

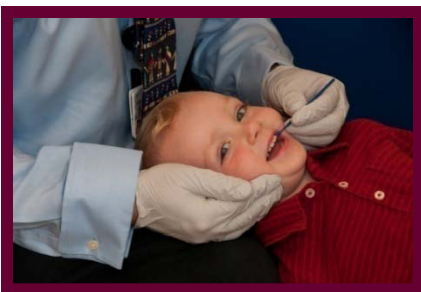


From the First Tooth

An early childhood caries prevention program

Susan Cote, RDH, MS
National Oral Health Conference
Pittsburgh, PA
April, 2011

Funded by the Sadie and Harry Davis Foundation
A partnership of MaineHealth, MaineGeneral and Eastern Maine Health Services
Northeast Center for Research to Evaluate and Eliminate Dental Disparities



From The First Tooth

The purpose is to improve the oral health of Maine's children by:

- Increasing children's access to preventive oral health services
- Providing a model to integrate early oral health as the ***standard of care*** for all children from birth to the 3 year well-child visit in medical practices through:
 - Oral health screening
 - Fluoride varnish
 - Parent/caregiver education and counseling
 - Referral to a dentist

From The First Tooth

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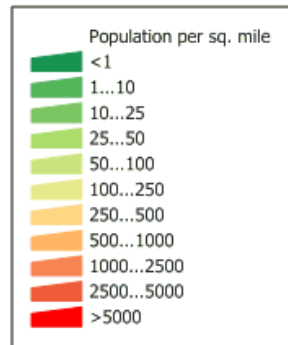
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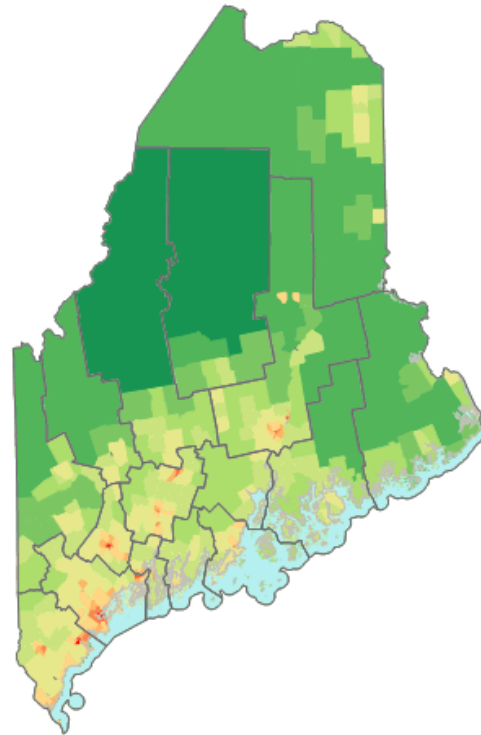
Corinna Culler, RDH, PhD
Evaluation Director, From The First Tooth

Maine Demographics

- Total population of Maine = 1,317,207
- Total population of children under 5 = 70,744
- Most of the state falls under the federally designated Health Professional Shortage Area for Dentists except for York and Cumberland County in the southern part of the state.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau
Census 2000 Summary File 1
population by census tracts.



Maine Demographics

Children Served by MaineCare, 2009

- The most prevalent unmet need was for dental care at 10% compared to 3% for medical services and 2% for mental health services.
- 55.5% of Maine children under 5 participating in MaineCare. (47, 204)
- 44% of MaineCare children under the age of 6 had no preventive dental visits in the past year.

