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

## Healthy Smile Happy Child Activity and Highlights April – June 2012

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### Regional Updates

#### **Assiniboine Regional Health Authority (ARHA):**

- The PROMISE Years Parent Child Program Coordinator has resigned from her position. HSHC will be notified with the contact information of the new coordinator once the position has been filled.

#### **Burntwood Regional Health Authority (BRHA):**

- The Public Health and Clinical Nutrition Services program manager participated in the HSHC presentation series via MBTelehealth on June 11, 2012.

#### **Brandon Regional Health Authority:**

- The Brandon Regional Health Authority created an oral health display for the annual Dudley's Ambulatory Surgical Hospital (D.A.S.H. tent), as a part of the Westman Dreams for Kids Country Fair on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. A local dental hygienist secured donations of toothbrushes and floss through dental offices to give away, and HSHC provided pamphlets (Newborn – 6 years). A total of 883 children were seen that day.
- Four health workers in Brandon participated in the HSHC presentation series via MBTelehealth on June 11, 2012.
- Healthy Baby continues to use the sugar cube/sippy cup display for pre-natal and post-natal classes.

#### **Central Regional Health Authority (CRHA):**

- Central's Healthy Living Program Facilitator participated in the HSHC presentation series via MBTelehealth from the Portage la Prairie site on June 11, 2012.
- The Annual Regional Public Health/Healthy Living meeting took place in May. Participants included PHNs, Health Promotion, Chronic Disease and Public Health Inspector staff. The meeting had an oral health focus, including topics on water fluoridation and the link between oral health and chronic disease. A presentation was delivered by Manitoba Health Dental Consultant and an HSHC coordinator.
- As part of Carmen's preschool development screening and wellness fair on June 6, dental screenings were completed by two dentist members of HSHC and two summer students with approximately 50 children. A report of the findings will be sent to the local public health nurse.

**Churchill Regional Health Authority:**

- The public health nurse is continuing to display posters in public areas and using the HSHC pamphlets during well child clinics to promote oral health.
- Churchill participated in the HSHC presentation series via MBTelehealth on June 11, 2012.

**NOR-MAN Regional Health Authority:**

- HSHC is continuing to search for a local contact for The Pas community.
- Three local sites, Flin Flon, Grand Rapids and The Pas, participated in the HSHC presentation series via MBTelehealth on June 11, 2012.

**Interlake Regional Health Authority (IRHA):**

- The HSHC coordinators are continuing to work with the Families First Home Visitor in Riverton, MB, who was recently identified as the new HSHC contact and liaison for the Interlake region. The HSHC coordinators are also working with the key contact to follow up on the community capacity evaluation forms for the Interlake Families First program to help HSHC understand the capacity of the region to provide early childhood oral health support.
- A community wellness facilitator in Selkirk presented to students (K-6) at Teulon Elementary. She brought along the toothbrushing puppet and HSHC provided ideas for other interactive activities, such as the True & False and Bingo games.
- A preschool coordinator in Stonewall requested some of the HSHC resources & posters.
- Four Public Health Nurses participated in the HSHC presentation series via MBTelehealth in Selkirk on June 11, 2012.

**North Eastman Health Association (NEHA):**

- The North Eastman contact is continuing efforts to set up MBTelehealth sessions with Berens River and Poplar River.
- Four local sites, Beausejour, Berens River, Pinawa, and Pine Falls (5), connected to the HSHC presentation series via MBTelehealth on June 11, 2012.

**Parkland Regional Health Authority (PRHA):**

- A dietetic intern wrote four ads for Oral Health Month on topics related to early childhood tooth decay. These were included in the South Parkland Healthy Child Coalition section of the local Dauphin newspaper.
- As a result of the HSHC's MBTelehealth presentation on November 30, 2011, the Community Health Nutritionist in Dauphin received presentation requests for new PRHA public health staff, as well as the Family Medicine residency program. The Community Health Nutritionist facilitated the following sessions:
  - Early childhood tooth decay training session for 12 residents and the unit physician director from the Family Medicine Residency program on April 5, 2012.
  - Session on HSHC and use of the action plan workbook and toolkit for 3 new public health staff in Swan River on May 16, 2012
- A dental therapist from a local Dauphin dental office borrowed resources (posters, toothbrushing handouts, displays on sugar in beverages) for a presentation to young children in Skownan FN.
- An array of dental professionals and public health staff from the Parkland region participated in the HSHC presentation series on June 11, 2012. Four local sites connected via MBTelehealth including Dauphin (7), Roblin (1), Ste Rose du Lac (2) and Swan River (3). Dietitians were a new group of health professionals that participated.

