

Action Area: ACCESS

Short-Term Outcome:	Public awareness of access issues is heightened in targeted communities. <i>Head Start programs participate in awareness building in targeted communities.</i>
Long-Term Outcomes:	Local access systems are developed in targeted communities. Case management services expand access at the state and community level. <i>Head Start programs expand their case management capacity to increase access.</i>

Strategies:

- 1. Use Mission of Mercy (MOM) events as a means of introducing and promoting oral health in targeted communities (Garden City in February and Wyandotte County in November).**
- 2. Build awareness of access problems among dental and health professionals, plus community leaders**
- 3. Increase the use of case management at the state and community levels to reduce barriers and help consumers navigate the system.**

Action	Lead Organization	Time Frame	Resources Needed
Promote Mission of Mercy events. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Secure local media coverage. 2. Market the prevention message to the general public. 3. Communicate access issues within the profession, with legislators and with the public. 		In conjunction with February and November events	Promotional materials; PowerPoint for community presentations
Create follow up strategy post-MOM's. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hold a stakeholder meeting after the events. 2. Identify consumers in need, determine eligibility and find them dental homes. 3. Build local support systems which provide transportation, case management and enrollment. 4. Support recruitment process. 		In conjunction with February and November events	

<i>Ensure Head Start programs in Garden City and Wyandotte County are engaged in planning process and followup activities.</i>	<i>KHSA</i>	<i>Immediately</i>	
<i>Work with Head Start programs in communities with “dental champions” to begin expanding local access systems.</i>	<i>KHSA</i>	<i>April 2003</i>	
Expand the use of community case managers using the ABCD model as a foundation.		<i>2004</i>	
Explore new models which expand access in areas not served by private providers; e.g, Appletree Dental, mobile dentistry, teledentistry.			

Action Area: POLICY AND FINANCING

Short-Term Outcome:	The Practice Act is passed and signed into law. <i>Head Start programs understand the implications of the Practice Act and begin using dental hygienists in their expanded roles.</i> <i>Head Start grantees participate actively as Medicaid providers</i>
Long-Term Outcomes:	Kansas has a state dental director. The number of dental students graduating and returning to practice in Kansas increases.

Strategies:

- 1. Identify and implement policy changes that increase the workforce.**
- 2. Make changes in Medicaid which expand access by maximizing existing resources.**
- 3. Reinstate the state dental director position to provide leadership, address policy issues and attract additional federal dollars.**

Action	Lead Organization	Time Frame	Resources Needed
Support the proposed Practice Act legislation. 1. Create and distribute one-page fact sheets to educate policymakers about the need. 2. Mobilize grass roots networks to contact legislators as needed.	KDA, KDHA KHSA in support of above organizations	Immediate	
Explore statutory change which would require an Office of Oral Health.	KDHE		
Reapply for a CDC grant to support a dental director.	KDHE		
<i>Increase the number of Head Start programs that are Medicaid providers and that bill for services.</i> 1. <i>Educate programs about the benefits of being a provider (using Springfield, MO experience).</i>	<i>KHSA, SRS</i>	<i>April 2003</i>	<i>Training program materials (including PowerPoint) and dental/Medicaid representatives who will implement the action.</i>

<p>2. <i>Provide training as necessary.</i> 3. <i>Address issues among grantees, where appropriate.</i></p> <p>Develop and implement a plan to increase number of dental students in regional schools, and to encourage more students to return to underserved areas.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Explore needs with Board of Regents. 2. Consider addition of requirement for students to be Medicaid providers and serve populations in need. 3. Promote dentistry as a career among younger students. 			
<p>Promote advanced general dentistry residency in central Kansas.</p>			
<p>Secure funding to support loan forgiveness, office set-up and equipment.</p>			
<p>Explore increased use of Medicaid administrative funds for case management services (per ABCD model).</p>			
<p>Work with Medicaid to expand number of dentists who bill electronically. (currently 5 of 270)</p>		<p>In concert with MMIS implementation 10/03</p>	
<p>Explore potential of foundation (e.g., Robert Wood Johnson) support to assist with Medicaid issues.</p>			

Action Area: PREVENTION AND EDUCATION

Short-Term Outcome:	<i>Staff and parents in Head Start and child care programs receive consistent, user-friendly information about good oral hygiene practices and oral hygiene supplies to support these practices. An increased number of Head Start programs incorporate fluoride varnish in their oral health practices.</i>
Long-Term Outcome:	Fluoride varnish (or alternative effective treatment) is routinely applied to at-risk children. Fluoride is included in the water supply of __ percent of Kansans. Kansans understand why and how to prevent oral disease.

Strategies:

1. **Expand the use of fluoride as a key preventative.**
2. **Design and implement an advertising/media campaign.**
3. **Conduct train the trainer workshops for early childhood training specialists**
4. **Expand nutrition education as a key element in prevention.**
5. **Implement statutory requirement for dental exam for children entering school.**

Action	Lead Organization	Time Frame	Resources Needed
<i>Distribute “Show Me Your Smile” education materials to Head Starts and child care partners.</i>	<i>KHSA, KDHE</i>	<i>May 2003</i>	<i>Funding to purchase materials</i>
<i>Develop and conduct early childhood oral health “train the trainer” workshops for early childhood college faculty, Child Care Resource and Referral training specialists, Head Start and Early Head Start health specialists</i>			<i>Funding to purchase the training package materials</i>
<i>Expand partnership with WIC and KNN to ensure nutrition and oral health education are linked.</i>	<i>KHSA, KDHE</i>		<i>Funding to purchase materials</i>
<i>Work with local dentists and hygienists in</i>	<i>KHSA</i>	<i>Fall 2003</i>	

<i>targeted communities to implement fluoride varnish programs.</i>			
<i>Identify a consistent source of toothbrushes and other oral hygiene supplies.</i>	<i>KHSA</i>	<i>Fall 2003</i>	<i>Funding and/or donation community campaign</i>
Implement a broad-based public awareness campaign such as “Watch Your Mouth.”			
Expand availability of parent education mats. to all child care providers, WIC, etc			<i>Funding needed to purchase materials</i>