

## SECTION F: LOCAL EVALUATION

### Executive Summary

**Grant Awarded to:** Butte County Department of Public Health  
**Program Name:** Children's Dental Project OF Butte County  
**Funded By:** Butte County Children and Families Commission  
**Report Date:** September 14, 2005

#### Program Components

- ' Dental Screening and Case Management
- ' New Strategies for Dental Services
- ' Dental Collaborative
- ' Pediatric Dental Health Conference

#### Desired Results

- ' Children are ready to enter school and progress successfully because their parents will be more knowledgeable and supportive of their dental needs through dental screenings, anticipatory guidance, and effective oral health education.
- ' Families are nurturing and supportive in their children's social and emotional health by addressing their dental needs through case management.
- ' Families are nurturing and supportive of their children's social and emotional health by increasing access to oral health care providers for their children's dental needs. Children will be connected with appropriate dental services and case managed for follow-up and appointments to successfully reach dental milestones.
- ' Families are nurturing and supportive in their children's social and emotional health by having increased access to oral health care providers for their children's dental needs.
- ' Families are nurturing and supportive in their children's social and emotional health by increasing the accessibility to oral health care providers who are more knowledgeable and skilled in pediatric dentistry for children aged 1-5.

#### Evaluation Results

The results of the parent survey were positive. All of the parents considered the assistance and services they received helpful. Nearly all reported learning new things about what to do to keep their children's teeth and gums healthy. Most importantly, the parents were sure that their child would get regular dental visits in the future.

The data provided by the Children's Dental Project (CDP) shows that 202 children who may not have had another dental source have been impacted in the project's first year of implementation. In actuality, these 202 children were screened in only four months, almost meeting the year's goal of 300. The 56 children who were case-managed were obtained from a variety of sources. Almost three-fourths of the case-managed children were non-White. Almost one-third of them were special

needs. The project has done an exceptional job thus far of serving children's dental needs in Butte County.

In less than four months, the CDP conducted 15 site visits and 15 dental screenings. The project screened 202 children. Positive screenings were found in every classroom, validating a need for this type of project in Butte County.

The CDP Collaborative conducted quarterly meetings as outlined in their proposal. The Collaborative met regularly and discussed pertinent topics.

The results of the program manager interview indicate that nearly all of the project's goals are being met or exceeded in a timely manner. Dental screenings have been very successful, the collaborative meets regularly and functions as intended, all referrals have been accepted, and wait time has been decreased. Teachers and partners have been very cooperative. The project's challenges are parent apathy, lack of knowledge regarding the importance of baby teeth, lack of payment resources, translation issues, and no shows for appointments. Although the rotational dental referral system has not been established, it is planned for fall 2005. The equipment for Oroville Hospital has not yet been purchased although dialogue was established with Oroville Hospital; no agreement has been reached. The intention is to purchase equipment in year two. The project has discussed new strategies for increasing access to dental services and will work towards sustainability. Overall, the program manager feels the Children's Dental Project is successful in its implementation.