

Home by One Program Building Integrated Partnerships with Connecticut Agencies, Parents & Providers

Impact, implications and relevance presentation has for state MCH programs:

Oral health is essential to the overall health and well being of children. A systemic integration of early childhood providers from diverse venues increases communication among providers allowing for early intervention and reducing the overall impact of preventable diseases.

Learning Objectives

1. List Components of partnerships in this model.
2. Describe direct interaction with target population.
3. Identify three successful strategies used in program to build partnerships

In 2006-07, CT surveyed >600 Head Start students statewide: 30% had experienced dental decay, 20% had untreated decay, 14% had rampant decay, & 18% were in need of care. To address the high burden of oral disease in Connecticut's children, the Office of Oral Health developed Home By One funded by a 4-yr HRSA Targeted MCH Oral Health Service Systems grant. The program seeks to establish a dental home for all CT children by age one, targeting those at high risk, through an integrated partnership connecting parents, WIC nutritionists, pediatricians, dentists, & advocates. Home By One successfully implemented oral health train-the-trainer programs for WIC staff, which then educate WIC parents. WIC parents receive oral health advocacy training from Connecticut's Oral Health Initiative, enabling them to advocate in their communities. Pediatricians are trained in fluoride varnish application; caries risk assessment, & guidelines for dental referral. CT pediatric & general Dentists are trained in the appropriate technique for age one dental visits, caries risk assessment & fluoride varnish application. Home By One established partnerships between pediatric practices, dental homes, WIC offices, & HUSKY (SCHIP) case managers providing a safety net referral system to ensure that consistent messages are delivered to parents across a variety of existing contact opportunities. Since the program's inception the number of HUSKY dental providers has increased >200%, reports from individual dental homes indicate >10% of practice patients are now age one, & a high percentage of patients remain caries free at recall. The Home By One model of systemic integration of services could be applied to a variety of services targeting young at-risk children.

Home by One Program was initiated to develop an oral health infrastructure for Connecticut in support of age one dental visits for at-risk children (WIC children) through training and education of physicians, dental professionals, WIC staff, early childhood providers and parents. For more information please visit our website:

www.ct.gov/dph/HomebyOne

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