Phase One – Two Year Pilot

January 2008 – December 2009

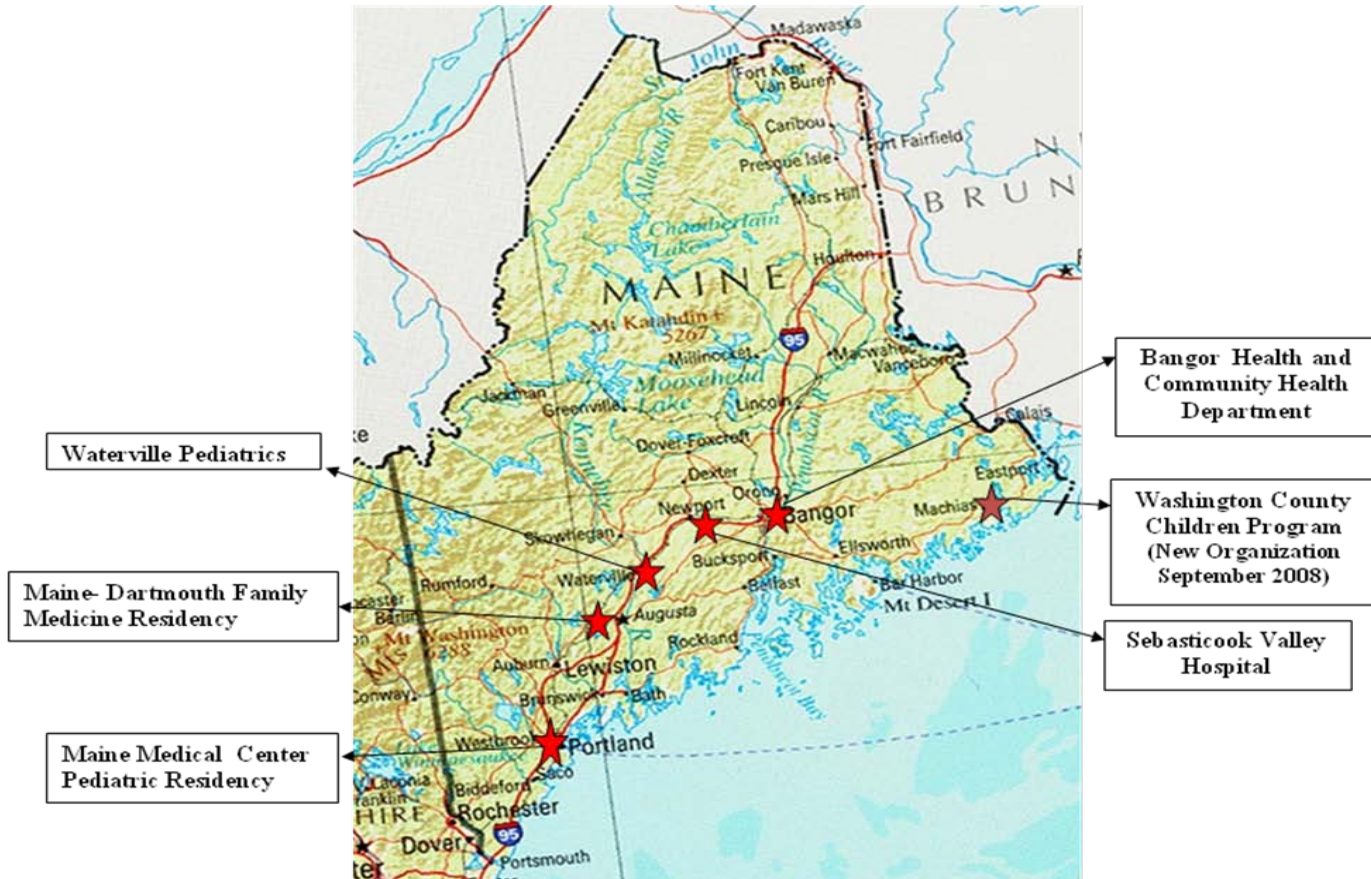
Phase One provided training and grant funding to a diverse group of medical and social service organizations representing a variety of populations and regions.

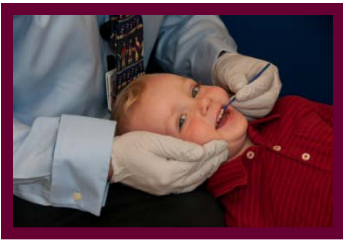
The Sadie and Harry Davis Foundation reimbursed participating practices \$10 per fluoride treatment for all children.

On the basis of outcomes and lessons learned, From The First Tooth will extend its reach throughout Maine, to include *all children ages birth through age 3 ½*.

