



6th Annual Rural Oral Health Conference
September 16, 2011

**"Improving Rural Oral Health Access in an
Environment of Diminishing Resources"**

Connecticut



Initiative: "Home by One"

Purpose: to build partnerships with dental and medical practitioners, social service providers, parents and caregivers that focus on oral health as essential to the overall health and well being of the children

Home by One

Key Features:

- Expand the number of dental practices providing **dental homes** for children beginning at **age one**
- Increase the number of child health provider's who provide infant oral health **risk assessments** and **fluoride varnish** applications during the **well child visit**
- Develop linkages between child health providers and dental homes
- Engage WIC staff to include anticipatory guidance for oral health in parent nutrition education.

Funding ended Aug 2011

Outcomes:

- 394 dental providers billing preventive dental codes for children age one.
- 53 child health providers billing preventive dental codes for children age one.
- 24 out of 24 WIC locations in CT have received oral health risk assessment education and resources

Home by One

Outcomes:

Institutionalizing Home by One into WIC programs

- Oral health education integrated into all WIC breastfeeding promotion activities
- WIC programs given toothbrushes for all CT children in WIC
- Texas's "Nothing but the Tooth" educational videos provided to all WIC programs

Next Steps/Future direction:

Sustainability

- Maintaining Online courses on CT TRAIN for Medical and Dental Professionals
- Resources to support Medical, Dental and Social Service professionals engaging in oral health promotion are located on comprehensive Home by One website: www.ct.gov/dph/homebyone.

CT Dental Health Partnership

Initiative: CT Dental Health Partnership - Care Coordination & Outreach

Purpose: CT Medicaid Dental Administrative Organization


Key Features:

- **‘Dental Health Care Specialists’ (DHCS)**
 - Cover six regions of the state, one DHCS is focused on clients with *special health care needs*
 - Work with clients to overcome barriers to care
 - Work with providers to facilitate referrals
 - Work with community agencies to facilitate outreach activities
- **Outreach**
 - Increase Dental Health Awareness & Knowledge
 - Reach Out to Specific Groups
 - Special Health Care Needs (care coordination & case management)
 - Non-utilizers of services
 - Pregnant Women (targeted outreach)

CT Dental Health Partnership

Using Specialized 'Prescription Pads'


- Hospital Emergency Departments
 - To facilitate referrals for unnecessary Visits to the ED for dental pain
 - Visited and provided referral pads, posters and Information to all of the ED's in State
- Primary Care Physicians
 - Visited all PCP's in HUSKY Primary Care (HPC/PCCM)
 - Will expand to other PCP's
 - Providing Referral pads, posters, other materials and training
- Community Agencies

 Connecticut Dental Health Partnership
HUSKY • Medicaid • SAGA
P.O. Box 486
Farmington, CT 06032
866-420-2924
Donna L. Balaski, DMD

Name: [Client Name]
ID: [Client ID #]

