



Dental Public Health Activities Descriptive Summaries

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Georgia Access to Dental Services II (GADS II) – Expansion of GADS through the States Oral Health Collaborative Systems Grant

The Oral Health Section, Division of Public Health, Georgia Department of Human Resources initiated a project in FY 2004 called "Georgia Access to Dental Services" (GADS). The goal of the Project is to increase the dental prevention and treatment services availability in Georgia and to improve the access of low- and moderate-income children to these services. **Part II of the project (GADS II)** complement and supplement GADS I efforts by providing community support and development that strengthens infrastructure, increases collaboration, addresses needs assessment and strategic planning. GADS II is funded through the HRSA's States Oral Health Collaborative Systems Grant (\$100,000 Base and Enhanced Funding for the project period 09/03 – 09/04). GADS II provided funds to increase the original three pilot projects with the addition of two full projects in district Macon 5.2, one in district Augusta 6.0, and several smaller projects in districts with less local infrastructure, which provided greater statewide participation. Continuing loss of dental personnel with longer recruitment periods has created significant obstacles to full participation. Examples of district projects implemented include:

- Dalton 1.2 – Fluoride Rinse Programs, recruitment of dental personnel through local programs, and contracting of a Hispanic "peer" health-educator to provide prevention education.
- Clayton 3.3 – Training thirteen bilingual (Spanish/English) participants to become dental assistants. Training seven public health dental assistants, for dental sealant certification.
- Gwinnett 3.4 – Fluoride varnish, oral health education and screening targeting Special Needs and Head Start Children.
- Dublin 5-1 – Collaborations for a volunteer community dental clinic and fluoride rinse programs.
- Bibb County 5.2 – Training to district and school nurses on conducting oral health screenings, and for community collaborations in this mostly rural district.
- Baldwin County 5.2 – Optical Reader Scanner purchased for the Basic Screening Survey and for an auditing survey of Form 3300 "School Entry Screening Certificate of Ear, Eye and Dental Examinations". Consultant for programmatic database and reports development. Purchases to assist public health nurses and dental staff in screening elementary school children. Training for implementation of the "Georgia Third Grade Oral Health Screening Survey".
- Augusta 6-0 – Mobile dental trailer maintenance manual development (standards, schedules, materials, best practices). Statewide training conference on serving Children and Adults with Special Health Care Needs, entitled "Dentistry for the Disabled Patient" conducted by faculty/staff of the Medical College of Georgia. "Special Needs" manual and CD reproduction.
- Columbus 7.0 – Oral Health education materials.
- Albany 8.2 – Medicaid Advisory Committee collaborations. Initial fluoride rinse implementation.
- Waycross 9.2 – Electrical "shore line" installation for a mobile dental trailer at an elementary school in an underserved district.
- Brunswick 9.3 – Funding to increase collaborations.
- Athens 10.0 – School nurse education materials and fluoride rinse training. Infection Control / OSHA training statewide. Equipment and training from state office.

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