

2009



Partnering to Seal-A-Smile

A report on the success of Wisconsin school-based dental sealant programs.



Partnering to Seal-A-Smile



This report was developed by Children’s Health Alliance of Wisconsin and made possible through partnership and funding from Delta Dental of Wisconsin.

Delta Dental of Wisconsin is a not-for-profit dental service cooperation that administers and underwrites dental plans for employers throughout Wisconsin. Delta Dental of Wisconsin is the largest dental benefits provider in the state, covering more than 1 million employees and family members.

Delta Dental supports a significant number of charitable oral health initiatives focused on improving access to dental care and raising awareness of the importance of proper oral health.

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Testimonial

I was explaining sealants to a 38 year-old mother. She was in awe by the idea of protecting teeth with sealants. She explained how she was raised in a home where you never went to the doctor or dentist unless you were dying from pain. Preventive visits were not heard of. The only people in her family who saw a dentist, went to get teeth pulled.

She got her son into our second grade sealant program and he returned in sixth grade. She now takes him to the dentist for regular cleanings. He is now a senior in high school with a bright healthy smile. The whole chain of dental neglect was broken and a new family tradition was started.

It would not have been possible without this program.

- L. Schlais, school nurse

Executive summary

Purpose of this report

School-based dental sealant programs are being implemented all across Wisconsin. While this report provides a comprehensive overview of the programs' efforts and best practices, the focus is on the success of the Wisconsin Seal-A-Smile (SAS) program.

This information will bring attention to the great need for an increase in school-based oral health programs and other oral health prevention strategies. Expansion of programs will help reach populations without access to regular preventive care.

This report highlights the tremendous work being accomplished throughout Wisconsin despite limited funding. The findings in this report substantiate the need for increased state and private funding for school-based oral health prevention programs.

What you will find in this report

This report provides an overview of the success school-based oral health prevention programs have had since 2005. Key findings focus on caries rates, children served and other efficiency measures. Data was collected from current and past Wisconsin SAS programs in addition to other various programs not funded through SAS.

Individual program biographies beginning on page 20 show the unique activities, best practices and outcomes of programs across the state.

Key findings from the 2005-07 school years:

- The number of schools served by Wisconsin SAS increased from 135 to 200 with limited funding increases.
- The number of schools served by Wisconsin SAS with free and reduced lunch (FRL) rates of greater than 50 percent doubled from 48 to 97.

Executive summary

This partially addresses the disparity that exists in access to oral health care for low-income children.

- The number of children and youth with special health care needs (CYSHCN) served by Wisconsin SAS increased from 261 to 622.
- The overall average cost to deliver sealants decreased from \$89.37/child to \$77.45/child in 2006 due to increases in efficiency.
- The average amount of Medicaid reimbursement received by programs tripled from \$19.69/child to \$63.27/child due to the ability of dental hygienists to become Medicaid providers.
- The number of children screened and sealed increased significantly with no funding increases from 2006-2008.
- The percentage of children screened with untreated dental decay increased from 40.8 percent to 47.2 percent.
- The number of children who received fluoride treatments in addition to dental sealants doubled from 3,304 to 7,602.
- The number of children who received additional preventive procedures, such as cleanings and debridements, increased from 0 to 2,516 due to individual program changes.
- The number of children who received oral health education increased from 9,404 to 14,475.
- Sealant retention rates remained relatively the same.

Background

Children's Health Alliance of Wisconsin is a statewide organization dedicated to improving the health and well-being of children by creating strategic partnerships with diverse organizations, communities and individuals. For the past 12 years the Alliance has led efforts to improve access to oral health care for underserved children in Wisconsin. Efforts include the creation of partnerships, policy development activities and program management. In 2005, the Partnering to Seal-A-Smile grant was awarded to the Alliance by Delta Dental of Wisconsin to evaluate the effectiveness of the Wisconsin Seal-A-Smile (SAS) program and bring attention to the need for increased school-based oral health programs.

Since 2000, the Alliance has administered the Wisconsin SAS program for the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS), Division of Public Health (DPH). The Alliance provides program oversight, technical assistance and data collection for approximately 20 school-based dental sealant programs annually. The SAS program typically targets low-income, uninsured children that attend schools with high free and reduced lunch (FRL) rates. In addition to sealant application, children are often provided with topical fluoride applications and oral health education. A select number of programs provide additional preventive services, such as dental cleanings and debridements. Medicaid billing is utilized by most programs to help provide sustainability. Volunteer time and match dollars account for nearly 75 percent of the true costs to run Wisconsin SAS programs.

Sealant application is considered an evidence-based preventive strategy for children and commonly used in private practice dentistry. Low-income, uninsured children typically do not have access to private practice dentistry and are denied the benefits of regular dental preventive care strategies, including sealants.

Background

The Alliance manages state general purpose revenue (GPR) targeted to fund school-based sealant programs. The dollars are subcontracted to the Alliance through DHS and then awarded to communities through a request for proposal process released each spring. Beginning in 2000, \$60,000 of GPR was allocated annually from the state budget. In 2005 this amount doubled to \$120,000 as a result of Governor Jim Doyle's Kids First Initiative. In the 2006 school year, this funding again increased to approximately \$200,000 due to Wisconsin receiving a Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) three-year oral health workforce grant. The 2008 school year is the final year of this increased HRSA funding.

Awards to community programs, as determined by a review committee, have ranged from approximately \$1,000 to \$35,000 depending on the needs of the program. The number of community programs funded each year has ranged from 12 to 21 with requests for dollars surpassing those available.

As part of the Partnering to Seal-A-Smile grant, Delta Dental graciously provided funding for 500 uninsured children in urban Milwaukee schools to receive dental sealants. This funding allowed the *Smart Smiles* program operated by Columbia St. Mary's Madre Angela Dental Clinic to increase the number of children served in addition to expanding the scope of services provided.

Individual project biographies beginning on page 20 highlight program accomplishments and best practices. While there are common elements to all school-based dental sealant programs, each is uniquely designed based on individual community needs and resources.

Methods

The SAS logic model found on page 44 shows funding sources, activities, outputs and outcomes that assisted with the design of this report. The following outcomes were evaluated:

- Number of schools served and the FRL rates of those schools.
- Number of children and youth with special health care needs (CYSHCN) served.
- Number of students screened and sealed.
- Number of children with untreated decay and the severity of disease.
- Number of students receiving fluoride treatments.
- Number of students receiving additional preventive services (i.e. cleanings and gross debridements).
- Number of students receiving oral health education.

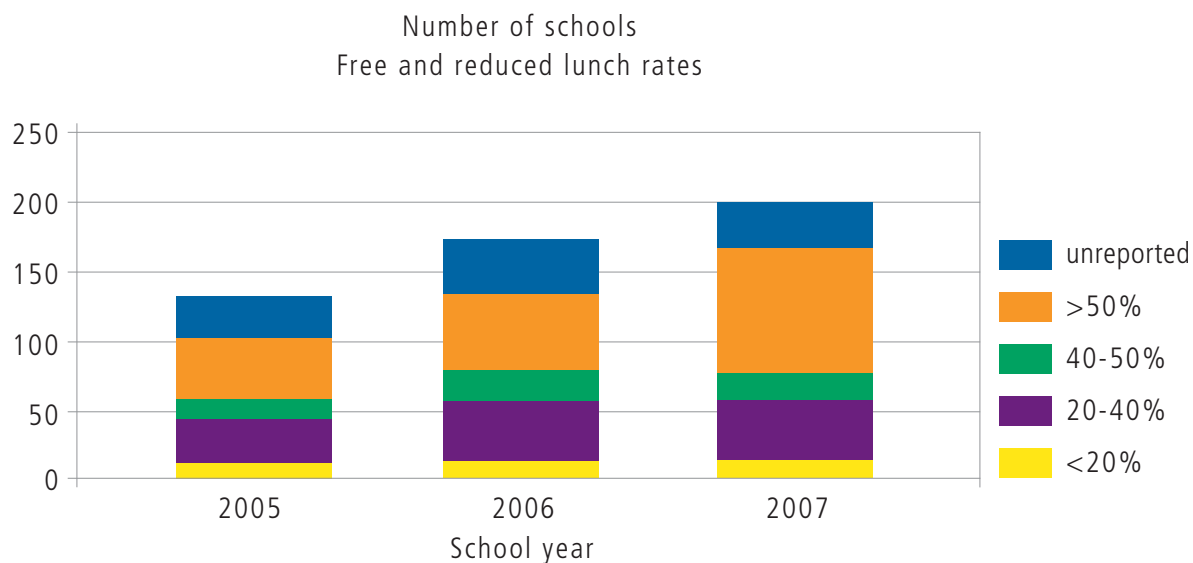
In 2003-04 the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) developed the Sealant Efficiency Assessment for Locals and States (SEALS) electronic data collection tool. Wisconsin programs were used as a model for the creation of SEALS. The Wisconsin DPH, the Alliance and nine community programs worked intensely to retroactively collect data from the previous three years of the SAS program. The SEALS software has been marketed as a user-friendly tool to standardize sealant data collection throughout the nation. Currently 12 states use the SEALS software program including Wisconsin.

SEALS calculates cost effectiveness, efficiency measures, disease burden and demographic information. Wisconsin communities collect this information and forward it electronically to the Alliance. The data will assist in policy development and evaluation of programming.

SEALS data was used to evaluate the outcomes identified for this report. Data from non-funded programs also was collected through self-reporting by individual program managers.

