



Oral Health Equity Project Boston, Massachusetts

Program Overview

The Oral Health Equity Project, established in 2002, is a portable dental service program located in Boston, Massachusetts. Services include screenings, fluoride treatments, care coordination, and patient education. The program was featured in the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) Model Practice Database. It treats low-income older adults (60 years and older) in public housing and also expanded its efforts to private housing establishments after discovering a need in these settings. The program has found that individuals from these locations generally have not seen a dentist in years and on-site screenings provide an easy way to reach older adults who may not have the means to travel to a dentist. Dentists and dental students from surrounding dental schools provide the services.



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Program Features

Note: A checked box below indicates an existing program feature.

Age

- 0-17 (Children and Youth)
- 18-60 (Adult)
- 60+ (Older Adult)

Specific Populations

- Homeless individuals
- Individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities
- Individuals with physical disabilities
- Individuals with specific or complex medical conditions
- Individuals with low income
- Individuals with no dental insurance
- Individuals with Medicaid
- Veterans
- Refugees/immigrants

Geography

- Rural
- Urban

Service Delivery Setting

- Hospital
- Dental school
- Community/safety net clinic
- Private dental office
- Long-term care facility
- Senior center/community center
- Private residence
- Fairgrounds/stadium/parking lot
- Church
- School
- Homeless shelter
- Public housing

Service Delivery Model

- Dental clinic model (e.g. permanent setting)
- Mobile-portable model
- Eligibility and enrollment model (e.g. referrals, care coordination)
- Virtual model (e.g. telehealth)
- Event-based model
- Outreach and education model

Staffing

- Dentist
- Dental hygienist
- Dental therapist
- Dental assistant
- Dental/dental hygiene students
- Nursing staff
- Community health workers
- Non-dental clinical staff
- Non-clinical staff

Payment for Care

- Medicaid
- No charge to client
- Sliding fee scale
- Out of pocket
- Commercial dental insurance

Program Funding

- Foundation/organization grant
- Public funding (e.g. local, state, federal)
- Private donations (e.g. individuals, businesses)

Dental and Oral Health Services

- Emergency services
- Basic services
 - Screenings
 - Cleanings
 - Fluoride varnish
 - Sealants
 - X-rays
- Comprehensive services
 - Fillings
 - Scaling/root planing
 - Extractions
 - Oral surgery
 - Root canals
 - Dentures, partials, relines, repairs
 - Crowns
 - Bridges
 - Orthodontics

Other Program Services

- Referrals to dental and oral health services
- Care coordination/care management
- Patient education
- Caregiver education
- Provider education
- Advocacy/coalition

Integration with Services

- Medical services
- Behavioral health services
- Vision services
- Pharmacy services
- Transportation services
- Translation services
- Nutrition services

This profile was prepared using publicly available information. Date of last update: March 2016