



# Dental Public Health Project/Activity Descriptive Report Form

Please provide a detailed description of your **successful dental public health project/activity** by fully completing this form. Expand the submission form as needed but within any limitations noted. Please return completed form to: [lcofano@astdd.org](mailto:lcofano@astdd.org)

**NOTE: Please use Verdana 9 font.**

## CONTACT PERSON PREPARING THE SUBMISSION AND TO ANSWER QUESTIONS

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**Title:** State Dental Hygienist

**Agency/Organization:** New Jersey Department of Health, Division of Community Health Services, Oral Health Service Unit

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## PROVIDE CONTACT INFORMATION FOR ONE ADDITIONAL PERSON WHO COULD ANSWER QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS PROGRAM

**Name:** Dr. Darwin K. Hayes DDS, MHA, FAGD

**Title:** State Dental Director

**Agency/Organization:** New Jersey Department of Health, Division of Community Health Services, Oral Health Service Unit

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**SECTION I: ACTIVITY OVERVIEW**

**Title of the dental public health activity:**

**Dental Workforce Opioid Education**

**Public Health Functions\*:** Check one or more categories related to the activity.

"X"	<b>Assessment</b>
	1. Assess oral health status and implement an oral health surveillance system.
	2. Analyze determinants of oral health and respond to health hazards in the community
	3. Assess public perceptions about oral health issues and educate/empower them to achieve and maintain optimal oral health
"X"	<b>Policy Development</b>
	4. Mobilize community partners to leverage resources and advocate for/act on oral health issues
X	5. Develop and implement policies and systematic plans that support state and community oral health efforts
"X"	<b>Assurance</b>
X	6. Review, educate about and enforce laws and regulations that promote oral health and ensure safe oral health practices
	7. Reduce barriers to care and assure utilization of personal and population-based oral health services
	8. Assure an adequate and competent public and private oral health workforce
	9. Evaluate effectiveness, accessibility and quality of personal and population-based oral health promotion activities and oral health services
	10. Conduct and review research for new insights and innovative solutions to oral health problems

**[\\*ASTDD Guidelines for State and Territorial Oral Health Programs that includes 10 Essential Public Health Services to Promote Oral Health](#)**

**Healthy People 2020 Objectives:** Check one or more key objectives related to the activity. If appropriate, add other national or state HP 2020 Objectives, such as tobacco use or injury.

"X"	<b><u><a href="#">Healthy People 2020 Oral Health Objectives</a></u></b>
	OH-1 Reduce the proportion of children and adolescents who have dental caries experience in their primary or permanent teeth
	OH-2 Reduce the proportion of children and adolescents with untreated dental decay
	OH-3 Reduce the proportion of adults with untreated dental decay
	OH-4 Reduce the proportion of adults who have ever had a permanent tooth extracted because of dental caries or periodontal disease
	OH-5 Reduce the proportion of adults aged 45 to 74 years with moderate or severe periodontitis
	OH-6 Increase the proportion of oral and pharyngeal cancers detected at the earliest stage
	OH-7 Increase the proportion of children, adolescents, and adults who used the oral health care system in the past year
	OH-8 Increase the proportion of low-income children and adolescents who received any preventive dental service during the past year
	OH-9 Increase the proportion of school-based health centers with an oral health component
	OH-10 Increase the proportion of local health departments and Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) that have an oral health component

	OH-11	Increase the proportion of patients who receive oral health services at Federally Qualified Health Centers each year
	OH-12	Increase the proportion of children and adolescents who have received dental sealants on their molar teeth
	OH-13	Increase the proportion of the U.S. population served by community water systems with optimally fluoridated water
	OH-14	Increase the proportion of adults who receive preventive interventions in dental offices
	OH-15	Increase the number of States and the District of Columbia that have a system for recording and referring infants and children with cleft lips and cleft palates to craniofacial anomaly rehabilitative teams
	OH-16	Increase the number of States and the District of Columbia that have an oral and craniofacial health surveillance system
	OH-17	Increase health agencies that have a dental public health program directed by a dental professional with public health training

<b>"X"</b>	<b>Other national or state <a href="#">Healthy People 2020 Objectives</a>: (list objective number and topic)</b>	
X	SA-19	Reduce the past-year nonmedical use of prescription drugs

**Provide 3-5 Key Words (e.g. fluoride, sealants, access to care, coalitions, policy, Medicaid, etc.) These will assist those looking for information on this topic:**  
opioid, dental providers, prescribing

**Executive Summary: Complete after Section II: Detailed Activity Description. Please limit to 300 words in one or two paragraphs.**

Provide a brief description of the dental public health activity. Include information on: (1) what is being done; (2) who is doing it and why; (3) associated costs; (4) outcomes achieved (5) lessons learned, both positive and negative.