Key finding 1

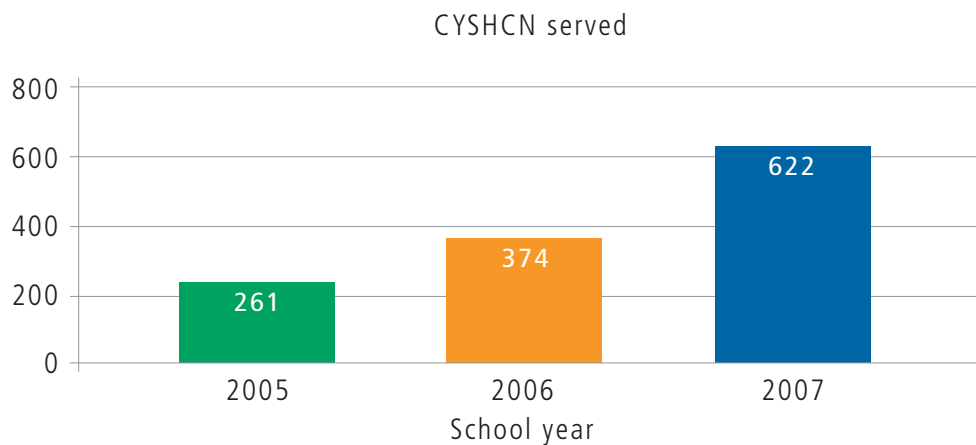
The number of schools served by SAS with FRL rates of greater than 50 percent doubled from 48 to 97 from 2005-07.



Between the 2005 and 2007 school years the Wisconsin SAS program increased the total number of schools served from 135 to 200. A significant increase in schools with FRL rates of greater than 50 percent also was achieved. This figure doubled from 48 to 97 schools between the 2005 and 2007 school years. This increase demonstrates how the Wisconsin SAS program increased the number of low-income and uninsured children served.

Key finding 2

The number of children and youth with special health care needs (CYSHCN) served increased by 238 percent from 2005-07.



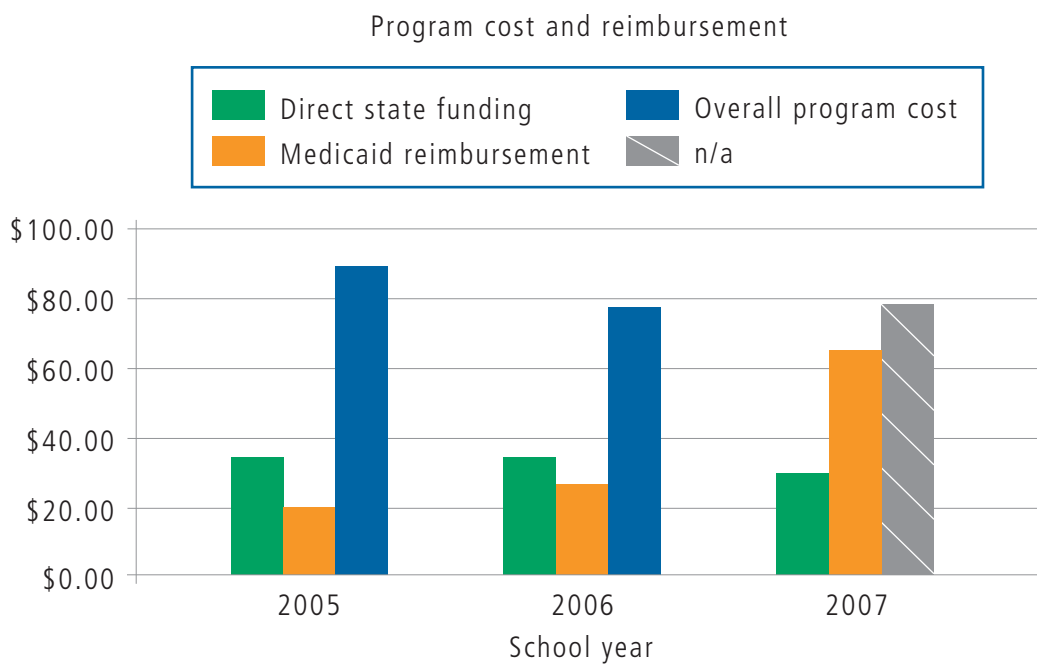
The number of CYSHCN served by the Wisconsin SAS program increased nearly 2.5 times between the 2005 and 2007 school years. This can partly be attributed to increased knowledge on how to define CYSHCN. SAS uses the Maternal and Child Health Bureau definition for classifying CYSHCN as “those who have or are at increased risk for chronic physical, developmental, behavioral or emotional condition and who also require health and related services of a type or amount beyond that required by children generally.” (<http://mchb.hrsa.gov/about/dscshn.htm>)

Key finding 3

The overall average cost per child to deliver sealants decreased from \$89.37 in 2005 to \$77.45 in the 2006 school year.

Key finding 4

The average amount of Medicaid reimbursement each program received per child tripled from \$19.69 in 2005 to \$63.27 in the 2007 school year.



The cost to deliver care per child through the Wisconsin SAS program decreased from the 2005 to 2006 school year. This can be attributed to increased efficiency and program improvements. Data for the overall costs was not collected in 2007 due to a policy change. It will be collected in future years. Medicaid reimbursement per child increased dramatically due to dental hygienists becoming certified Medicaid providers. This policy change took place during the 2006 school year. There was a minimal increase in the first year, but a significant increase in the 2007 school year. This has made sustainability for programs more realistic; however a gap in operation costs still remains. Direct state funding includes dollars from SAS grants and other funding.

Key finding 5

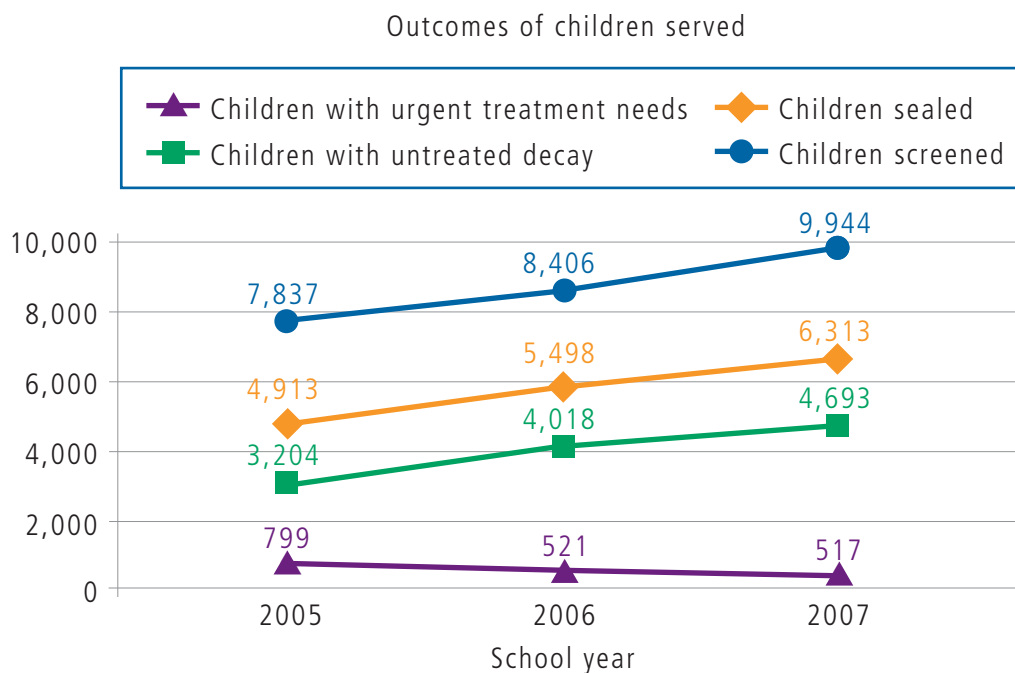
The number of children screened and sealed between 2006 and 2007 increased, yet state funding remained the same.

Key finding 6

The percentage of children screened with untreated decay increased from 40.8 percent in 2005 to 47.2 percent in 2007.

Key finding 7

The proportion of children with urgent treatment needs decreased from 10.2 percent in 2005 to 5.2 percent in 2007.



It is evident that an increase in preventive services was provided as indicated by the number of children screened and sealed annually. This was accomplished with limited funding increases between 2005 and 2006 and no increase in 2007.

The percentage of children who had at least one tooth with untreated decay increased from 40.9 to 47.2 percent between 2005 and 2007. This

can be attributed to the increased number of children who were seen in schools with higher FRL rates. Children from low-income families have a higher prevalence of untreated decay and typically have a lower utilization of preventive or restorative services.