**Parkland Regional Health Authority (PRHA) *continued....***

- Parkland had a request from public health for a dental screening tool to use at preschool wellness fairs for 0-5 year olds in the region – they are looking at the use of the AAPD caries risk assessment tool for non-dental health care providers.

**South Eastman Health Association (SEHA):**

- The HSHC coordinators are continuing to work with the Healthy Living Team worker that was identified as the new HSHC contact and liaison for the South Eastman region.
- The key contact requested some of HSHC resources for an Oral Health display board she hosted at a Steinbach mall in April.

**Other Provinces**

- A dental clinic in Edmonton, AB requested some of the HSHC resources & posters.
- Nursing students from Moncton University of New Brunswick requested information about the HSHC partnership for a school project they are doing on dental health for children in their community school.

**Winnipeg Regional Health Authority (WRHA):**

- PHNs, dieticians, and individuals from the HSHC team attended the HSHC presentation series on June 11, 2012.
- HSHC team members created an oral health display and provided resources to families and their children at the Family Wellness Fair on May 10, 2012. This annual event promotes healthy living and resources for families with children from birth – 6 years of age, and is hosted by the YMCA-YWCA of Winnipeg and the St. James-Assiniboia Parent Child Coalition. Approximately 150 participants attended this year.
- HSHC coordinator provided an interactive oral health session to parents at Wolseley Family Place.
- HSHC coordinator provided two oral health presentations to students (ages five to eight) at Marion school.

**Collaborative Activity****Public Health**

- HSHC worked with the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority, MDA and MDHA to provide an oral health display at the WRHA's Go4Health Expo at the Red River Ex from June 15-24, 2012. Oral health had not been included previously. Last year the expo had an estimated 58,000 participants with a large number including families with young children. HSHC partnered with the University of Manitoba School of Dental Hygiene to recruit hygiene student volunteers to work at the expo and engage with the public. Overall there was a sense that the display was successful and a follow up will be held to discuss ideas for improvement and a sustainable approach to this event. HSHC will use the WRHA evaluation of this event to plan for future.

**Schools and Community Organization**

- University of Manitoba Dental Hygiene students were involved with the Oral Health display at the Go4Health expo.
- A worker at the Dufferin School provided an oral health presentation to the parenting group. HSHC provided some toothbrushes, resources and a few large posters to help support this presentation.

## Dental and Medical Organizations

- The Manitoba Dental Hygienists Association (MDHA) is currently in the process of expanding their website to increase access to oral health information and member benefits. In doing so, they have asked to include a link to the Healthy Smile Happy Child webpage on the WRHA website. The HSHC coordinators are also continuing to work in collaboration with the MDHA to connect local dental hygienists with community schools and prenatal and parents of young children groups who would like oral health information sessions.
- HSHC team members are continuing to participate in the Oral Health Working Group committee at Children's Hospital. This committee is an interprofessional group looking to promote oral health within the hospital setting.
- HSHC STEP students participated at the annual Kids Fest on Toothfairy Saturday, June 9, 2012 in partnership with the Manitoba Dental Association.
- A connection was made with the Ronald McDonald House Family Room Coordinator at the Children's Hospital. HSHC created a bin of resources for their facility as a way to integrate oral health promotion into their family room activities during the child/families stay.

