



Healthy Smile Happy Child

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Quarterly Report July – September 2007

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

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Community Involvement/Partnerships

Project Activity:

1) Phase II Evaluation

- Results are encouraging as there is a significant improvement in the knowledge and attitudes of caregivers towards early childhood oral health in all 4 original communities over a 4 year period of time. We have also seen a significant reduction in the number of preschool children with active/untreated decay (d score) compared with the baseline study 4 years earlier when children from all 4 communities are combined and analyzed as one group.
- Follow-up study result profiles for each of the 4 original communities are currently being prepared.
- Once complete, the project coordinator and representative from the partnership will travel to these communities to present the findings with community leaders and members.
- The partnership will eventually prepare a manuscript for publication to share these Manitoba findings.

2) Community and Professional Contacts

Burntwood/Churchill Regions:

- Professional Groups trained – Oxford House First Nation (Community Health Representatives' (CHR), dentist, Head Start staff) and South Indian Lake First Nation (CHR, CPNP worker, Daycare workers, Homecare assistant, Aboriginal Diabetes Initiative worker).
- Mailed 27 letters to contacts in outlying communities.
- Working on plans for fall trip to Churchill for follow-up and to further connect with the community.
- Provided required support for the BRHA service provider focus group.

NOR-MAN/Parkland Regions: Community Facilitator left position end of April, 2007. Position filled September 19th, 2007.

- Orientation of new Community Facilitator occurred late September and early October.

North Eastman/South Eastman Regions:

- Professional groups trained – NEHA Families First home visitors and coordinator, Wings of Power staff, NEHA public health nurses, pre-Kindergarten teacher, CPNP and Healthy Baby facilitators.
- Met with Popular River CHR's and Brighter Futures Initiative Representative via MBTelehealth.

- Continuing to create teaching tubs with oral health resources for communities.
- Further resources provided to: NEHA Public Health nurses and Families First home visitors, Agape House, Anna's House, and Healthy Baby coordinator as requested.
- Sent German "think about your baby's teeth" posters to Healthy Baby and German outreach worker in SEHA. Also creating a tub of teaching resources for a German group that meets monthly.
- Collaborated with @Yourside Colleague web site which now has a HSHC page devoted to early childhood oral health.
- Arranged for location for NEHA caregiver focus group and distributed flyers to advertise for group in Pine Falls area.
- Met with Francophone Wellness Facilitator in La Broquerie and provided translated workbook.
- Provided French workbooks and support to the Health Complex, Dental Clinic in St. Anne and St. George Health Corner.
- Met with Whitemouth/Reynolds community wellness coalition.
- Connected with program manager at Mrs. Lucci's Family Resource Center to provide resources and support for their programs.

Central/Assiniboine/Brandon Regions:

- Professional groups trained – Portage Women's Shelter, Families First home visitor, Public health nurse, Daycare staff, and Rolling River First Nation health care staff.
- In consultation with Central Public Health nurses to help them coordinate HSHC resources within the region for programming. Information was also discussed with Brandon and Assiniboine Public Health Managers.
- Continuing to work on completing 3 regional oral health resource kits.
- Initial planning for possible MB Telehealth oral health sessions focused on consumer issues and targeting RHA staff and community people. Working at partnering with community speakers for MB Telehealth sessions.
- Attending meetings with Portage Community Network to work on a community development plan related to early childhood oral health. Plan to submit proposal for a grant that will look at chronic disease risk factor reduction and integrating services in Portage for high risk populations.
- Networking with Assiniboine region coordinator for Aboriginal Health.
- Arranged for location for Central service providers focus group.
- Networking to provide training on Shilo base.
- Working with regions to ensure sustainability of oral health message at health fairs for subsequent years.

Winnipeg/Interlake Regions:

- Professional Groups trained – NEEDS Centre, Welcome Place, Child & Family Service Support Program Supervisors, St. James-Assiniboia & Assiniboine South Daycares, Little Red Spirit Head Start, West Central Women's Resource Centre, St. Boniface Public Health team, and Misericordia dental surgery staff.
- Project introductions provided to Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs.
- Met with St. Vital and St. James-Assiniboia Public Health teams to deliver resource kit and follow-up with front-line staff.
- Mailed out French resources to St. Vital dental clinic, Aboriginal Head Start in St. Laurent, and Healthy Baby coordinator in St. Boniface as per request. Also sent resources to Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata Centre (6 locations).
- Contacted various day camps and summer programs regarding the incorporation of oral health activities into summer programming.
- Met with WRHA Community Project Coordinator for Aboriginal Health Programs regarding opportunities for oral health promotion within Aboriginal programs.
- Mailed out introduction letters/workshop invitations and examples of resources to various organizations in Winnipeg.
- Met with Health Promotions Coordinator for IRHA regarding oral health taskforces and display sustainability. Scheduled to attend Interlake Early Childhood Development Committee meeting and IRHA AGM.