Oral Disease: A Crisis Among Children of Poverty -
<http://www.mchoralhealth.org/PDFs/ohcrisis598.pdf>

These figures also show the need for early intervention and increased access to restorative services. Most SAS programs do not see children until second grade. With decay rates so high at this age, early intervention could help reduce the rate of untreated decay. The number of urgent need cases decreased slightly over time, in part due to a better understanding of the definition of urgent needs. Programs now use the Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors definition of urgent needs found in the:

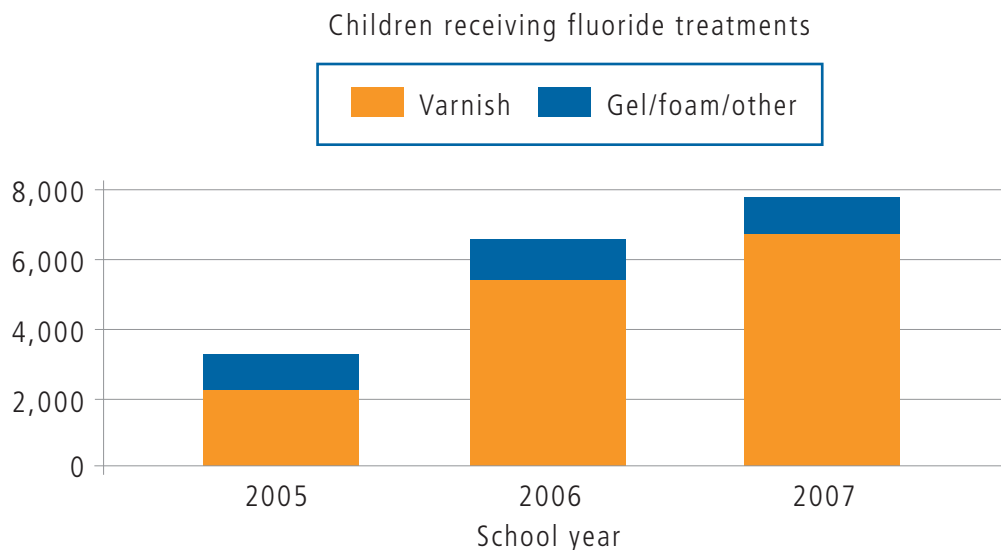
Basic Screening Survey Manual -
http://www.astdd.org/docs/BSS_Manual_9-25-03.pdf

A child's needs are urgent when "signs and symptoms that include pain, infection, swelling or soft tissue ulceration of more than two weeks in duration (determined by questioning)" are observed.

All children found to have either early or urgent needs were referred for follow-up care. Data on the ability of those children to obtain the follow-up care is unavailable.

Key finding 8

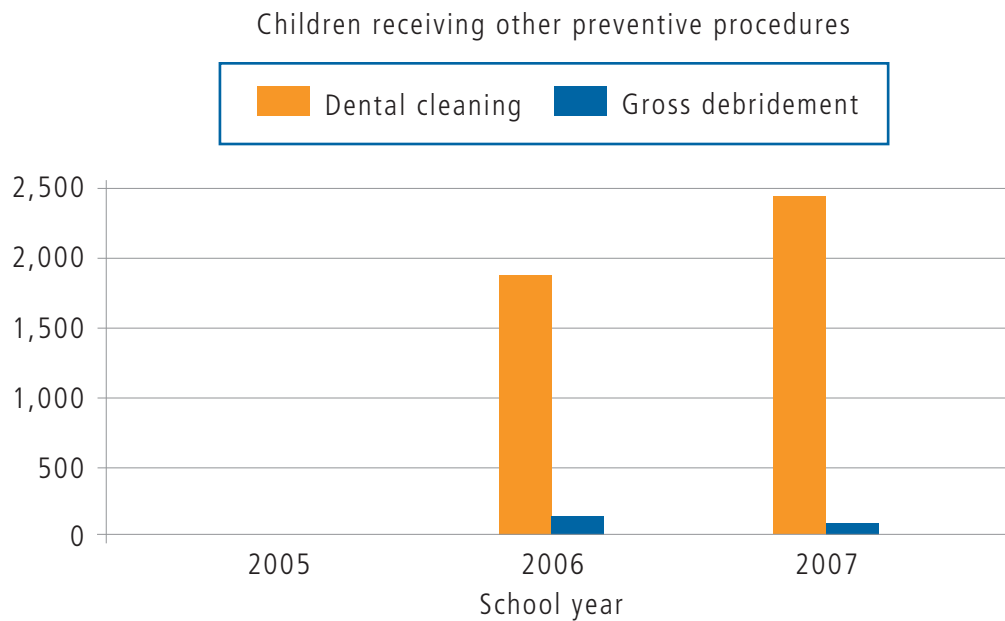
The number of children who received topical fluoride treatments nearly doubled from 3,304 in 2005 to 7,602 in 2007.



As shown in key finding 8, the number of children who received fluoride as part of the SAS program increased. SAS funding cannot be used to purchase fluoride varnish or any other fluoride products since funding is limited. However, most programs provide fluoride as part of their sealant program since they are already treating the child and application costs are minimal. Each program has its own fluoride protocol as identified in the program profile appendices.

Key finding 9

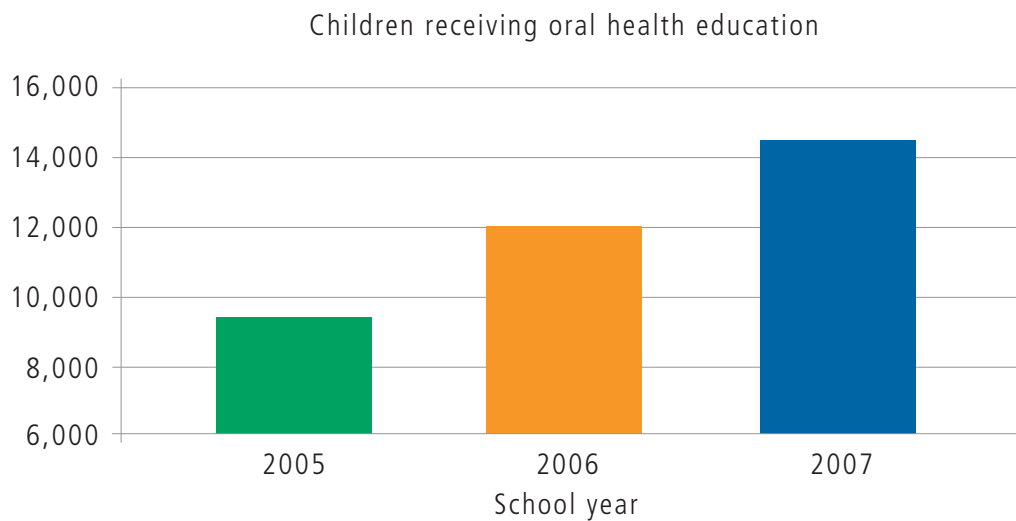
The number of children who received additional preventive procedures has increased from 0 to 2,516 since 2005.



Dental cleanings and gross debridements are provided as part of some school-based oral health prevention programs. These comprehensive programs provide a complete preventive experience for children.

Key finding 10

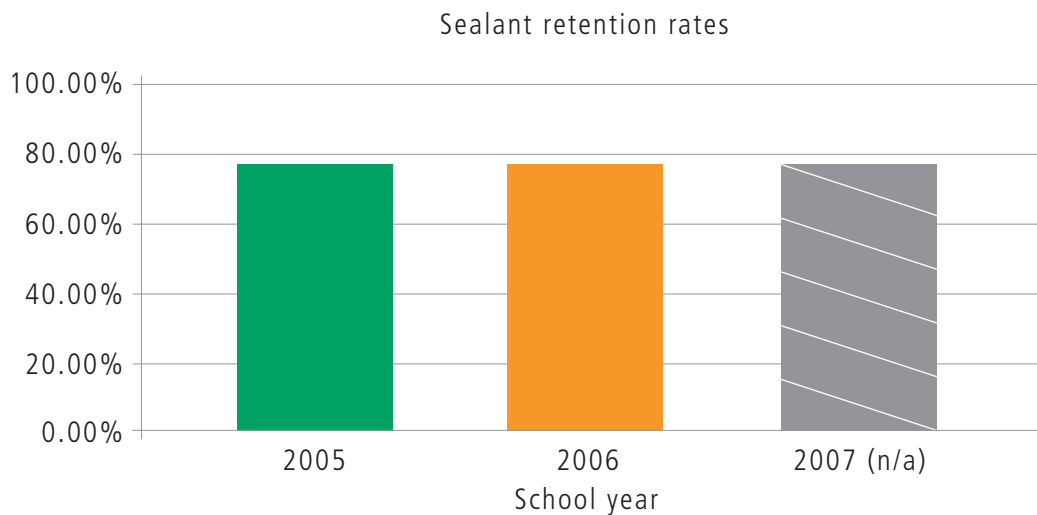
The number of children who received oral health education through the SAS program increased 1.5 times since the 2005 school year.



Most education is provided chairside with each patient. Therefore, the increased number of children who received education is primarily due to the overall increase in children served. Additionally, some programs provide classroom education to all children whether they are receiving preventive services or not.

Key finding 11

Sealant retention rates for programs remained relatively the same since 2005.



Retention rates have stayed constant since 2005 at about 76 percent. Rates for 2007 will not be available until the end of the 2008 school year. Improvements are continually being made by programs to increase retention rates. A policy change regarding the use of specific dental materials was made in 2008 in accordance with the American Dental Association's recommendations for school-based sealant programs. The purpose for this change is to address the improvement of retention rates statewide.

Conclusions

Data in this report shows Wisconsin SAS programs have been able to increase efficiency and output with little or no financial increases. It also is evident that the SAS program is only reaching a very small portion of school age children statewide. Due to limited funding, several programs are turned away every year. In 2008 there was approximately \$500,000 in SAS funding requests with only about \$200,000 in actual funding available. There are many programs currently funded seeking expansion in addition to new programs looking to implement services in their community.

Testimonial

I looked into the mouth of an 18 year old student who presented with painful lower back teeth. His name is Mike and he faced a long history of neglect in the home. Mike told me his two lower back molars would be extracted because of decay and they were causing him a lot of pain.

As I got out a pain reliever, I asked him if he had his teeth sealed at school when he was in sixth grade. Mike said "Yeah, but the two last teeth weren't in yet, so they couldn't seal them. The dentist said having sealants on the rest of my molars saved them, but these two are goners."

I looked up his record and sure enough that is what happened. If we did not have this sealant program, Mike would undoubtedly be losing more than two molars at age 18.

