



City of El Paso
Department of Public Health

*Region 15 Regional Health Partnership
1115 Healthcare Transformation Waiver*



Rawlings Mobile Oral Health Services

Dr. Kelley L. Brooks, Dental Director
Region 15 RHP Meeting
July 27, 2016
1:00pm



Synopsis:

The Expansion of Oral Health Services Project will extend preventive and restorative dental services to low income children outside of the current catchment area for the health department's fixed dental clinic site in central El Paso. The services will be provided through a mobile dental clinic which will be deployed to select schools and Head Start locations.

Foster the collaboration with Texas Tech University Health Science Center (TTUHSC) for the implementation of the Saliva Bank.



Major Milestones DY4/DY5:

Contracted positions for the mobile clinic were added. Those positions were a Full Time Dentist, an Outreach Specialist and a Dental Assistant.

For DY6 a position will be added for a Clerical/Operating Assistant to assist with driving the mobile, maintaining the vehicle, provide clerical and floor assistance with activities within the mobile unit that are non-clinical.

Measurable of 250 new patients for DY5 was met and exceeded as 320 patients were seen at the mobile. On track for DY6, goal of 250. There are 201 patients ytd, with an outreach for this month with 21 scheduled patients.

DY5 goal for corrective procedures at a rate of less than .62 of total patients seen was met with a rate of .55. For DY6 number of patients with corrective procedures that have had subsequent appointments is currently at .35 and will satisfy requirement for the goal of .55

Mobile Unit School Outreach Locations



Canutillo Elementary School



Red Sands Elementary and Head Start



Mountain Ridge Elementary School





Complete oral health services...



The mobile dental unit presents an opportunity to offer services such as exams, x-rays, cleanings and operative procedures to the children of El Paso county. This prevents the child from missing school and the parent from missing work.

By having the mobile unit located in the community, it assists those families with transportation restrictions.





Milestones status:



Research project identified for core dental services that would reduce dental caries/tooth loss:

- Salivary profile, e.g., inflammatory cytokines, glucose
- Health Status, e.g., dietary data, OH maintenance
- Bacterial profile (DNA sequencing multiplex test)
- Environmental toxins, i.e., lead, cadmium, arsenic
- Tap water analysis, i.e, fluoride, contaminants
- Geopositional profile (multi-site deployment of van)



Additional Opportunities:

- -Corrective procedures for patients seen for exams at the mobile dental clinic.

-Of the total of 201 patients seen, 156 required corrective procedures, 45 were 6 month recall.

-Outreach with mobile unit to areas outside of El Paso county (Dell City, Fort Hancock, and Sierra Blanca).



Rawlings Mobile Clinic Challenges and Opportunities for Improvement

The number one concern and challenge is the hesitation of parents to sign paperwork. In order to verify qualification for the programs offered, the provider has to be changed, a complete medical history provided, and a grant application must be submitted. HeadStart programs are having difficulty with the same issue and are now completing home visits to obtain signatures. Our Outreach Specialist is assisting with the timely preparation of paperwork.

Medicaid now assigns all patients a dental home and this has created confusion. Patients/Parents are not advised of their right to stay with their existing dental home or how to choose a new home. Once that selection has been made, a call to the insurance provider to change to the dentist selected will resolve all of their issues.

The recruiting of a full time dentist has been a challenge due to salary, time availability and location.

On May 5, 2016, the entire staff was trained via SunMetro on the safe operation of the mobile unit. Prior to the training, there was limited assistance with the movement of the unit.

We are looking forward to the possibility of doing more outreaches in the outlying areas as well as expanding in the area of the fixed site.

Our current referrals come by word of mouth, which is the best, but we are now exploring an opportunity to advertise via local distributors. The Department of Public Health is currently using Facebook, Twitter, and Public Television.









Questions?