- Mailed out focus group posters for WRHA caregiver group to community health offices and Healthy Start for Mom & Me.
- Created 2 displays to be housed in IRHA and used by community programs. Included resource package with ideas on how to use the display.
- Connected with the new Alternative/Hutterian Education Administrator for the Interlake School Division regarding opportunities for ECTD prevention with Hutterite Colonies.
- Created 225 inserts and prize draw for the Welcome Wagon baby shower.
- Met with Chair of Seven Oaks Early Years Coalition re: expansion of bookmark resource and Healthy Smile Happy Child resource kits. Bookmark to be shared at National Child's Day Forum and uploaded on Advancing Community Schools website. Coalition interested in 2 resource kits to circulate within the Seven Oaks School Division and Seven Oaks community.
- Met with WRHA SMILE plus staff to discuss ways they can support HSHC initiatives with Healthy Baby groups in Winnipeg.

3) Presentations:

July 2007

RHA	Train the Trainer Workshop		Parent/Caregiver Presentations		Contacts made	
	# Workshops	# Participants	# Presentations	# Participants	Direct	Indirect
Assiniboine	0	0	0	0	5	83
Brandon	0	0	0	0	0	3
Central	1	6	0	0	4	3
Burntwood	0	0	0	0	1	625
Churchill	0	0	0	0	0	0
NOR-MAN	0	0	0	0	0	0
Parkland	0	0	0	0	0	0
Winnipeg	1	7	4	198	15	22
Interlake	0	0	0	0	0	1
NorthEastman	1	4	0	0	16	1
SouthEastman	0	0	0	0	1	1
Total	3	17	4	198	42	739

Maternity Ward visits in Burntwood Region – 37

August 2007

RHA	Train the Trainer Workshop		Parent/Caregiver Presentations		Contacts made	
	# Workshops	# Participants	# Presentations	# Participants	Direct	Indirect
Assiniboine	0	0	2	8	5	125
Brandon	0	0	0	0	1	0
Central	0	0	0	0	8	0
Burntwood	0	0	0	0	2	27
Churchill	0	0	0	0	0	0
NOR-MAN	0	0	0	0	0	0
Parkland	0	0	0	0	0	0
Winnipeg	1	25	1	40	1	610

Interlake	0	0	0	0	2	0
NorthEastman	1	6	0	0	9	1
SouthEastman	0	0	1	9	5	0
Total	2	31	4	57	33	763

Maternity Ward visits in Burntwood Region – 37

September 2007

RHA	Train the Trainer Workshop		Parent/Caregiver Presentations		Contacts made	
	# Workshops	# Participants	# Presentations	# Participants	Direct	Indirect
Assiniboine	1	3	3	21	20	310
Brandon	0	0	0	0	15	305
Central	1	5	2	11	30	100
Burntwood	2	15	0	0	16	400
Churchill	0	0	0	0	0	0
NOR-MAN	0	0	0	0	0	0
Parkland	0	0	0	0	0	0
Winnipeg	6	45	0	0	9	0
Interlake	0	0	0	0	1	0
NorthEastman	2	16	2	28	21	0
SouthEastman	0	0	0	0	2	0
Total	12	84	7	60	114	1115

Maternity ward visits in Burntwood region – 19

4) Community events:

July: Teddy Bear Picnic in Carberry
Family Fair in Norway House
YWCA Family Fun Fair in Thompson

August: Teddy Bear Picnic in Neepawa
Picnic in the Park by North End Renewal Corporation in
Winnipeg

September: Wayway First Nation Health Fair
Preschool Wellness Fair in Shilo
DASH tent display
Community display in Elie
Health & Leisure Mart in Thompson
Worldwide Breastfeeding Challenge in Thompson

Collaborative Activity

- 1) In collaboration with Healthy Baby, HSHC has created tool-kits for Healthy Baby programs across the province that requested the resource. To date 40 English kits and 10 French kits have been created and will be distributed via Healthy Baby MB.
- 2) Through discussions with various Aboriginal programs and leaders, HSHC is working to ensure that our workshops delivered with First Nations communities are culturally

appropriate. HSHC successfully engaged Ian Ross, an Aboriginal story teller, who has written the "Eye Tooth Story" which is an Aboriginal telling of the importance of baby teeth and early childhood oral health. HSHC has digitally recorded Ian reading the story and will have CD's available for communities.

- 3) The Partnership has strengthened its link with the Manitoba Patient Access Network (MPAN). This link is important as MPAN is continuing its review of pediatric dental surgery in Manitoba. The importance of prevention strategies has been recognized by MPAN.
- 4) Lise Pinsonneault has shared the project's innovative use of Telehealth (to undertake oral health promotion with remote/rural communities) with individuals in Quebec and Alberta who are interested in learning more.
- 5) Website continues to expand and now includes multiple languages of the "think about your baby's teeth" poster.
- 6) Dr. Schroth and Project Coordinator attended "Partnering to reverse the trend: Early Childhood Caries conference" in Calgary on September 28-29, 2007.
- 7) Inquiries continue to be received from numerous jurisdictions outside of Manitoba.