Unfortunately, this is not an uncommon story in my experience.

- L. Schlais, school nurse

Recommendations

- The state of Wisconsin increase the amount of SAS funding available through GPR funding from \$120,000 to \$250,000 per year.
- The state of Wisconsin increase dental Medicaid reimbursement rates to help programs achieve sustainability and increase access for restorative services.
- Programs continue to develop relationships with dentists to help serve children in need of restorative care.
- Programs increase early intervention strategies to reduce rising decay rates.
- All programs track retention data and determine if recommended follow-up care was obtained.
- Programs use best practices to improve overall retention rates of sealants.
- Programs explore implementing a broader range of preventive services that include cleanings, fluoride and gross debridements.
- Programs continue to provide services to an increased number of schools with high FRL rates.
- Programs continue to reach out and provide services to CYSHCN.
- Programs continue to reduce the cost per child to deliver sealants by using best practices and improving efficiency.
- Programs not currently billing Medicaid reconsider billing for long-term sustainability.
- Programs currently billing Medicaid continue efforts to maximize reimbursement.
- Programs continue to increase the number of children receiving oral health education both in the classroom and chairside.

Appendices

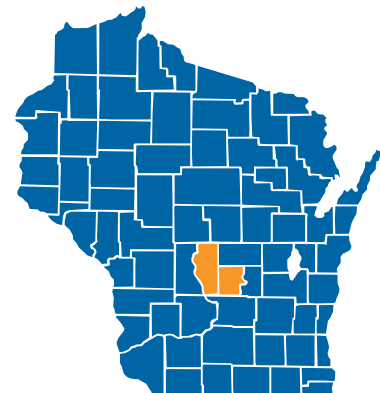
Location: Adams and Marquette Counties

Program title: Seal-A-Smile Program of Adams and Marquette Counties

Program inception: 2000

Fiscal agent: Adams County Public Health Unit

Program coordinator: Renee Schindlbeck, RDH
108 E. North Street
Friendship, WI 53934
(608) 339-4513
rbert@mwwb.net



Collaborating partners:

- Adams Friendship School District
- Robert Crawford, DDS
- Joseph Parlante, DDS
- James Schindlbeck, DDS
- Marquette County Health Department

Partners provide technical assistance.

Direct services provided: Oral exams, sealants, fluoride varnish, education and case management.

FRL rate:

- 42-49%

Children served in 2007-08:

- Oral health education: 50
- Oral exams: 50
- Sealants: 39
- Fluoride: 50

Findings 2007-08:

- Untreated decay: 50.0%
- Urgent needs: 4.0%

Program notes:

The program is coordinated by a dental hygienist who provides oral exams, sealant placement and fluoride varnish application. A volunteer dentist writes prescriptions and approves fluoride varnish protocols before application. The program targets second, third, fifth and sixth grade children who qualify for a free or reduced lunch. Currently no other school-based or community oral health programs exist in Adams or Marquette counties. There are limited referral sources for restorative services within a 50 mile radius.

Appendices

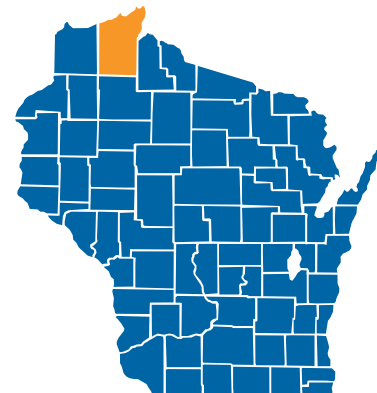
Location: Bayfield County

Program title: Superior Smiles

Program inception: 2004

Fiscal agent: Bayfield County Health Department

Program coordinator: Melissa Nicoletti, RDH
117 E. 5th Street
PO Box 403
Washburn, WI 54891
mnicoletti@bayfieldcounty.org



Collaborating partners:

- Bayfield, St. Louis, South Shore and Washburn School Districts
- Bay Area WIC Project
- Family Forum Head Start
- Peterson Dental Clinic
- Washburn Family Dentistry

Partners provide oral exams and technical assistance.

Direct services provided: Sealants, fluoride varnish, case management and retention checks.

FRL rate:

- 39-71%

Children served in 2007-08:

- Oral health education: 204
- Oral exams: 139
- Sealants: 129
- Fluoride: 130

Findings 2007-08:

- Untreated decay: 39.6%
- Urgent needs: 3.6%

Program notes:

The program is coordinated by a dental hygienist at the county public health department. The coordinator places sealants, provides oral health education and educates parents on the importance of sealants. The program targets all second and fifth graders at selected schools. Volunteer dentists perform oral exams and provide follow-up treatment.

Appendices

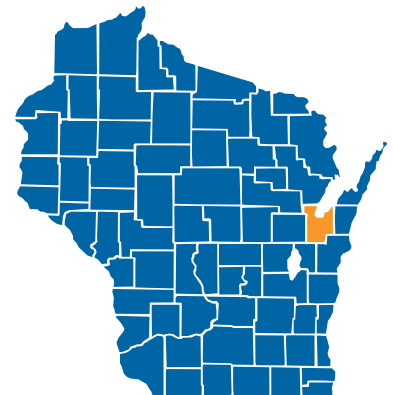
Location: Brown County

Program title: Seal Brown County

Program inception: 1996

Fiscal agent: Brown County Health Department

Program coordinator: Ricky Krautkramer
610 S. Broadway
PO Box 23600
Green Bay, WI 54305-3600
(920) 448-6442
krautkramer_rj@co.brown.wi.us



Collaborating partners:

- Brown County Oral Health Partnership
- Boys and Girls Clubs
- De Pere Health Department
- Northeast Wisconsin Community Clinic
- Northeast Wisconsin Technical College

Partners provide technical assistance, clinic space, program management, billing support, dental cleanings and restorative care.

Direct services provided: Oral exams, sealants, fluoride varnish and case management.

FRL rate:

- 83-97%

Children served in 2007-08:

- Oral health education: 303
- Oral exams: 296
- Sealants: 195
- Fluoride: 264

Findings 2007-08:

- Untreated decay: 37.6%
- Urgent needs: 8.8%

Program notes:

The program is coordinated by a nurse at the public health department. A dentist performs oral exams and prescribes sealant placement and varnish application. Dental hygienists and dental hygiene students provide sealant placement and fluoride varnish application. *Seal Brown County* is in the process of becoming a part of the Brown County Oral Health Partnership (OHP). The OHP is a non-profit organization that provides complete preventive and restorative services at a community clinic and in schools using mobile equipment. The OHP consists of partners passionate about improving oral health in the county.

Appendices

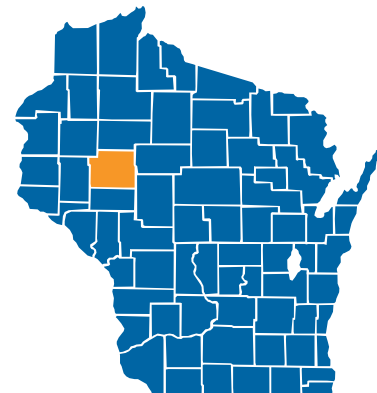
Location: Chippewa County

Program title: Chippewa County Seal-A-Smile

Program inception: 2000

Fiscal agent: Chippewa County Department of Public Health

Program coordinator: Kathleen Reetz
711 N. Bridge Room 222
Chippewa Falls, WI 54729
(715) 726-7908 ext. 2138
kreetz@co.chippewa.wi.us



Collaborating partners:

- Chippewa Falls Unified School District
- Community Health Improvement Partnership
- Rural Health Dental Clinic

Partners provide technical assistance.

Direct services provided: Oral exams, sealants, education, fluoride varnish and case management.

FRL rate:

- 38-52%

Children served in 2007-08:

- Oral health education: 243
- Oral exams: 63
- Sealants: 40
- Fluoride: 62

Findings 2007-08:

- Untreated decay: 42.9%
- Urgent needs: 6.3%

Program notes:

The program is coordinated by a dental hygienist through the local public health department. Dental services are contracted by the health department with the Rural Health Dental Clinic (RHDC). Two dental hygienists and one assistant from RHDC provide oral exams, sealant placement and fluoride varnish application. Partnerships with Marshfield Dental Center in Chippewa Falls and RHDC allow the health department to schedule children with urgent needs for restorative services. The program is not currently funded by Wisconsin SAS, but has been in previous years.

Appendices

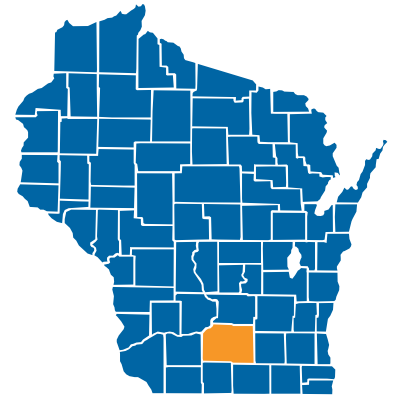
Location: Dane County

Program title: Seal Dane

Program inception: 1999

Fiscal agent: Meriter Health Services

Program coordinator: Ruby Dow
1202 Northport Drive
Madison, WI 53704
(608) 242-6508
rdow@publichealthmdc.com



Collaborating partners:

- Dane County Dental Society
 - Madison Metropolitan School District
 - Public Health – City of Madison and Dane County
- Partners provide program administration and technical support.

Direct services provided: Screening, sealants, fluoride varnish, case management and education.

