



# Healthy Smile Happy Child

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The Manitoba Collaborative Project for the Prevention of Early Childhood Tooth Decay

## Healthy Smile Happy Child Activity and Highlights October – December 2012

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### Regional Updates



#### **Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority** (former Interlake RHA and North Eastman Health Authority)

- The HSHC coordinator will be connecting with key contacts in January 2013 to rebuild capacity and emphasize HSHC's key role of being supportive to the RHAs.
- The HSHC coordinator is also continuing efforts to follow up on the community capacity evaluation forms for the Interlake-Eastern Families First program to help HSHC understand the capacity of the region to provide early childhood oral health support.
- The Wellness Facilitator & French Language Services Coordinator in Pine Falls provides resources and forwards the information for provincial HSHC telehealth sessions and any other updates to Berens River, Poplar River, Pauingassi, Bloodvein and Little Grand Rapids First Nations communities.
- The key contact in Pine Falls participated in a Health Fair at Sagkeeng First Nation on October 26, and presented to 39 youth, preschoolers and staff.

#### **Northern Regional Health Authority** (former NOR-MAN and Burntwood RHAs)

- The HSHC coordinator is continuing to work with the region for ongoing oral health promotion efforts. Key contacts will be contacted in January 2013 to revisit regional needs/support and to emphasize HSHC's key role of being supportive to the RHAs.
- HSHC is continuing to search for a local contact to support ongoing community engagement with The Pas community.

**Prairie Mountain Health** (former Brandon, Assiniboine & Parkland RHAs)

- The PROMISE Years Parent Child Program Coordinator position in Virden is still vacant. The North Parent Child Coalition Coordinator in Hamiota has been covering for the South area until the position is filled.
- HSHC is continuing to work with and provide support to the region for oral health promotion and prevention activities. The HSHC coordinator will be connecting with key contacts in January 2013 to revisit regional needs/support and emphasize HSHC's key role of being supportive to the RHAs.
- In October, a dietetic intern working with the community health nutritionist participated in an interview with the Swan River radio station on healthy Halloween treats and dental health. The interview script was shared with the HSHC partnership group.
- The key contact in Dauphin also shared photos of a display board titled "*Rethink your Drink*" that they use when presenting at schools or youth centers. The sugar shocker display for the older kids in Dauphin was deemed to be very effective at portraying how much sugar is in power drinks, Big Gulps, pop, and other sugar filled beverages.
- The Oral Health Practice Guidelines (part of the Pearly Whites project) were sent to the VPs of facilities in the region for further distribution.
- The community health nutritionist in Dauphin is working with the public health nurses to provide resources, materials and visuals for a dental health display for 3 year olds to be put up at the 3 year old wellness fair to be held in 5 communities in February and 4 communities in March. The public health nurses will be using a modified AAPD caries risk assessment to screen each 3 year old attending for any dental concerns.

**Southern Health / Santé Sud** (former RHA-Central Manitoba and South Eastman Health)

- The HSHC coordinator will be connecting with the key contacts in January 2013 to determine regional needs/support and to emphasize HSHC's key role of being supportive to the RHAs.
- Local dieticians create newsletters for schools in the area; the latest one focused on sugar. The newsletters (both English & French) were shared with the HSHC partnership.
- A Public Health Nurse from Boundary Trails Health Centre inquired about information on breastfeeding and oral health. The HSHC coordinator has made contact to follow-up on this inquiry.
- In December, Healthy Living staff participated in the Santa Claus parade and gave out sugar-free gum with a dental health message attached. The parade took place in Portage la Prairie, MB.

**Winnipeg Regional Health Authority** (Churchill and Winnipeg RHAs have been merged)

- The HSHC coordinators are continuing to work with the key contacts in Winnipeg and Churchill to incorporate early childhood oral health promotion into their work. Emphasis in January 2013 will be placed on revisiting regional needs/support and offering support to rebuild capacity.