In 2018 the New Jersey Department of Health, Division of Community Health Services, having been awarded Health Resources and Services Administration funding, entered into an agreement with Rowan University School of Osteopathic Medicine to create three education Modules for the dental workforce regarding opioid prescribing best practices and the opioid epidemic as it relates to dentistry. Because the Modules were non-credit, registration was low. In Year 2, an agreement has been made between the NJ Department of Health and Rutgers School of Dental Continuing Education for Continuing Education Credits to be conferred for registrants who complete the Rowan Opioid Education Modules. Rowan and Rutgers will work together cooperatively to update and include more information regarding opioids into dental student curriculum. The NJ Board of Dentistry is proposing regulations requiring dental professionals receive opioids best practices education as part of the biennial license renewal period. <sup>1</sup>

The opioid epidemic and related drug overdose deaths have impacted the United States nationwide. In 2017, New Jersey drug-related overdoses reached 30 per 100,000 people. Dentists are one of the most frequent prescribers of opioids in spite of data that suggests non-opioid analgesics can be as effective for oral pain. This grant provides a budget of \$100,000 annually for 2 years, reduced in years 3 and 4, and includes technology support from Rowan Global (Division of Rowan Global Learning & Partnerships), the administrative unit at Rowan University responsible for developing and delivering all online courses and programs for Rowan University.

## SECTION II: DETAILED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

Provide detailed narrative about the dental public health activity using the headings provided and answering the questions. Include specifics to help readers understand what you are doing and how it's being done. References and links to information may be included.

**\*\*Complete using Verdana 9 font.**

### **Rationale and History of the Activity:**

#### **1. What were the key issues that led to the initiation of this activity?**

The opioid epidemic and related drug overdose deaths have impacted the United States nationwide. In New Jersey in 2017, drug-related overdoses reached 30 per 100,000 people.<sup>2</sup> Dentists are one of the most frequent prescribers of opioids despite data that suggests nonopioid analgesics can be as effective for oral pain.<sup>3</sup>

#### **2. What rationale/evidence (may be anecdotal) did you use to support the implementation of this activity?**

Please see answer 1, above. Additionally, the education modules were created by an expert in pain management, Richard T. Jermyn, DO, FAAPMR, a nationally recognized physician specializing in the treatment of chronic pain and opioid use disorders. At Rowan University School of Osteopathic Medicine, Dr. Jermyn has established an onsite ambulatory detoxification program for patients with opioid use disorders. He has extensive experience in training medical students in safe opiate prescribing, alternatives to pain management, and other strategies to enable physicians to address the opioid crisis. The education modules are consistent with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's recommendations related to prescribing opiates, as well as alternatives for pain management for dental patients was viewed to be an effective way to develop content using the most current information to increase the knowledge of dental professionals about this topic

#### **3. What month and year did the activity begin and what milestones have occurred along the way? (May include a timeline.)**

- September 2018: NJ Department of Health, Division of Community Health Services is awarded a four-year HRSA Workforce Grant, funds from which inform the activities of the Opioid and Pain Management Education and Training Program.
- October 2018 – March 2019: A Letter of Agreement is signed between the Department and Rowan University School of Osteopathic Medicine.
- February 2019: Rowan hires content development support staff.
- March 2019: The State Dental Hygienist is on-boarded to assist with the creation of the Oral Health Services Unit and oversight of oral health programs.
- April 2019: Meetings are held between the Division of Community Health Services and Rowan University. Module creation by Rowan begins and the first module is recorded at Rowan Global. Dr. Jermyn narrates and presents the modules. Rowan Global provides the necessary technology to produce, record and host the module for a fee with in-kind staff technology assistance.
- May 2019: Information about the first Module is distributed at the New Jersey Dental Association General Practice Residency Directors Forum on May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019 during its annual Garden State Conference and Expo.
- May 2019: Discussions begin with Rutgers School of Dental Medicine, Office of Continuing Dental Education to explore if they can confer continuing education credits for the Rowan-created modules
- June 2019: HRSA is given an update of the progress of the grant. Periodic report is filed.
- July 2019: The State Dental Director is onboarded and assumes responsibility for the Oral Health Services Unit and oversight of oral health programs. This is the first Dental Director at the Department in over 30 years.
- July 2019: Funds for Year 2 are awarded by HRSA.

- June 2019 – September 2019: Monthly meetings are held between grantees and the Department. Modules 2 and 3 are created and recorded at Rowan Global.
- September 2019 – October 2019: Discussions regarding Rutgers role in conferring Continuing Education Credits to the Modules continue, resulting in a draft Memorandum of Agreement.
- October 2019 – December 2019: A Memorandum of Agreement with Rutgers is finalized and sent for signatures. Rowan gives access to the Rutgers Curriculum Committee to begin viewing the modules on the Rowan Global website to determine inclusion of materials into Rutgers curriculum.
- December 2019: Rowan and Rutgers schedule a meeting in January 2020 to discuss the workforce education modules and inclusion of materials into dental student curriculum.
- January 2020: Modified agreement activities as described expected to begin including Rutgers marketing of modules, marketing of modules through NJ Consumer Affairs.