FRL rate:

- 25-77%

Children served in 2007-08:

- Oral health education: 2,354
- Oral exams: 527
- Sealants: 385
- Fluoride: 389

Findings 2007-08:

- Untreated decay: 30.9%
- Urgent needs: 1.3%

Program notes:

The program is coordinated by a project manager at the public health department. The program targets all children in second and fifth grades at selected schools. Meriter Health Services and Foundation has been a major partner for this program since 2001. Education is provided to students and teachers to increase awareness on oral hygiene and the importance of preventive oral health services. Volunteer dentists provide oral exams and dental hygienists provide sealant placement and varnish application. Children identified as having urgent needs are often treated by the volunteer dentists' private practice offices. A fund from Meriter Foundation is used to pay for those without insurance to receive necessary follow-up care.

Appendices

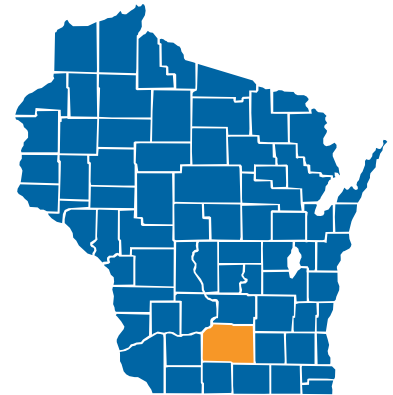
Location: Dane County

Program title: Halloween Sealant Day

Program inception: 1997

Fiscal agent: Public Health – City of Madison and Dane County

Program coordinator: Maureen Oostdik, RDH, BA
2705 E. Washington Avenue
Madison, WI 53704
(608) 243-0396
moostdik@publichealthmdc.com



Collaborating partner:

- Madison Area Technical College (MATC) Dental Hygiene Program
Partner provides technical assistance, planning and clinic space.

Direct services provided: Screening, sealants, fluoride varnish and case management.

FRL rate:

- n/a

Children served in 2007-08:

- Oral health education: 100
- Oral exams: 80
- Sealants: 76
- Fluoride: n/a

Findings 2007-08:

- Untreated decay: 27.5%
- Urgent needs: 6.3%

Program notes:

The program is coordinated by a dental hygienist at the public health department. The coordinator provides outreach to schools and schedules appointments for children to receive oral exams, sealants and varnish. The program targets only children in the Madison area ages 6 to 18 with no dental insurance. This is a school-linked program that takes place annually at MATC's dental hygiene clinic. Volunteer dentists and dental hygiene faculty at MATC provide oral exams. Dental hygiene students work in teams of three to provide sealant placement and fluoride varnish application.

Appendices

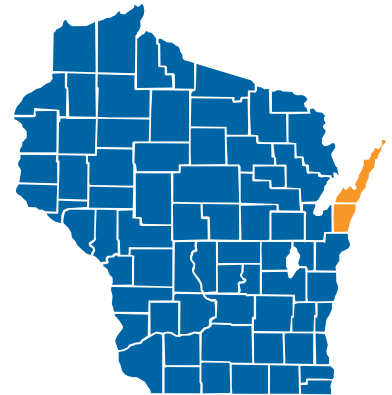
Location: Door and Kewaunee Counties

Program title: Open Door Dental Clinic Seal-A-Smile

Program inception: 2006

Fiscal agent: Door County Memorial Hospital Foundation

Program coordinator: Mary Ann Zjala, BS, RDH
1843 Michigan Street
Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235
(920) 746-1071
driven@itol.com



Collaborating partners:

- Southern Door County and Sturgeon Bay School Districts
- Open Door Dental Clinic
- Ministry Health Care

Partners provide technical assistance and restorative services.

Direct services provided: Oral exams, sealants, fluoride varnish and case management.

FRL rate:

- 25-48%

Children served in 2007-08:

- Oral health education: 120
- Oral exams: 120
- Sealants: 117
- Fluoride: 119

Findings 2007-08:

- Untreated decay: 26.7%
- Urgent needs: 8.3%

Program notes:

The program is coordinated by a dental hygienist who provides chairside education, sealant placement and fluoride varnish application. The program targets all second and third grade students in Sturgeon Bay and Southern Door County School Districts. Dentists provide oral exams at the Open Door Dental Clinic and preventive care is provided at specific schools using portable equipment. The program works with school nurses to perform follow-up. Children without insurance and/or a dentist are referred to the Open Door Dental Clinic. Children found to have urgent needs receive immediate attention from one of the volunteer dentists.

Appendices

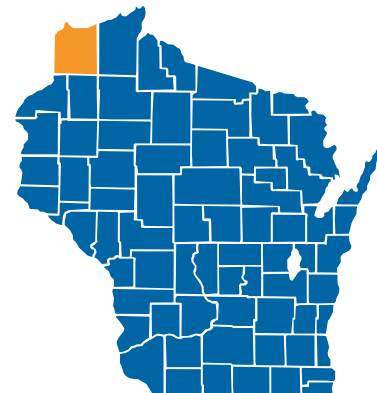
Location: Douglas County

Program title: Douglas County Oral Health Program

Program inception: 2006

Fiscal agent: Douglas County Department of Health and Human Services

Program coordinator: Deb Clasen, MA, RN, PHN
1316 N. 14th Street
Superior, WI 54880
(715) 395-1494
deborahclasen@douglascountywi.org



Collaborating partners:

- Eau Claire Regional Dental Hygienists' Association
- Northwest Community Services Agency, Inc
- Superior Boys and Girls Clubs
- Maple and Solon Springs School Districts

Partners provide program coordination, communication and necessary back-up equipment.

Direct services provided: Oral exams, sealants, fluoride varnish and case management.

FRL rate:

- 70%

Children served in 2007-08:

- Oral health education: 95
- Oral exams: 46
- Sealants: 43
- Fluoride: 46

Findings 2007-08:

- Untreated decay: 50.0%
- Urgent needs: 28.3%

Program notes:

The program is coordinated by the health officer at the county health department. A dental hygienist provides oral exams, sealant placement and varnish application. The dental hygienist also provides a 30 minute educational session to students prior to any clinical services. Public health nurses follow up with two additional fluoride varnish applications. The nurses also follow up with parents to find out if necessary treatment was received.

Appendices

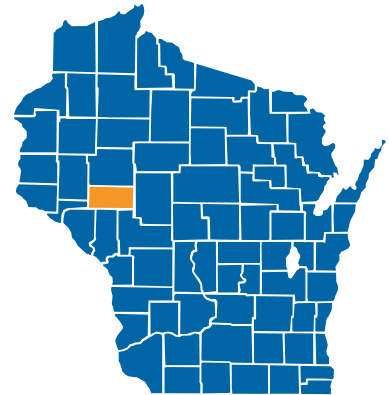
Location: Eau Claire County

Program title: Eau Claire City-County Seal-A-Smile Program

Program inception: 2000

Fiscal agent: Eau Claire City-County Health Department

Program coordinator: Linda Bohacek, RDH, MA, CDHC
3303 Evergreen Lane
Eau Claire, WI 54701
(715) 833-9636
lbrdh4pets@charter.net



Collaborating partners:

- CESA #10 Head Start
- Chippewa Valley Technical College
- Eau Claire Regional Dental Hygienists' Association
- Eau Claire Dental Society
- Eau Claire School District
- Junior League of Wisconsin
- United Way
- Sacred Heart Hospital
- Wisconsin Dental Hygienists' Association
- American Dental Hygienists' Association

Partners provide technical assistance, resources and networking.

Direct services provided: Oral exams, sealants and case management.

FRL rate:

- n/a

Children served in 2007-08:

- Oral health education: 847
- Oral exams: 230
- Sealants: 195
- Fluoride: n/a

Findings 2007-08:

- Untreated decay: 33.5%
- Urgent needs: 10.9%

Program notes:

The program is coordinated by a dental hygienist and relies on approximately 70 volunteers. The program targets second graders at 14 of the 15 schools in Eau Claire County with the highest number of Medicaid children. Volunteer dentists provide oral exams and dental hygienists provide sealant placement. Hmong interpreters are used to treat approximately 20 percent of the clients. The health department follows up with families 4-6 weeks after services are provided and assists in finding a dental home. The program manager works with social workers assigned to schools to assist in follow-up care.

Appendices

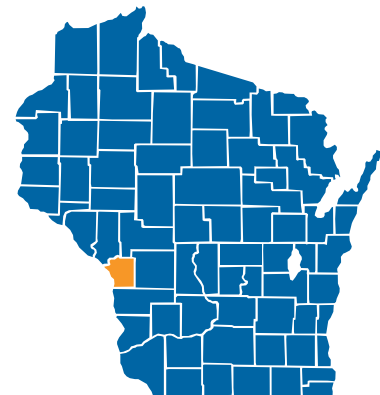
Location: La Crosse County

Program title: Sealants Today for Smiles Tomorrow

Program inception: 1998

Fiscal agent: La Crosse School District

Program coordinator: Rhonda Akeson, RDH, BS
N3430 Verde Valley Road
La Crosse, WI 54601
(608) 781-4152
rakeson@charter.net



Collaborating partners:

- La Crosse members of the Wisconsin Dental Hygienists' Association
 - La Crosse School District
 - Western Technical College
 - La Crosse County Health Department
 - Volunteer hygienists, dental hygiene students and dentists
- Partners provide oral exams and clinic space.

Direct services provided: Classroom education presentations, oral exams and sealants.