Patient should schedule
a Dental Appointment
immediately

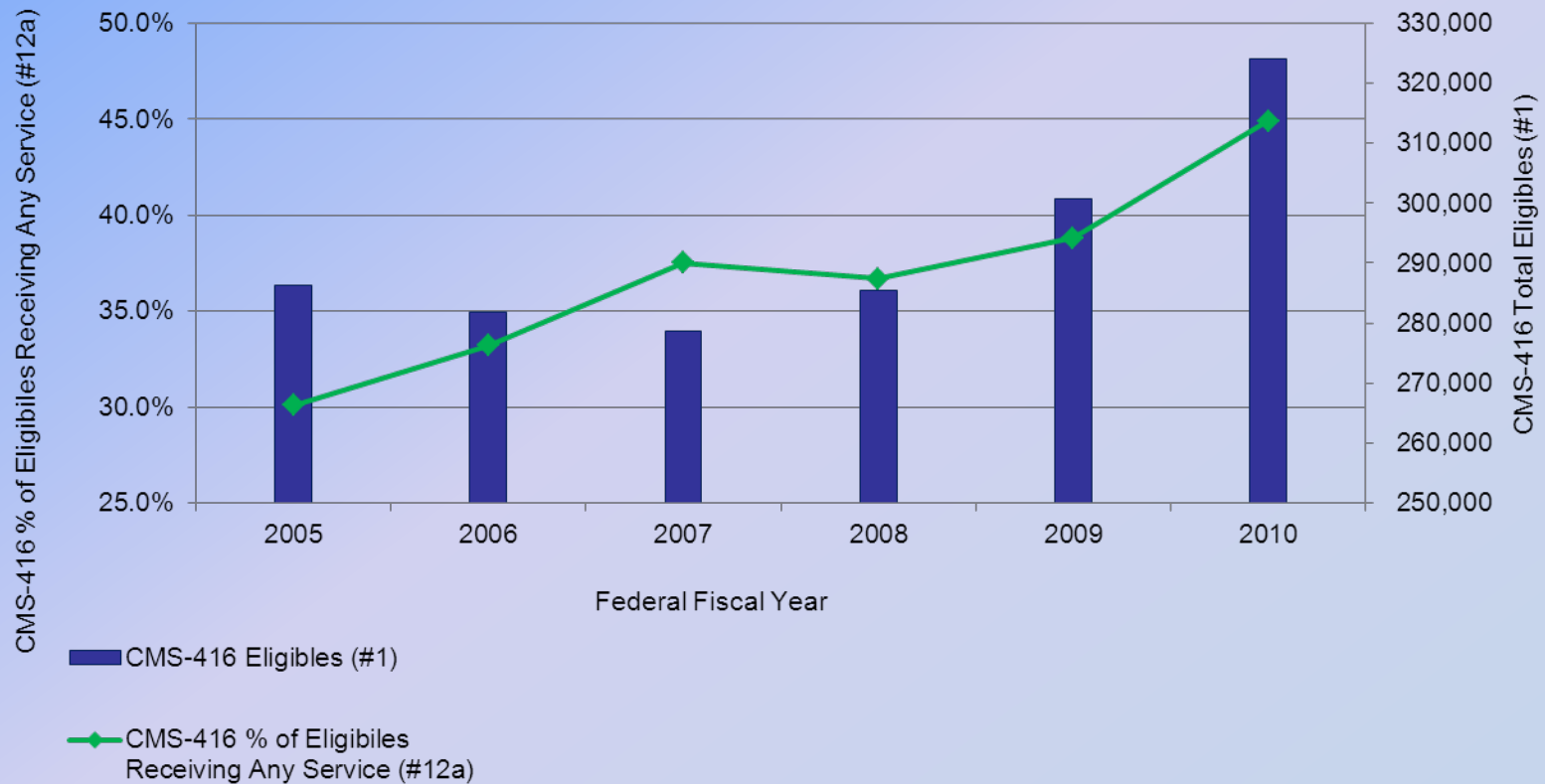
Call 866-420-2924
for help in
finding a dentist
M - F 8AM - 5PM



Label Refill: 1 2 3 4 5 PRN

CT Dental Health Partnership

Outcomes:



CT Dental Health Partnership

Next Steps/Future direction:

Expand Targeted Outreach

- Faith-based Organizations
- State Licensed Day Care Centers
- Pregnant Women
 - Expand targeted outreach to more regions of the state
- Special Health Care Needs
 - Continue targeted outreach to non-utilizers

Dental HPSA

Initiative: CT State Dental Association support in Dental Health Professional Shortage Areas Designation

Purpose: Identify potential Dental HPSA's throughout the state

Key Features:

- CT Primary Care Office developed a survey to assess locations where dentists practice and services they provide
- Concern raised that dentists would not complete survey
- Cover letters describing the survey's purpose and a link to the survey sent to all dentists in the state
- CSDA Board of Directors endorsement of survey contained within letter to encourage participation in survey

Dental HPSA

Outcomes: Although only 12% of dentists responded to survey, CSDA members have a better understanding of the importance of dental HPSAs

- PCO has an accurate depiction of 1,339 dentists practicing in CT for 1st time

Next Steps/Future direction:

- Increase the number of dental HPSA sites – currently 36
- Improve recruitment and retention of dental professionals in areas of need – currently 24 dentists & 14 dental hygienists
- Increase access to oral health care

HPSA Sites in CT