### **Winnipeg Regional Health Authority** *continued...*

- Churchill provided two oral health topic sessions for the Healthy Baby group. HSHC resources, BINGO & handouts were used; Handouts are always available for take home.
- Discussions around early childhood oral health continue in Well Child clinics in Churchill.
- HSHC team members participated at a local community event on November 9<sup>th</sup> at the Forks Market in Winnipeg. The event was called "*Where Health Research Comes to Life!*" and was put on by the Manitoba Health Research Council. HSHC provided toothbrushes to families and brought along the tooth brushing puppets. This request came from the Manitoba Institute of Child Health and the Manitoba Health Research Council.
- The HSHC coordinator connected with the Winnipeg Community Facilitator in the Point Douglas area to determine if there is opportunity to connect with FNIHB evacuated communities who are currently residing in Winnipeg. The HSHC coordinator will be following up in January 2013.
- The Winnipeg Fort Garry/River Heights community workers provided tooth brushes to parents and children in October to for Halloween; they were well-received.
- All programs funded by the familiesforward and Fort Garry/ St. Norbert Healthy Child Coalition have moved to best practice of serving milk and water for young children.

### **Other Provinces/North America**

- A first year pediatric dental resident at Lutheran Medical Center requested permission to use the questionnaire used in the "*The Impact of Community Workshops on improving Early Childhood Oral Health Knowledge*" study. The resident is planning a similar study to comparing knowledge of day care providers in the area (head start staff vs. other day care providers). This was a HSHC paper published in Pediatric Dentistry in 2010.

## **Collaborative Activity**

### **Schools and Community Organizations**

- A Vice Principal from a Winnipeg school requested an English copy of the Manitoba Dental Association's (MDA) Healthy Happy Teeth program. The HSHC coordinator connected her with the MDA and she received the program promptly.

### **Dental and Medical Organizations**

- The HSHC coordinators continue to work in collaboration with the Manitoba Dental Hygienists Association (MDHA) to connect local dental hygienists with community schools and prenatal and parents of young children groups who would like oral health information sessions. No requests were received in this quarter.
- STEP students created a display of HSHC resources and other oral health information in the Access Downtown Dental clinic waiting area. These resources will be replenished on an as needed basis. This request came from the primary care clinic team at Access Downtown.

- Funding to support the 0.5 EFT provincial coordination functions for the current fiscal period has been received from MB Health via the WRHA.

## Provincial HSHC Activity

- The HSHC coordinator is revisiting the project's logic model that included the three pillars, including community development. HSHC will touch base with all regions to rebuild individual needs/support and to emphasize HSHC's key role of being supportive to the RHAs.
- The HSHC team submitted a Letter of Intent (LOI) to the Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba and the Child Health Advisory Committee (CHAC) for the Health Promotion and Prevention Grant on August 16, 2012. HSHC's LOI was successfully accepted and a full application titled, *Providing Early Childhood Oral Health Information to Newcomer Families* was submitted on October 31, 2012. Potential funding would be used to develop and distribute pictorial oral health resources specifically for newcomers to Canada. These resources would promote good oral health during the early childhood period, provide messages on how to prevent ECC and provide information on accessing dental care. Notice of decision is anticipated January 2013.
- The fourth HSHC MBTelehealth presentation series titled "*Looking for oral health resources? A closer look at what's online*" will take place on January 31, 2013. This presentation will review just some of the many oral health resources available online (YouTube videos, printable materials, etc.), including topics regarding a child first dental visit, oral hygiene techniques, tips on motivating children to take care of their teeth, etc. Additionally, participants will be invited to share resources that they have found to be useful within their regions. HSHC is looking for avenues to share past and present PowerPoint presentations. Suggestions include HSHC's webpage, Drop Box and Facebook.
- The HSHC coordinator shared the Pearly White's final report with the HSHC partnership, including the Child Health Program Oral Health Practice Guidelines that were developed by the Oral Health Working Group and adopted at the Children's Hospital in Winnipeg. The Pearly Whites project also submitted for inclusion to the Canadian Best Practices Portal Oral Health section, which will be reviewed by the committee in January 2013.
- HSHC has made contact with Alberta Health Services regarding their "Lift the Lip" brochure. HSHC has asked permission to reproduce as well as to potentially add the HSHC logo to this resource. This resource is generally found to be helpful in promoting oral health to families with young children.
- HSHC created a Facebook webpage as a way to connect with the public and a means to promote early childhood oral health through social media. HSHC STEP students are currently looking at ways to further enhance and build the Facebook page to better promote HSHC and connect with the public. Suggestions include uploading pictures of past/present HSHC displays & resources, uploading HSHC MBTelehealth presentations, and posting information on upcoming activities, such as MBTelehealth sessions. A link to the HSHC's Facebook page has been added to HSHC's webpage on the WRHA website.
- HSHC is working to finalize the *Pediatric Dental Surgery Support and Information for Families* handout. Since the recent changes and integration of the Manitoba RHAs, the HSHC project coordinator is reassessing key contacts and consent for this resource. Following will be strategy for dissemination and use of this resource.