FRL rate:

- n/a

Children served in 2007-08:

- Oral health education: 510
- Oral exams: 204
- Sealants: 161
- Fluoride: n/a

Findings 2007-08:

- Untreated decay: n/a
- Urgent needs: n/a

Program notes:

The program is coordinated by a volunteer dental hygienist. The program is not funded by Wisconsin SAS, but offers services with the help of volunteer dental hygienists. The program annually targets children at 10 La Crosse Elementary Schools, as well as Bangor Elementary and St. Paul's Lutheran School in Bangor.

Appendices

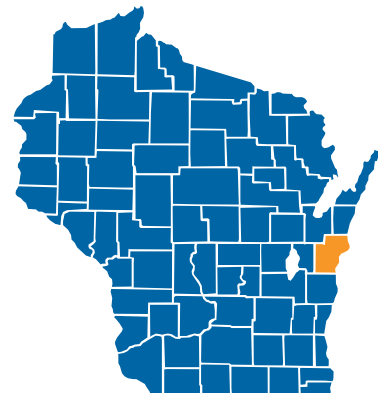
Location: Manitowoc County

Program title: Healthy Teeth Healthy Kids – Manitowoc County

Program inception: 2007

Fiscal agent: Northeastern Wisconsin Area Health Education Center, Inc.

Program coordinator: Annie Short
925 S. 15th Street
Manitowoc, WI 54220
(920) 652-0829
annies@newahec.org



Collaborating partners:

- Manitowoc area dentists, dental hygienists and assistants
- Kiel, Reedsville, Mishicot and Valders Public Schools
- Partners provide Medicaid billing assistance.
- ReachOut Healthcare America
- Lakeshore Technical College

Direct services provided: Oral exams, sealants, fluoride varnish, restorative care and case management.

FRL rate:

- 13-29%

Children served in 2007-08:

- Oral health education: 736
- Oral exams: 213
- Sealants: 65
- Fluoride: 138

Findings 2007-08:

- Untreated decay: 55.9%
- Urgent needs: 3.3%

Program notes:

The program is coordinated by a project manager from the area health education center. A dentist from the program provides oral exams and dental hygienists provide complete preventive care including dental cleanings. The program is part of a larger school-based oral health program designed to provide complete care to children. ReachOut Healthcare America, a national coordinator of mobile dental services, assists with the billing and processing of claims. Case management is conducted internally as this program is able to provide complete care, including restorative services, on-site.

Appendices

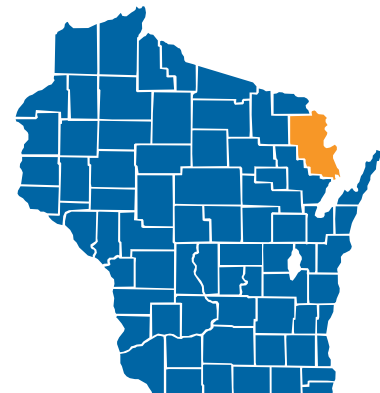
Location: Marinette County

Program title: Northwoods Seal-A-Smile

Program inception: 2001

Fiscal agent: Beecher Dunbar Pembine School District

Program coordinator: Linda Schlais, RN
N 18775 Sauld Street
Pembine, WI 54156
(715) 324-5282
lschlais@pembine.k12.wi.us



Collaborating partners:

- n/a

Direct services provided: Screening, sealants, education and case management.

FRL rate:

- n/a

Children served in 2007-08:

- Oral health education: 89
- Oral exams: 86
- Sealants: 61
- Fluoride: 86

Findings 2007-08:

- Untreated decay: 44.2%
- Urgent needs: 4.7%

Program notes:

The program is coordinated by a school nurse. The program targets second and sixth graders at Pembine, Goodman and Faith schools. Students are transported to a central location where a dental hygienist provides oral exams, sealant placement and fluoride varnish application. Education is provided while the children are waiting for preventive services. This small program had to cut staff due to lack of support from the county public health department. However, the schools' efforts have continued, due to dedicated individuals. High school seniors interested in medical and dental fields are used as assistants for the program. Fluoride rinse is provided to children. The coordinator/nurse provides case management for the children and follows up after two months to ensure necessary restorative care was obtained.

Appendices

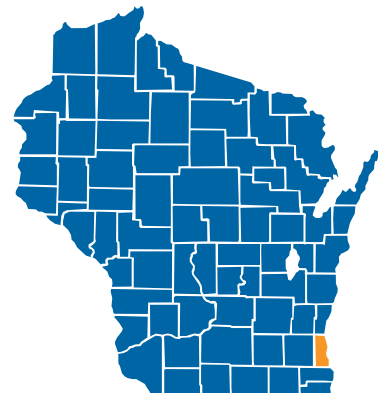
Location: Milwaukee County

Program title: Marquette University School of Dentistry (MUSoD)
Southside Community Health Center Pediatric
Dentistry Program

Program inception: n/a

Fiscal agent: MUSoD

Program coordinator: Cesar D. Gonzalez, DDS, MS
1801 W. Wisconsin Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53233
(414) 288-6391
cesar.gonzalez@marquette.edu



Collaborating partners:

- n/a

Direct services provided: Sealant screenings, sealants and fluoride varnish.

FRL rate:

- n/a

Children served in 2007-08:

- Oral health education: 2,301
- Oral exams: 2,301
- Sealants: 1,219
- Fluoride: 1,219

Findings 2007-08:

- Untreated decay: n/a
- Urgent needs: n/a

Program notes:

The program is coordinated by a pediatric dentist at MUSoD and provides children living on the south side of Milwaukee with sealants and fluoride. Dental students help provide services available through this program. Only screenings and sealant placements are documented, therefore, data on untreated decay and urgent needs is unavailable.

Appendices

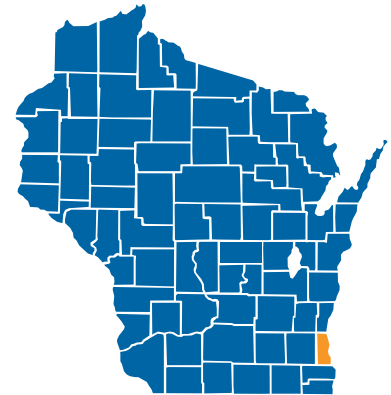
Location: Milwaukee County

Program title: Smart Smiles

Program inception: 2001

Fiscal agent: Columbia St. Mary's (CSM) Foundation

Program coordinator: Bill Solberg
4425 N. Port Washington Road
Glendale, WI 53212
(414) 326-2660
bsolberg@columbia-stmarys.org



Collaborating partners:

- Delta Dental of Wisconsin
- Doral Dental USA
- Faye McBeath Foundation
- Greater Milwaukee Dental Association
- Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS)
- Riverwest Health Initiative
- Southeast Dental Associates (SEDA)
- Madre Angela Dental Clinic (MADC)

Partners provide technical assistance, funding and case management.

Direct services provided: Oral exams, education, dental cleanings, gross debridements, sealants, fluoride varnish and case management.

FRL rate:

- 90-100%

Children served in 2007-08:

- Oral health education: 2,748
- Oral exams: 2,342
- Sealants: 1,434
- Fluoride: 2,411

Findings 2007-08:

- Untreated decay: 69.7%
- Urgent needs: 3.0%

Program notes:

The program is coordinated by a project manager, has grown exponentially and is run by CSM. The program targets low-income and uninsured Milwaukee children from kindergarten through eighth grade. A dentist from MADDC provides oral exams. One hygienist and two assistants perform comprehensive preventive services. Referrals are facilitated by SEDA. Uninsured children from MPS can receive restorative services at MADDC due to a recent endowment. Delta Dental provides a grant to serve up to 500 uninsured children. CSM also has a coordinator in two schools to increase participation and coordinate care funded through the Making Milwaukee Smile Healthier Wisconsin Partnership Program grant.

Appendices

Location: Milwaukee County

Program title: West Allis Health Department Seal-A-Smile

Program inception: 1995

Fiscal agent: City of West Allis Public Health Department

Program coordinator: Kitty Dufek-Maier
7120 W. National Avenue
West Allis, WI 53214
(414) 302-8639
kmaier@ci.west-allis.wi.us



Collaborating partners:

- Milwaukee Area Technical College (MATC) dental hygiene program
- West Allis – West Milwaukee School District.

Partners provide dental and technical assistance.

Direct services provided: Oral exams, sealants, education and fluoride varnish.

FRL rate:

- 32-82%

Children served in 2007-08:

- Oral health education: 400
- Oral exams: 185
- Sealants: 156
- Fluoride: 185

Findings 2007-08:

- Untreated decay: 43.2%
- Urgent needs: 11.9%

Program notes:

The program is coordinated by a dental hygienist at the local public health department. The program has been in operation for the past 13 years, seven of which were funded by Wisconsin SAS. A dental hygienist provides sealant placement and fluoride varnish application. A volunteer dentist provides oral exams. Dental hygiene students from MATC provide assistance with sealant placement as part of their clinical experience. In addition to schools served by the SAS program, the health department provides a fluoride varnish program to schools with the greatest FRL rates. Education is provided to staff and faculty at the school, and chairside to students. The program targets first through third grade students in families at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level.

Appendices

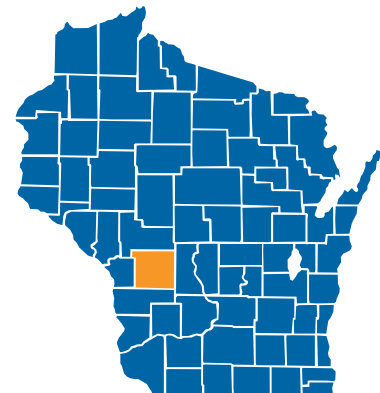
Location: Monroe County

Program title: Scenic Bluffs Seal-A-Smile

Program inception: 2004

Fiscal agent: Scenic Bluffs Community Health Center

Program coordinator: Tiffany Geisler and Colleen Davis
238 Front Street
Cashton, WI 54619
tgiesler@scenicbluffs.org
cdaines@scenicbluffs.org



Collaborating partners:

- n/a

Direct services provided: Oral exams, sealants, fluoride varnish, case management, education and program coordination.

