



Community Grant Outcome Report

Name: Oral Health Improvement for Adults with Developmental Disabilities

Grantee: Community Health Partnership, Inc.

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Academic Partner: Pam Entorf, RDS, BS, Dental Hygiene Program Director, Chippewa Valley Technical College

Program: Development

Grant Duration: 04-01-2008 to 10-31-2009 (18 months)

Expenditures: \$66,748 (100%)

Use of Funds: Direct Client Services, Workforce Training

► **Description:** The goal of this project was to improve oral health among people with developmental disabilities in Chippewa, Dunn, and Eau Claire Counties. Dental problems are among the top limiting secondary conditions, and can often lead other health issues and poor quality of life. People with development disabilities often require specialized oral hygiene strategies. A second goal of the project was to give dental students exposure to working with this population.

► **Results:** Through this program, a dental hygienist contracted by the community partner conducted 77 in-home oral health assessments. During these visits, the hygienist worked with each person or his or her caregiver to develop an individualized oral health care plan. Follow-up appointments were made to evaluate and refined these plans. Data from these evaluations showed gradual and substantial improvement in dental care. Surveys sent following the program showed a positive response for the service.

Six dental students participated in the program, working with 15 of the 77 patients.

► **Met Objectives:** Project complete

► **Baseline Progress on State Health Plan**

Objectives: This project addresses access to primary and preventative health services. Specific objectives were not measured.

► **Academic Partner Role:** Direct service. The hygienist performed the oral health screening and worked with dental students. An informal partnership began with UW-Stout, as graduate students there analyzed the data and conducted original survey research.

► **Matched Dollars (cash or in-kind):** \$3,600

► **Dissemination:** The Eau Claire Leader Telegram produced a story on this program. It was featured on the home page of the American Dental Hygiene Association. The project has been shared with Community Health Partnership staff through a training session for new Case Managers, regular updates to Program Directors, and a final summary presentation to the school administration.

► **Sustained:** Care managers employed by the community partner will be trained in assessing oral health.