- The HSHC partnership's proposal the Provincial Strategic Investment Council (PSIC) was approved to proceed with the implementation of Telehealth into the HSHC initiative located at the John Buhler Centre (JBRC). First Nation Inuit Health will be loaning a videoconferencing Telehealth unit for a one year pilot project aimed at evaluating the potential benefits to First Nation communities, although not exclusive of other communities. The HSHC team met with members of MBTelehealth to review the Business Process Redesign, and training sessions were provided for the HSHC team with the new equipment and software. Next steps include working with communities to determine which of their needs could be met by this proposal. The purpose of this special project is to use Telehealth to promote early childhood oral health across Manitoba.
- HSHC is continuing to work with the WRHA Research & Evaluation Unit for postal code mapping data of pediatric surgeries for Severe Early Childhood Caries in Manitoba; Manitoba Health transferred data over to WRHA to begin this process.
- In January 2013, HSHC will be sharing findings from the Free First Visit (FFV) program evaluation activities with the Manitoba Dental Association (MDA) and its members. This knowledge exchange will occur through meetings & presentations to the MDA and board as well as at the MDA convention. HSHC members will also be creating a display board with the FFV findings that will be exhibited at the MDA convention on January 25, 2013.

#### **Feedback/Evaluation/Research**

- "A Qualitative Evaluation of a Community Developed Early Childhood Oral Health Initiative" manuscript is being revised and looking for alternative journals for submission.
- The follow up manuscript 'Evaluating the Effectiveness of the Manitoba Collaborative Project for the Prevention of Early Childhood Tooth Decay' is be reworked for resubmission.
- Qualitative Cultural study - A manuscript of findings is nearing completion and will be reviewed by the partnership before submission for journal publication.
- HSHC is involved in the evaluation study of the Free First Visit program. A third focus with parents and caregivers was held in August and a draft report has been received. A paper on the first 18 months of tracking data from the FFV program is ready for submission and awaiting the MDA's approval. A manuscript on the survey of Manitoba dentists on their views of the FFV program is nearing completion and ready for discussion with the grant team members. The dentists' survey as well as the tracking form papers will be submitted in January 2013.
- HSHC partnership members have been invited by Dr. Kulkarni of the University of Toronto to write an article for a special issue in the International Journal of Dentistry. The article would focus on the model for infant and child oral health promotion at your institution, criteria for assessing its effectiveness, data to support effectiveness, and challenges.

## Staff Development

- The two current STEP students' positions, supported by MB Health, are continuing to work in a part time capacity through the school year. These positions are active until April 2013.
- Each year, the STEP students greatly enhance the capacity of HSHC. Some examples of their current work include:
  - Preparing a literature review on Teledentistry
  - Preparing for (including the creation of new display boards) and participating at local community events.
  - Assembling resource requests & mail-outs
  - Assisting with the preparation of the HSHC MBTelehealth presentation series
  - Creating the HSHC Facebook webpage
  - Helping with Ethics submissions & the CBPP submission for the Pearly Whites project.

## Planning for Next Quarter (January – March 2013):

- With the amalgamation of Manitoba Regional Health Authorities, will continue to work with the new RHAs to confirm key contact staff and maintain oral health promotion capacity across the province.
- Revisiting project logic model & touch base will all regions to rebuild individual needs/support and to emphasis HSHC's key role of being supportive to the RHAs.
- Prepare for implementation of HSHC's 4<sup>th</sup> MBTelehealth presentation. Start planning for subsequent presentations.
- Determine changes (if any) to key contacts for the *Pediatric Dental Surgery Support and Information for Families* handout and develop a strategy for dissemination.
- Share findings with MDA and its members on the FFV program evaluation activities.
- Prepare for and attend the MDA's annual meeting & convention.
- Continue to work with MBTelehealth into next phases of project implementation.
- Continue to utilize Facebook as a way to promote HSHC and early childhood oral health.
- Complete qualitative cultural study manuscript and submit for publication.
- Continue to develop strategy for development of pictorial oral health resources for