FRL rate:

- n/a

Children served in 2007-08:

- Oral health education: 75
- Oral exams: n/a
- Sealants: 32
- Fluoride: n/a

Findings 2007-08:

- Untreated decay: n/a
- Urgent needs: n/a

Program notes:

The program is coordinated by staff at Scenic Bluffs Community Health Center, a federally qualified health center. The program is not currently funded by Wisconsin SAS, but has been in the past. A dentist and dental hygienist provide oral exams, sealant placement and fluoride varnish application. The clinic is used as a referral site for children with restorative needs.

Appendices

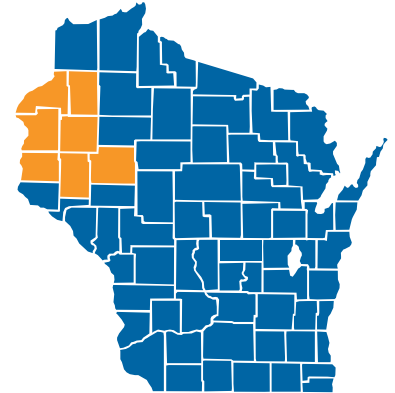
Location: Northwestern Wisconsin

Program title: Rural Health Dental Clinic (RHDC) Seal-A-Smile

Program inception: 2001

Fiscal agent: Rural Health Dental Clinic

Program coordinator: Sharon Haugerud
225 Ostermann Drive
Turtle Lake, WI 54889
(715) 986-2020
sharonh@cesa11.k12.wi.us



Collaborating partners:

- Grantsburg, Siren, Webster, Minong, Drummond, Hayward, Winter, Amery, Barron, Cameron, Chetek, Clayton, Clear Lake, Colfax, Cumberland, Frederic, Luck, Osceola, Prairie Farm, Rice Lake, Shell Lake, Spooner, St. Croix Falls, Turtle Lake and Unity School Districts.
- CESA #11

Partners provide technical assistance and program coordination.

Direct services provided: Oral exams, sealants, education and fluoride varnish.

FRL rate:

- n/a

Children served in 2007-08:

- Oral health education: 1,420
- Oral exams: 1,383
- Sealants: 688
- Fluoride: 1,374

Findings 2007-08:

- Untreated decay: 67.8%
- Urgent needs: 6.0%

Program notes:

The program is coordinated through RHDC and is not currently funded by Wisconsin SAS, but has been in prior years. Dental hygienists provide oral exams, sealant placement and fluoride varnish application. RHDC has several mobile units that are used to provide dental services across the northern counties. The statistics included in this report are a compilation of programs run by clinics in Hayward, Polk and Barron from 2007.

Appendices

Location: Portage County

Program title: Healthy Smiles for Portage County

Program inception: 1999

Fiscal agent: Portage County Health and Human Services

Program coordinator: Anne Hvizdak, RDH, CDHC
817 Whiting Avenue
Stevens Point, WI 54481
(715) 345-5966
hvizdaka@co.portage.wi.us



Collaborating partners:

- St. Michael's Hospital
 - CAP Services Inc.
 - Delta Dental of Wisconsin
 - Operation Bootstrap
 - Volunteer Interfaith Caregivers
 - Almond-Bancroft and Stevens Point Schools
- Partners provide financial support and interpreter services.

Direct services provided: Oral exams, sealants, fluoride varnish, education and case management.

FRL rate:

- 6-50%

Children served in 2007-08:

- Oral health education: 939
- Oral exams: 943
- Sealants: 472
- Fluoride: 502

Findings 2007-08:

- Untreated decay: 23.6%
- Urgent needs: 5.6%

Program notes:

The program is coordinated by a dental hygienist who provides oral exams, sealant placement and fluoride varnish application. The program targets second graders in Portage County and utilizes passive consent for providing oral exams. Active consent, however, is obtained for the treatment phase of the program. Case management is provided by the coordinator throughout the year. Ministry Dental Center and Family Medical Center accepts referrals for those with unmet dental needs. First Impressions, a local dental office, also accepts limited referrals for those with urgent needs or behavior issues.

Appendices

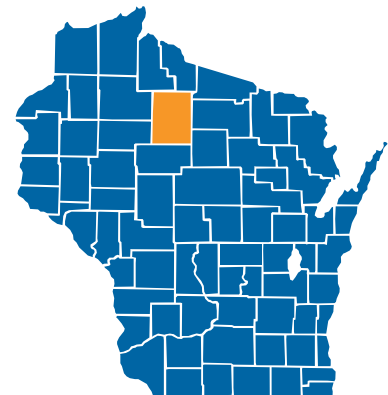
Location: Price County

Program title: Price County Seal-A-Smile

Program inception: 2000

Fiscal agent: Price County Health Department

Program coordinator: Nancy Rublee, RDH, CDHC
104 S. Eyder Avenue
Phillips, WI 54555
(715) 339-3054
nancy.rublee@co.price.wi.us



Collaborating partners:

- Prentice, Phillips, Mercer and Park Falls School Districts
 - Marshfield Dental Centers (Ladysmith and Park Falls)
 - Upper Peninsula Association of Rural Health Services
 - St. Anthony's School Administration
 - Area Lions Clubs
 - Prentice Optimist Club
- Partners provide financial support, program coordination, fluoride rinse and supplement programs.

Direct services provided: Oral exams, sealants, fluoride varnish, education, retention checks and case management.

FRL rate:

- 36-39%

Children served in 2007-08:

- Oral health education: 328
- Oral exams: 264
- Sealants: 237
- Fluoride: 123

Findings 2007-08:

- Untreated decay: 44.2%
- Urgent needs: 4.7%

Program notes:

The program is coordinated by a dental hygienist at the county public health department who provides oral exams, sealant placement and fluoride varnish application. The program targets second, third, sixth and seventh graders at five public schools and one private school in Price County. In addition to the fluoride varnish applied as part of the sealant program, fluoride supplements and fluoride mouth rinses also are administered. Urgent care referrals are handled immediately. Other children with decay have a letter sent home and the health department follows up with families after four months to ensure services have been obtained. Retention checks are performed on children about one year after sealant placement.

Appendices

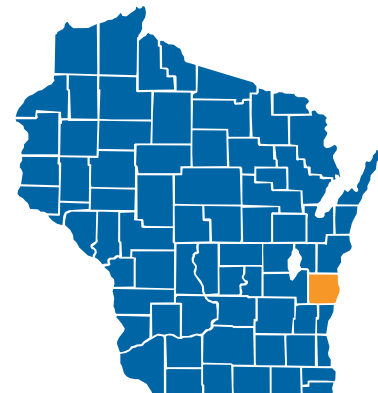
Location: Sheboygan County

Program title: Sheboygan Schools Seal Students' Smiles

Program inception: 2005

Fiscal agent: Sheboygan County Health and Human Services

Program coordinator: Sharon Daun, RN, BSN, MS, NCSN
1227 Wilson Avenue
Sheboygan, WI 53081
(920) 459-6424
sdaun@sheboygan.k12.wi.us



Collaborating partners:

- Sheboygan County Dental Access Committee
- Sheboygan Area School District Health Advisory Committee
- Kurtis Kellner, DDS

Partners provide technical support.

Direct services provided: Oral exams, sealants, fluoride varnish, education and case management.

FRL rate:

- 7-85%

Children served in 2007-08:

- Oral health education: 1,364
- Oral exams: 1,136
- Sealants: 851
- Fluoride: 1,125

Findings 2007-08:

- Untreated decay: 49.5%
- Urgent needs: 8.5%

Program notes:

The program is coordinated jointly between the local public health department and area schools. It has grown from serving 3 to 11 schools. A dental hygienist provides oral exams, sealant placement and fluoride varnish application. A coordinator works closely with school administration to increase participation. Many of the schools have close to 100 percent participation by all second and fifth grade classrooms. Retention checks are done one year following sealant placement on all third grade students. Education is provided chairside in addition to a short classroom presentation prior to the team arriving at the school. Education of the entire school staff is done annually.

Appendices

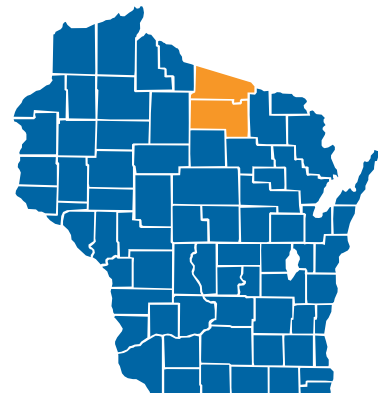
Location: Vilas and Oneida Counties

Program title: Northwoods Dental Project

Program inception: 2007

Fiscal agent: Vilas County Health Department

Program coordinator: Kelley Moran, RDH, CDHC
330 Court Street
Eagle River, WI 54521
(715) 356-3656
kemora@co.vilas.wi.us



Collaborating partners:

- Faith Lutheran Church
 - Marshfield Clinic – Park Falls
 - Howard Young Medical Center Foundation
 - Oneida County Health Department
- Partners provide technical assistance, ToothPrints and restorative services.

Direct services provided: Oral exams, sealants, fluoride varnish and case management.