Feedback/Evaluation

- Qualitative study
 - HSHC has undertaken an evaluation project entitled "A qualitative look at early childhood oral health and Healthy Smile Happy Child project activities in Manitoba."
 - The purpose of this study is to assess the perceptions about early childhood oral health and early childhood caries by service providers and caregivers who have been exposed to Healthy Smile Happy Child project activities in Manitoba.
 - 6 focus groups have been completed as follows:
 - Winnipeg service providers on August 22nd
 - NOR-MAN caregivers in The Pas on August 29th
 - Burntwood service providers in Thompson on September 7th
 - Central service providers in Carman on September 12th
 - Winnipeg caregivers on September 19th
 - NEHA caregivers in Pine Falls on September 25th
 - Data are currently being analyzed for a final report.
- Pre/Post Test Workshop Questionnaire update
 - 108 participants have completed the pre questionnaire.
 - When contacted to do the post questionnaire, 72 participants replied by completing it (66.6 % response).
 - After receiving the workshop from HSHC staff, participants not only reported an increase in knowledge of childhood oral health, they reported positive changes in their behavior. For example, 88.9 % of respondents changed the information they give to people regarding encouraging tooth brushing.
 - New participants may be recruited during September, but analysis of the results in full will be the focus for the fall months.

Follow-up by Community Facilitators after Capacity Building Workshops have noted the following ways HSHC message is being spread:

Public Health

- Public health nurses are using resources for presentation to inmates/fathers at Milner Ridge Correctional institute (NEHA).

- Growing minds are using HSHC resources for pre-K bags in Southeastman including toothbrushes and xylitol gum (SEHA).
- Anna's House has incorporated oral health presentations into their program (SEHA).
- Oral health information has been incorporated into some Healthy Baby drop-in programs (NEHA, ARHA, WRHA).
- Families First home visitor in NEHA gives an oral health presentation to parents 4 times a year and gives out toothbrushes (NEHA).
- Some Public Health workers are finding that communities are surprised regarding some of the oral health information (i.e. sugar content, first dental visit, etc.) (NEHA).
- Oral health has been incorporated into the nutrition aspect of the "Nobody's Perfect" parenting groups, as well as informal discussions (CRHA).
- Public health nurses in CRHA incorporating oral health message into well baby clinics and including information in preschool take home bags (CRHA).
- Toothbrushes being handed out at 6, 12, 18 month appointments to remind parents about the importance of oral health (CRHA). Public health nurse in NEHA also hands out toothbrushes at 2,4,6,12,18 month visits and provides printed material and education (NEHA).
- St. James-Assiniboia Public Health team is using resource kit provided (WRHA).
- Winnipeg Midwives have developed an oral health binder with articles and resources for each practice group (WRHA).
- Women's Health Clinic is using lesson plans created by HSHC within their regular programming (WRHA).

Early Childhood Programs

- One early childhood program has stopped serving juice just prior to their HSHC workshop (CRHA).
- All the resources are being put into parents' mailboxes in one early childhood program, and they are encouraging parents to send their children with toothbrushes (ARHA).
- Petits Choux Daycare put the "so sweet bottles" in their entrance for parents to see and posted one new true/false question weekly for parents to enter their name for a free hot lunch draw. The Daycare is also working on developing an oral health package that will be added to the baby package given out to new Mom's (CRHA).
- Some Daycares are asking for information on setting up toothbrushing programs (CRHA).

Aboriginal Communities/Programs

- In Little Grand Rapids and Popular River, the CHR is providing toothbrushes and pamphlets to prenatal women and families visiting health centre. They are also using the large toothbrush model supplied in their resource tubs (NEHA).
- Little Red Spirit Head Start already engaging in oral health education. HSHC resources expected to compliment their efforts and assist them in planning a fluoride varnish day (WRHA).

Schools and Community Organizations

- Community Services Worker in CRHA will use the information with new families, as well as screen non-verbal children experiencing behavioural difficulties with regards to potential dental issues (CRHA).

Hutterite Colonies

- A public health nurse in CRHA reports that the dentist in her area is seeing an increased interest from Hutterite parents seeking services for their children (CRHA).

Regional Health Authorities

- CRHA has developed a Childhood Oral Health Committee and are in the process of examining ways to promote oral health (CRHA).

- CRHA's regional diabetes program has requested oral health information to incorporate with their program (CRHA).

Challenges:

- Some families do not see the need to take their child to the dentist by 1 year of age, and are reluctant to do so.
- Lack of dentists in remote areas is creating accessibility problems as it is a great distance to the nearest dentist.
- Some dental offices do not seem aware of/support the messages being relayed to the parents.
- Cost of dental care and limited resources.

Staff Development

- Manitoba Health has continued to support 3 STEP students during summer 2007.
- Support and management of STEP student activities have included: preparation and compilation of data from Pre/Post Questionnaires, phone follow up, qualitative study, literature reviews, database entry, development of displays/community poster, and other administrative tasks.

Administrative/Research Activity

- All database entry is up to date.

Planning for next Quarter

- Complete analysis of project evaluation research study and dissemination plans with communities.
- Use of MB Telehealth for training in remote/isolated communities.
- Displays at conferences and community events.
- Continued communication with dental services throughout Manitoba and the development of a listing of dentists willing to see young children in conjunction with the Manitoba Dental Association.
- Development of a publication describing the positive experience of the intersectoral partnership and community development approach in addressing ECTD.