## Provincial Coordination Activity

- The HSHC team is continuing to explore additional grant opportunities to support the provincial project coordinator and assistant positions. A request for funding has also been made to Manitoba Health.
- The HSHC team participated in the Annual Teddy Bear's Picnic on Sunday May 27, 2012. HSHC had a station allocated in the Manitoba Institute of Child Health tent, where the team promoted good oral health habits through interactive activities. HSHC distributed approximately 800 toothbrushes to young children and their families.
- The third HSHC MBTelehealth presentation series took place on Monday June 11, 2012. Dr. Robert Schroth and Ms. Jessica Penner, a registered dietitian with the WRHA, presented on *Nutrition and Early Childhood Oral Health: Before Birth and After*. Approximately 57 individuals joined via MBTelehealth from 19 sites across the province. The HSHC coordinators sent out a short survey to gain feedback on the past three presentation series. The results will be compiled and reviewed with the HSHC group, and feedback/suggestions will be taken into consideration for future sessions. The next presentation is planned to take place in Fall 2012. The HSHC presentation series was initiated as a result of the success and cost-effectiveness of past MBTelehealth presentations, and the feedback provided from MB RHAs. Participants hold a variety of positions including dental professionals, family first home visitors, health promotion staff and public health dietitians and nurses.
- The HSHC team revised content within the Action Plan Workbook & Toolkit to ensure oral health messages were accurate and reflected most current standard of practice. This was requested by the key contact in Parkland, who uses this resource to provide training sessions to new community staff. The HSHC STEP students created a document that outlines which items in the workbook require updating, and included copies of the most current resources. This support is available to all other RHAs who wish to use this resource.
- HSHC also revised the "Breastfeeding and Baby's Teeth" resource to reflect the most current guidelines regarding the use of fluoride toothpaste for children. This resource was overlooked when revisions of the other HSHC resources were completed in September 2011. The HSHC

key contacts have been notified and provided with the revised PDF file. It will also be uploaded to the HSHC webpage.

- HSHC is continuing to work on the *Pediatric Dental Surgery Support and Information for Families* handout. The HSHC project coordinators are currently working on integrating the recent changes to the Manitoba RHAs, 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 U of M Dentistry Program 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. Next steps include training sessions for the HSHC team with the new equipment and scheduling software.

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

- Applied to HIPC at Manitoba Health for approval to undertake the postal code mapping project, titled "Mapping of Pediatric Dental Surgeries for S-ECC in Manitoba: Using Evidence to Inform Health Promotion Priorities."
- "A Qualitative Evaluation of a Community Developed Early Childhood Oral Health Initiative" manuscript was resubmitted to BMC Oral Health after the editor requested some edits.
- The follow up manuscript 'Evaluating the Effectiveness of the Manitoba Collaborative Project for the Prevention of Early Childhood Tooth Decay' was submitted to Community Dentistry and Oral Epidemiology for journal publication.
- 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. Focus groups have been held with parents and caregivers with a final focus group to occur in August.

### **Staff Development**

- The two current STEP students' positions, supported by MB Health, were extended over the summer months from April 23, 2012 to September 7, 2012.

### **Planning for Next Quarter**

- Compile feedback from surveys on past HSHC MBTelehealth presentation series.
- Determine topic and organizer speaker for HSHC's 4<sup>th</sup> presentation series in Fall 2012 via MBTelehealth.
- Revisit the *Pediatric Dental Surgery Support and Information for Families* handout - integrate the recent changes to the Manitoba RHAs, and strategy for dissemination.

**Planning for Next Quarter** *continued...*

- Complete training for new Telehealth equipment and scheduling software. Continue to work with MBTelehealth into next phases of project implementation.
- Complete qualitative cultural study manuscript and submit for publication
- Continue to develop information pack for pediatricians about how to access affordable options for dental care, useful links and dental tips.
- Continue to develop pictorial oral health resources for newcomer populations.
- Continue dialogue with Manitoba Health regarding the request for funding to continue the provincial coordination work on an ongoing basis.
- With the recent amalgamation of Manitoba Regional Health Authorities, key contact staff will be confirmed.
- Identify possible sources of grant funding to continue with HSHC activities and new projects.
- Work on manuscripts of the FFV evaluation.