About this program

Sponsored by the Mid-Ohio Valley Health Department, Wood County Oral Disease Prevention Program is one of the many West Virginia projects to receive support from numerous federal, state and local agencies, and individuals with a focus on children’s oral health.

During the 2017—2018 school year, MOVHD offered oral health services in 25 schools and one Head Start Program in Wood County. With parental consent, students without a dental home, or those who had not seen a dentist in the past 12 months, received preventive oral health services including cleaning, fluoride treatments and sealants. One-on-one oral hygiene instruction and oral health supplies were provided to each of the program participants.

Program Highlights

- 289 students were seen by a dental hygienist. This is nearly double the number of students seen in the previous school year.
- 37 students reported that they had never been to a dentist showing the effectiveness of reaching children where they are most of the day—in school.
- 62 students screened already had sealants in place, up 39% from last year. As the program expands, this number is expected to increase.
- Returning students were checked to see if sealants placed on previous visits were still in place, with only a few requiring replacement.
- 460 sealants were placed.
- 276 students had their teeth cleaned.
- 274 had Fluoride Varnish applied to their teeth to prevent future cavities.
- Each student received one-on-one oral hygiene instruction, along with oral health supplies for home use.
- Increased support from Wood County School Nurses contributed to the overall success of the program.

Mid-Ohio Valley Emergency Health Services Mobile Unit

With support from Wood County Schools, local funders and the WV Center for Rural Health Development to purchase dental equipment and supplies, MOVHD staff will be launching the Mid-Ohio Valley Health Services Mobile Unit (MOVE-HS) for the 2018-19 school year.

It is anticipated that the mobile unit will increase access to every school in Wood County, expanding the number of children receiving oral health preventive services during the school day. In addition, the mobile unit is equipped to provide electronic access to Medicaid and CHIP records, eliminating duplication of services and ensuring that children receive services on a regular basis.
MOVHD Wood County Oral Disease Prevention Program

Reaching our goal

One of the goals of the program is to provide a positive dental experience and education for the participants. After being seen the on first day of clinic at his school, one student later related to the staff, “Guess who brushed their teeth this morning?” He also expressed that he wants to return next year to the dental clinic.

McKinley Elementary Student

We are successful with a little help from our friends

Mid-Ohio Valley Health Department

- Lead agency, Dental Hygienist/Oral Health Coordinator; Coordination of care; Equipment/supplies; Dental Assistants & Billing

Sisters Health Foundation

- Oral Health Coordinator & Program support

Wood County Schools

- Administrative and Health Services support; Transportation of dental equipment

Michael Wilson, DDS

- Public Health Practice Permit; Supervising dentist, as well as a volunteer program dentist

Parkersburg Area Community Foundation

- Oral health program support

National Children’s Oral Health Foundation

- Donated supplies

WV DHHR Oral Health Program

- Loan of portable dental chair and unit; CDC oversight and oral health supplies

Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation

- Program Support

Bernard McDonough Foundation

- Program Support

United Way of the Mid-Ohio Valley

- Program Support

WV Center for Rural Health Development

- Equipment grant

Marshall University School Health Technical Assistance Center

- Data collection and reporting

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For More Information About the Program:

This report is produced by the School Health Technical Assistance Center at Marshall University School Of Medicine