



A recent study shows that 18% of third graders in Minnesota have untreated decay, and 59% of Medicaid-eligible children did not receive any dental services in the prior year.

Engaging the Community to Spread Oral Health Awareness

Now in its fifth year, the Minnesota Oral Health Zone has grown to include **more than 170 touchpoints** and provides school districts, Head Start, university dental programs and other organizations a wide array of resources to support delivery of oral health education, preventative services, and treatment for under-served children.

Collaborating with other community oral health organizations, we work to reduce the prevalence of pediatric dental disease. Here are some of our local partners:

- Dakota Co. Public Health Oral Health Task Force
- Early Childhood Dental Network
- Fairview Health Systems/Medical Missions
- Head Start
- Minnesota Dental Association
- Minnesota Dental Hygiene Association
- Minnesota Department of Health
- Minnesota Oral Health Coalition
- Minnesota State University - Mankato
- Northwest Hennepin Family Services Collaborative and Teen Connection
- St. Paul Public Schools
- University of Minnesota
- WellShare International
- West St. Paul Public Schools

We are working to increase delivery of oral health education, improve access to care and unite local dental and medical professionals in the fight against pediatric dental disease.

ORAL HEALTH ZONE MANAGER:

Mary Vanderwert

Mary (pictured, top left) engages the communities throughout Minnesota to address children's oral health needs. She has been building coalitions and working across sectors to promote the healthy development of young children for over 25 years. Mary has directed child care programs for a large non-profit social service agency and provided training and technical assistance to Head Start programs throughout Minnesota.

To contact Mary email mvanderwert@ncohf.org



Supporting Nonprofit Dental Clinics Within Minnesota

In addition to educating the community about the importance of oral health, America's ToothFairy works to increase access to care for at-risk populations by supporting nonprofit clinics throughout Minnesota. Dental Resource Program Members within this Oral Health Zone Include:

- Apple Tree Dental, Mounds View
- Argosy University Dental Hygiene Program, Mounds View
- Caring Hands Dental Clinic, Alexandria
- Children's Dental Health Services, Rochester
- Children's Dental Services, Minneapolis
- Community Dental Care, Maplewood
- Hope Dental Clinic, Saint Paul
- Just Kids Dental, Two Harbors
- Let's Smile, Inc., Owatonna
- Minnesota State University, Mankato
- Northern Dental Access Center, Bemidji
- Operation Grace, Roseville
- Rice Regional Dental Clinic, Willmar
- Open Door Health Center, Mankato
- Southside Community Health Services, Minneapolis
- Ready Set Smile, Minneapolis
- West Side Community Health Services-East Side Dental

With the help of our community partners and support from our generous sponsors, here is what our member clinics accomplished last year:

More than **108,000** kids received **EDUCATIONAL** and/or **CLINICAL** services

More than **31,000** CAREGIVERS received oral health **EDUCATION**

Without the support of our donors and sponsors, these children would likely have missed the opportunity to treat their acute oral health issues, learn about proper dental care and receive preventative treatments.

Thanks to donors like you, these children have a reason to smile again.

This program is made possible with support from:



Delta Dental of Minnesota