

Enhancing Rural Safety Net Dental Capacity through Business Model Development

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South Carolina
Rural Health Research Center



Who we are...

South Carolina Rural Health Research Center

- 1 of 7 Rural Health Research Centers funded by the Health Resources and Services Administration
- Administratively located in the Arnold School of Public Health at the University of South Carolina
- Mission:** to increase knowledge of the persistent inequities in health status among populations of the rural US, with an emphasis on factors related to socioeconomic status, race and ethnicity, and access to healthcare services.



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Presentation Overview

- Describe the disparate improvement in children's oral health in South Carolina
- Introduce our approach to ameliorating the capacity for dental care challenges in South Carolina
- Describe the role SCORH plays in our approach
- Provide an overview of the technical assistance provided by Safety Net Solutions, Inc. to SCORH and private practices

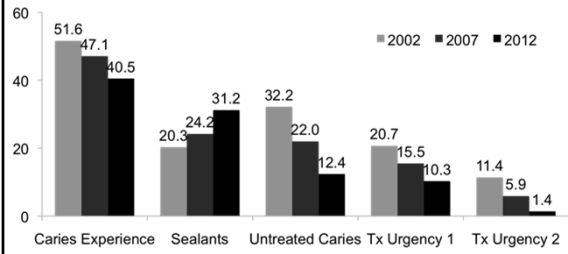


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THE GOOD....

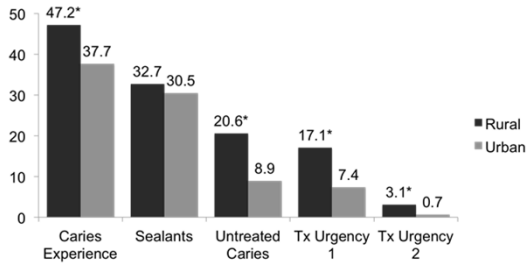
OHNA Summary Results for 2012/2013 Percent of Children by Indicator*



Weighted analysis for public schools in K and 3rd grade. Sealants only include children in 3rd grade.

THE BAD....

Rural Oral Health Disparities



Weighted analysis for public schools in K and 3rd grade. Sealants only include children in 3rd grade.
 *indicates rural is significantly different from urban with p<0.05.

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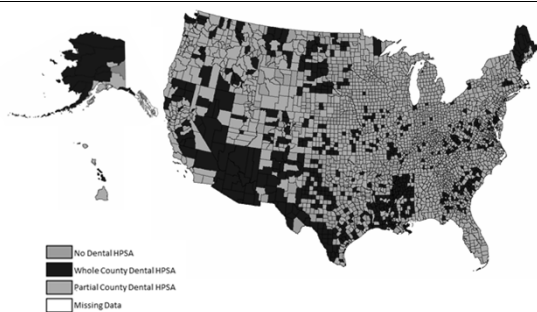


THE UGLY....

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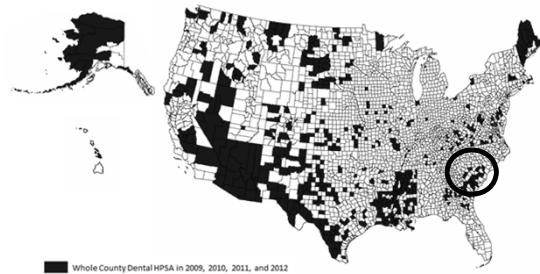
Dental Health Professional Shortage Areas, 2012



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Persistent Whole County Dental Health Professional Shortage Areas, 2009 - 2012



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Addressing the rural disparities....

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SCORH &
Departments of
Commerce & Tourism



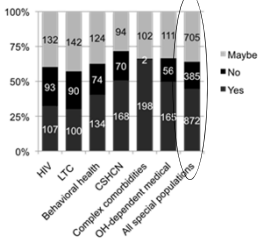
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HRSA Oral Health Workforce Grant

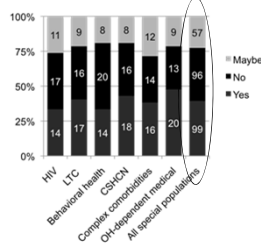
- Teledentistry Feasibility Study
- Community Water Fluoridation Infrastructure & Advocacy
- COHC Training Center
- Rural Dental Capacity Enhancement

Preliminary Findings from Teledentistry Feasibility Study N = 384 (21.5%)

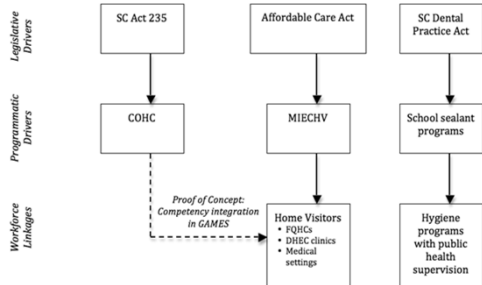
When providing services to, or developing tx plans for, patients with complex needs, would you use outside consultants if they were made available to you through telehealth services?



If telehealth services were available & reimbursable to facilitate your consultation services to general & pediatric dentists for care plan development, would you be willing to serve as a consulting clinician?



COHC Training Center



Rural Dental Capacity Enhancement Objectives

- To establish a formal dental R&R at SCORH for private practice dentists who that provides technical assistance on business plans that reflect the characteristics of NHSC sites, e.g. sliding fee scales
- To provide technical assistance to 18 rural practices using the Safety Net Solutions Improvement Model
- To assist private practices with the NHSC eligibility process?



Capacity Building in the Pipeline


- Developing new interprofessional curriculum at James B. Edwards College of Dental Medicine, MUSC
 - ◆ Seminar series
 - ◆ Safety Net Dental Course
 - ◆ Integration of safety net/public health into other courses
 - ◆ Safety Net Oral Health Certificate Program

...now let's hear from the real expert!



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