

California Rural Indian Health Board, Inc.



Dental Support Center
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Save the Date!

2010 Annual CA Dental Conference

**May 3rd—May 6th, 2010
Holiday Inn Capitol Plaza
650 Capitol Mall
Sacramento CA 95814**

California Dental Support Center – Advisory Committee



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October 2009

California Rural Indian Health Board, Inc.

California Dental Support Center NEWSLETTER



Mission

Reduce dental decay in Native American infants, toddlers and children. Provide training, technical assistance and resources to tribal and urban dental clinics operating in California.



Dental Support Center Awards Mini Grants to Seven Tribal Health Programs

Availability of funds for Community Oral Health Mini Grants of \$2000 each was announced to all tribal/urban tribal health programs in June of 2009. Dental Support Center received nine proposals that were reviewed by a committee and seven tribal programs were successful in obtaining grant funds for their proposed projects.

Dental Support Center would like to congratulate **Colusa Indian Health Clinic, Shingle Springs Tribal Health, Tule River Indian Health Center, Consolidated Tribal Health Project, Round Valley Indian Health Center, K'ima:w Medical Center in Hoopa and Indian Health Council, Inc.**

All projects will be completed by February, 2010. We look forward to sharing your mini-grant projects and success stories in the future Dental Support Center Newsletters.



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RDA Trainings for Dental Sealant Certification

The next certification training for RDAs will be held at Consolidated Tribal Health Project on November 13-14, 2009. The 10 participants at the training will represent Lake County TH, Northern Valley IH, Chapa-De TH, United Indian Health Services, and Consolidated TH programs.

All RDAs trained before January 1, 2010 are required to have the dental sealant certification prior to renewing their licenses. At least two more dental sealant trainings will be held this grant year and additional trainings may be conducted if funds become available.

If you need this training please contact Lalani at 916-929-9761 or lalani.ratnayake@carihb.net



Annual Northern CA Head Start In-Service Includes Training on Oral Health



The Annual Northern CA Head Start in-service was held on August 24-26, 2009 at the Yurok Tribal Office in Klamath, CA.

Lalani Ratnayake, Dental Support Center Coordinator provided educational presentations on oral health, basic oral health assessment training as well as healthy nutrition choices for 61 Head Start staff that attended the in-service. The participants represented Head Starts from Klamath, Eureka, Hoopa, Happy Camp, Yreka, Smith River, Round Valley, and Redding.

Parents of young Children needs to be educated on oral health issues. Dental Support Center will continue to educate tribal Head Start parents and provide them preventive resources.



Oral Health Presentations To Medical/Dental Staff at Tribal Health Programs

Dental Support Center will be offering on-site presentations on "Oral Health: Connection To Overall Health". In October 2009, Pit River Health, Lassen Indian Health, Karuk Tribal Health and Quartz Valley Tribal Health will host presentations by Dr. Steve Riggio.

Dental Professionals from CA Tribal Clinics Receives Training on Smokeless Tobacco Use Prevention and Cessation

Dental Support Center (DSC) in partnership with the Tobacco Education and Prevention Technical Support (TEPTS) program facilitated a one-day workshop at CRIHB Central Office in Sacramento on October 2, 2009. Dr. Russell Christen (UCLA School of Dentistry) and Dr. Margeret Walsh (UCSF) were presenters. They shared their expertise on smokeless tobacco use and prevalence, epidemiology, clinical manifestations, diagnosis, treatment, and Motivational Interviewing techniques, to assist their patients who use tobacco to quit. Fifteen Participants who completed the training earned 6.5 CEUs. The project will develop culturally relevant education material as well as a media campaign to promote cessation.

A pilot project utilizing dental visits to implement smokeless tobacco use cessation interventions will be conducted at Central Valley, United Indian Health Services and Sonoma County Indian Health Project. Dental Support Center hopes to expand this resources to other tribal programs in the future.

Indian Health Center of Santa Clara Valley

As we all know, Adult Denti-Cal benefits were cut effective July 1st, 2009. But Children under 21 years & Prenatal patients did retain their benefits.

70% of our patient base is Adult Denti-Cal & we knew that we would lose a large portion of that. Some of the Adult Denti-Cal patients would convert to sliding feescal & pay out of pocket, but most would not be able to. So I discussed with the WIC Director & the Medical Director about how they could help us see more children. The Medical Director and her providers agreed to start referring patients to the dental clinic. When the children came into the Medical Department for a Physical – the Doctor would talk to them about the importance of a Dental checkup. The Providers fill up an Inter Departmental Referral form for referring patients from Medical to Dental within the Agency & we pick it up or the Medical Staff drop it off. Then we call the patients to make an appointment. They are aware we will be calling because their Doctor has already told them. This "warm handshake" helps a lot!

I spoke with the WIC Director. and looked at WIC schedules – what is the best day for us to come in? When do they have the most classes? Where can we do the exams? Where can we have a computer setup to make future appointments for the patients we see for them to return to the Dental Department? We found the best days would be Wednesdays. So one fine Wednesday, we took mirrors, masks, toys, toothbrushes, fluoride varnish, gauze, brochures, character fun typodont to demonstrate brushing & DVD's (from ADA) – showing brushing instruction etc. We conduct WIC classes, introduce ourselves, play one of the DVD's, talk about Early Childhood Caries – importance of child not sleeping with the bottle with formula or juice in it, importance of brushing & flossing, importance of bringing child to the Dentist before their first Birthday, as well as diet counseling : avoid candy, soda, juice, fermentable carbohydrates, increase amount of fresh fruit & vegetables, cheese, milk, yoghurt etc. We ask parents to raise their hand if they would like their child to be seen by the Dentist after the class. At the end of the class, we give them health history forms to fill out, then we do the knee to knee position & examine the child's teeth, do Oral Hygiene Instruction & Diet Counseling, apply Fluoride Varnish, give them a toy & toothbrush & set them up to be seen in the dental clinic for an exam either immediately or after 6 months.

Anu Minocha DDS, Dental Director
Indian Health Center of Santa Clara Valley,

Sycuan Dental Clinic meets the Dental Support Center Sealant Challenge to Win \$500!



Sycuan Dental Dept has met their 2009-20010 GPRA Sealant Goal of 186 teeth sealed as of today Oct 5th 2009!! Dental Support Center will be awarding us \$500.00 at the Annual-Dental conference in May 2010. Credit goes to the RDA's that did the work!!

Thank you STAFF!!!

Guy Markham, DDS, Dental Director
Sycuan Band of Mission Indians