The sections below follow a logic model format. For more information on logic models go to: [W.K. Kellogg Foundation: Logic Model Development Guide](#)

INPUTS	PROGRAM ACTIVITIES	OUTPUTS	OUTCOMES
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**1. What resources were needed to carry out the activity? (e.g., staffing, volunteers, funding, partnerships, collaborations with various organizations, etc.)**

- Funding (HRSA Award)
- Coordination between Department and Grantee (Rowan)
- Hiring of content development support staff (Rowan)
- Rowan Global technology resources to record, upload and maintain modules
- Collaboration with Grantee to address challenges
- Discussions and partnerships with additional academic institution (Rutgers Dental School)
- Marketing partners: New Jersey Dental Association, Rowan, Rutgers, NJ Consumer Affairs/Board of Dentistry

INPUTS	PROGRAM ACTIVITIES	OUTPUTS	OUTCOMES
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**2. Please provide a detailed description the key aspects of the activity, including the following aspects: administration, operations, and services.**

- Organize and hold monthly update meetings
- Monitor creation of modules including pre and post assessment evaluation
- Modules recorded at Rowan Global
- Distribute information about the program through state-wide dental partners
- Present program information at annual May 2019 NJ Dental Association Garden State Dental Conference
- Analyze costs of administration and fees for conferring Continuing Education Credits from Rutgers Dental School of Continuing Education
- Develop agreement between Rutgers and NJ DOH
- Revise Memorandum of Agreement with Rowan for additional service deliverables

INPUTS	PROGRAM ACTIVITIES	OUTPUTS	OUTCOMES
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**3. What outputs or direct products resulted from program activities? (e.g., number of clients served, number of services units delivered, products developed, accomplishments, etc.)**

**Year 1 Outputs:**

- Development of three education modules
- Recording of education modules
- Monitoring of registrations

**Year 2 Outputs:**

- Secured Rutgers Dental School continuing education credits to increase enrollment for previously created educational modules
- 30 dentist attendees at the January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020, joint meeting of the International and American College Combined Continuing Education Dental Program were presented Module 2 by Dr. Jermyn of Rowan.

INPUTS	PROGRAM ACTIVITIES	OUTPUTS	OUTCOMES
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**4. What outcomes did the program achieve? (e.g., health statuses, knowledge, behavior, care delivery system, impact on target population, etc.) Please include the following aspects:**

- a. How outcomes are measured**
- b. How often they are/were measured**
- c. Data sources used**
- d. Whether intended to be short-term (attainable within 1-3 years), intermediate (achievable within 4-6 years), or long-term (impact achieved in 7-10 years)**
  - Tracking of registrants completing education modules online
  - Pre and post-test assessment per registrant
  - Voluntary self-reported demographic data
  - Year 2, report and track Continuing Education certificates conferred monthly
  - Year 2, expand education to be included in Rutgers Dental School curriculum
  - Data is intended to be short term (within 2 – 3 years)

**Budgetary Information:**

NOTE: Charts and tables may be used to provide clarity.

**1. What is the annual budget for this activity?**

Year 1: \$100,000  
Year 2: \$100,000  
Year 3: \$40,000  
Year 4: \$40,000

**2. What are the costs associated with the activity? (Including staffing, materials, equipment, etc.)**

This grant includes staff salary, educational content development, information technology support and reporting, and administrative costs for conferring of dental education credits

**3. How is the activity funded?**

This activity is funded by a 4-year grant from HRSA with \$400,000 per year supporting three programs, one of which is Opioid Education for Workforce activities.

**4. What is the plan for sustainability?**

Educational information under this grant are intended to be available through Rowan Global for access by students and dental professionals and incorporated into dental student curriculum.

**Lessons Learned and/or Plans for Addressing Challenges:**

**1. What important lessons were learned that would be useful for others looking to implement a similar activity? Was there anything you would do differently?**

Continuing education credits are essential to increase enrollment and participation in the program. Partnerships that include experts in the field and cooperation between academic institutions are recommended. Registrant activity, including completion of modules, voluntary demographic information, and pre and post surveys are included in the modules. This information is tracked through reporting by Rowan Global. The Rowan content developer will report to Rutgers the number of

completed courses and registrant contact information so continuing education credits can be conferred.

**2. What challenges did the activity encounter and how were those addressed?**

Staff support was needed to accomplish the goals of this program. Content development support was needed by the sub-grantee, and a staff member at the Department of Health to assist with overseeing grant activities. Rowan hired support staff in February 2019. In March 2019, staff was added to the Division of Community Health Services to provide administrative support. Due to low registration numbers, discussions began with Rutgers Dental School to provide continuing dental education credits and additional marketing, as well as working with the Rowan School of Osteopathic Medicine to increase the content on opioids within the dental student curriculum.

**Available Information Resources:** Share any models, tools, and/or guidelines developed by the program specifically for this activity that may be useful to others seeking additional information. Hyperlink resources if possible.

**SOURCES CITED:**

- 1- <https://www.njconsumeraffairs.gov/Proposals/Pages/dentistry-11182019-proposal.aspx>
- 2- <https://www.drugabuse.gov/opioid-summaries-by-state/new-jersey-opioid-summary>
- 3- <https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamanetworkopen/fullarticle/2734067>

<b>TO BE COMPLETED BY ASTDD</b>	
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Associated BPAR:	State and Territorial Oral Health Programs and Collaborative Partnerships
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