FRL rate:

- 30-51%

Children served in 2007-08:

- Oral health education: 1,068
- Oral exams: 615
- Sealants: 540
- Fluoride: 540

Findings 2007-08:

- Untreated decay: 22.1%
- Urgent needs: 3.7%

Program notes:

The program is coordinated by a dental hygienist who provides sealant placement and fluoride varnish application. The program targets second and sixth graders in selected schools in Vilas and Oneida counties. Finding volunteers and referral sources are difficult due to a large service area. An agreement exists between this program and the recently opened Marshfield Clinic Dental Center in Park Falls to treat children with urgent dental needs. A program called ToothPrints is offered to children in this program and sponsored by a local orthodontist. ToothPrints takes an impression of the child's teeth and captures the DNA in saliva that can be used for emergency identification and tracking purposes. A separate fluoride varnish program is offered to HeadStart and pre-kindergarten children in both counties.

Appendices

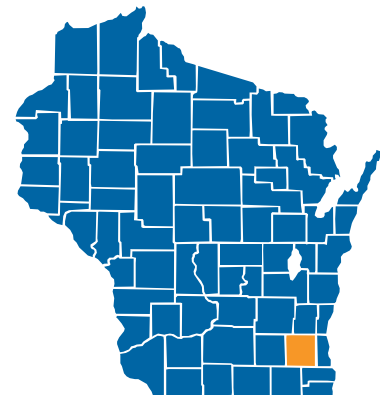
Location: Waukesha County

Program title: Sweet Smiles Waukesha

Program inception: 1999

Fiscal agent: School District of Waukesha

Program coordinator: Hanneke Deeken, MSN, RN
222 Maple Avenue
Waukesha, WI 53186
(262) 970-1135
hdeeken@waukesha.k12.wi.us



Collaborating partner:

- Waukesha County Technical College (WCTC) School of Dental Hygiene
Partner provides oral exams, sealant placement, fluoride varnish and education.

Direct services provided: Education and case management.

FRL rate:

- 29-93%

Children served in 2007-08:

- Oral health education: 88
- Oral exams: 88
- Sealants: 68
- Fluoride: 87

Findings 2007-08:

- Untreated decay: 67.0%
- Urgent needs: 22.7%

Program notes:

The program is coordinated by a community outreach nurse in conjunction with the dental hygiene program at WCTC. The program targets second graders at five area schools. Dental hygiene students at WCTC provide sealant placement with the assistance of instructors and staff dentists. Education is provided chairside in addition to classroom education provided by WCTC hygiene students. Children are transported by bus to the WCTC dental hygiene clinic to receive preventive services.

Appendices

Location: Waushara County

Program title: Shara Smile

Program inception: 2007

Fiscal agent: Waushara County Health Department

Program coordinator: Pam Kerschner
230 West Park Street
Wautoma, WI 54982
(920) 787-6590
pamk.parkstreet@co.waushara.wi.us



Collaborating partners:

- Family Health/La Clinica
- Waushara Human Services
- Waushara Dental Associates
- All county schools

Partners provide oral exams, financial support and interpreter services.

Direct services provided: Oral exams, fluoride varnish, sealants, education and case management.

FRL rate:

- 17-57%

Children served in 2007-08:

- Oral health education: 313
- Oral exams: 313
- Sealants: 192
- Fluoride: 304

Findings 2007-08:

- Untreated decay: 43.0%
- Urgent needs: 11.0%

Program notes:

The program is coordinated by the county health department. Dental hygienists provide oral exams, sealant placement and fluoride varnish application. Currently, only one dental provider is accepting new Medicaid patients in the area, making case management difficult. The program began in 2007 through direct funding from the state and not SAS. The 2008-09 school year marks the first year this program received funding from Wisconsin SAS. Currently education is provided chairside, however, because of increased funding in the coming year, classroom education also will be provided.

Appendices

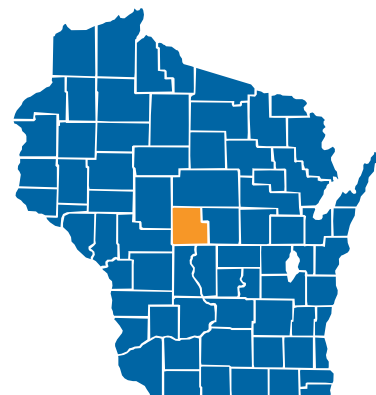
Location: Wood County

Program title: Healthy Smiles for Wood County

Program inception: 2001

Fiscal agent: Wood County Health Department

Program coordinator: Kathy Alft
184 2nd Street North
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494
(715) 421-8911
kalft@co.wood.wi.us



Collaborating partners:

- St. Joseph's Hospital
- Community Foundation of South Wood County
- United Way of Inner Wisconsin
- Marshfield Area United Way
- Umhoefer Foundation

Partners provide financial and technical support.

Direct services provided: Oral exams, sealants, fluoride varnish, education and case management.

FRL rate:

- 20-58%

Children served in 2007-08:

- Oral health education: 1,096
- Oral exams: 1,054
- Sealants: 463
- Fluoride: 577

Findings 2007-08:

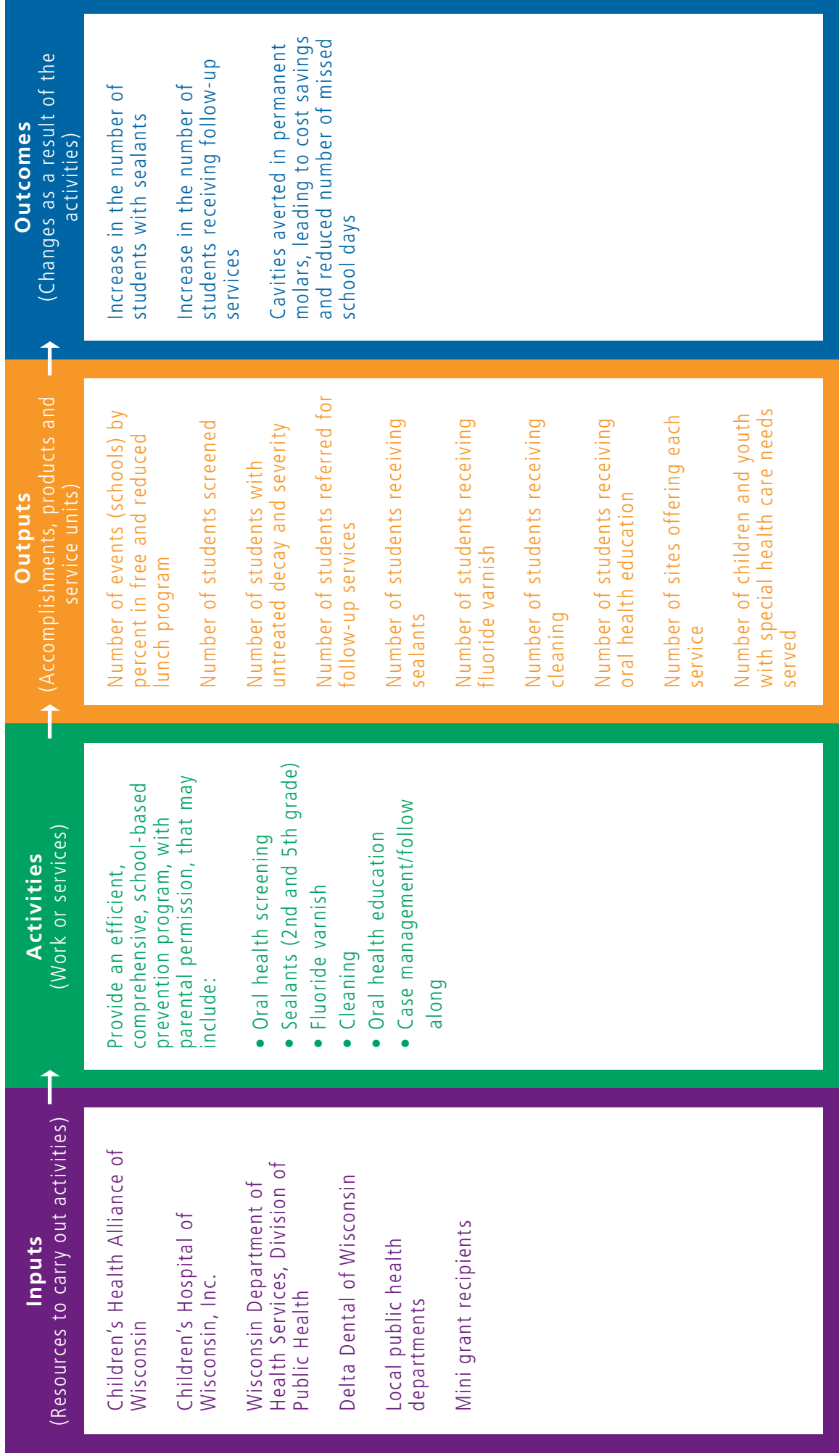
- Untreated decay: 23.9%
- Urgent needs: 2.3%

Program notes:

The program is coordinated by a dental hygienist who provides sealant placement and fluoride varnish application. Dentists provide exams prior to sealant placement. The program uses passive consent for oral exams and active consent to treat. Classroom education is provided prior to the team arriving at the school. Case management is provided by the coordinator and health department staff.

Seal-A-Smile logic model

Project goal: To improve the oral health of Wisconsin children, using a comprehensive, school-based prevention approach.





Partnering to Seal-A-Smile

Children's Health Alliance of Wisconsin
620 S. 76th St., Suite 120
Milwaukee, WI 53214
(414) 292 - 4000

www.chawisconsin.org