
- HSHC partnership members have been invited by Dr. Kulkarni of the University of Toronto to write an article for a special issue in the International Journal of Dentistry. The article would focus on the model for infant and child oral health promotion in Manitoba, criteria for assessing its effectiveness, data to support effectiveness, and challenges experienced. A meeting will be arranged in the next quarter with partnership members to discuss.

Planning for Next Quarter (April – June 2013):

- Compile feedback from RHAs to rebuild individual needs and to determine how HSHC can be of further support to maintain oral health promotion capacity across the province.
- Plan meeting with key group members to revisit logic model.
- Prepare for 5th HSHC Presentation Series on April 18, 2013 and begin planning for subsequent presentation.
- Provide HSHC trainer/refresher sessions to RHA key contacts and continue to seek out other groups and organization in need of training.
- Continue to plan and prepare for upcoming community events.
- Determine final changes to key contacts/contact information for the *Pediatric Dental Surgery Support and Information for Families* handout and develop a strategy for dissemination.

Planning for Next Quarter (April – June 2013): *continued...*

- Continue to seek potential funding opportunities for the development of pictorial oral health resources for newcomer populations to Canada.
- Postal code mapping – compile and discuss feedback from RHAs.
- Continue to work with MBTelehealth into next phases of project implementation.
- Continue to utilize Facebook as a way to promote HSHC and early childhood oral health.
- Complete qualitative cultural study manuscript and other outstanding manuscripts and submit for publication.
- Rehire/hire new STEP students.