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Phase One Partnering Organizations

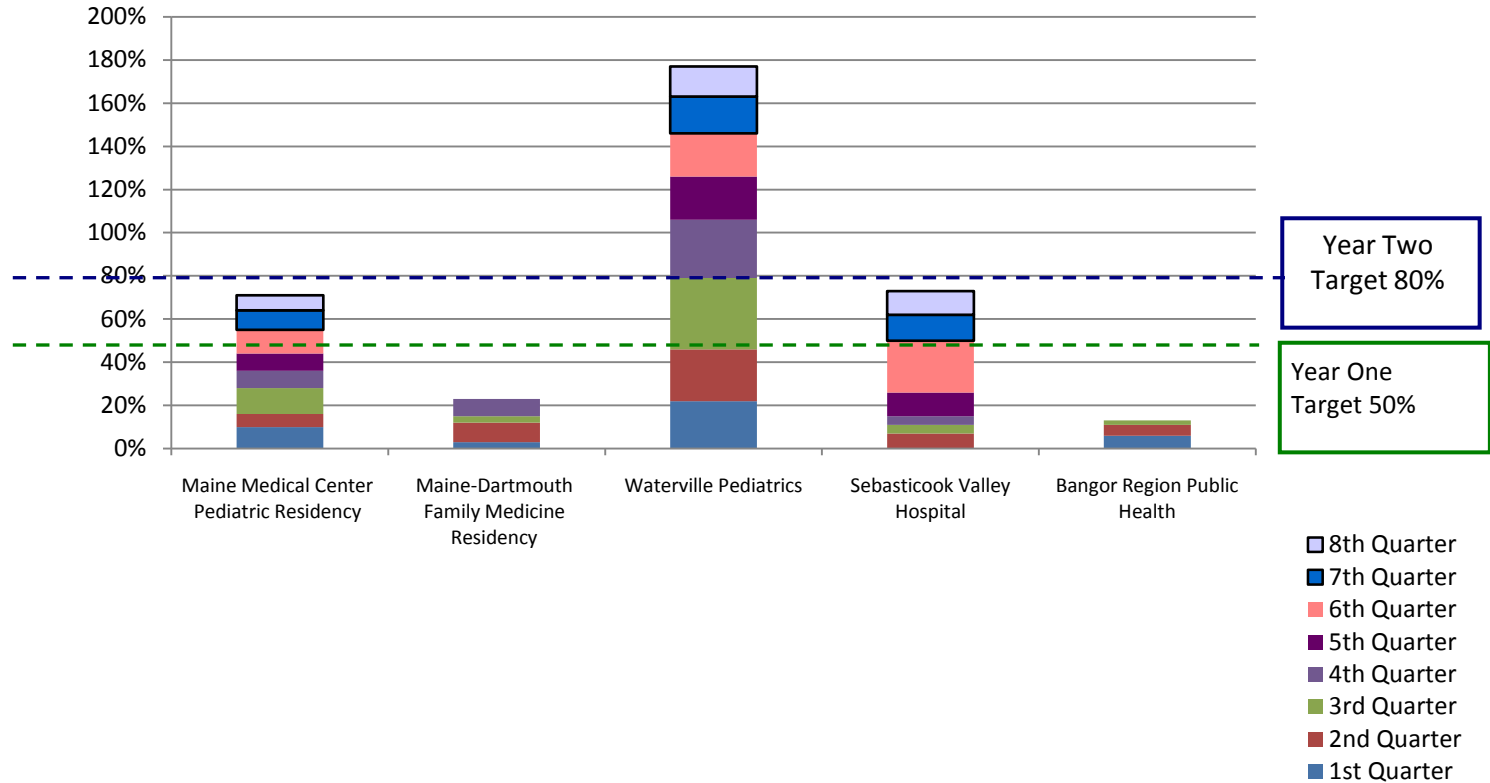




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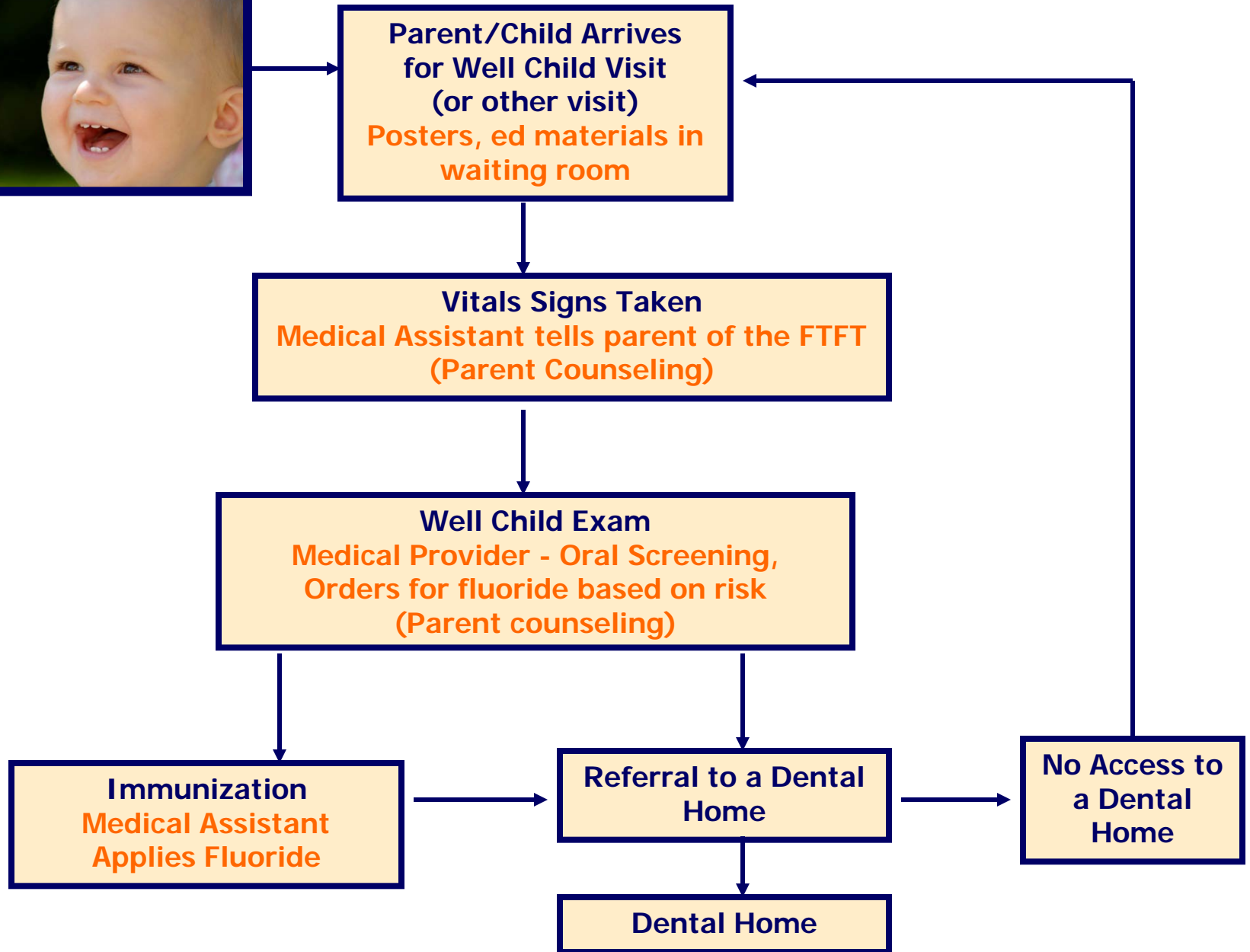
Completion of Phase One (December 31, 2009)

Percentage of Participating Children to Targets



Expansion Strategies – Health System Partners

- Improve quality, efficiency, and access in health care through regional collaboration.
 - **MaineGeneral Health** (Augusta and Waterville)
 - **EMHS** (Bangor)
 - **MaineHealth** (Portland)
- Partner with other oral health initiatives in Maine
 - **Kids Oral Health Partnership**
 - **Maine Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics**
- Integrate into other healthcare initiatives
 - **Bright Futures**
 - **CHIPRA Quality Measures**



Educational and Promotional Materials

- Developed a recruitment packet and promotional materials.
- Developed a Toolkit for each of the practices.
- Developed a website.
- Developing a newsletter to distribute electronically to practices.



Results To Date

Estimated number of Maine medical settings serving children = 350

- Number of medical settings **recruited and trained** = 73 = 21% *
 - 18 Pediatrics, 34 Family Practice, 14 Federally Qualified Health Centers, 7 Rural Health Centers
- Number of medical settings **recruited (in process of training)** = 47 = 13% *

* Training provided by From The First Tooth and Kids Oral Health Partnership

2010 number of children in Maine (ages 6 mos to 42 mos) = 41,155

Number of children that received at least one fluoride varnish

- Phase One (2008 – 2009) = 3,029
- Expansion – (2010) = 6,139

Policy Implementation

- **August 2008** – Endorsement from Maine Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, Maine Dental Association, Maine Medical Association, Maine Academy of Family Physicians, Maine Osteopathic Association, and Maine Primary Care Association.
- **October 2008** – MaineCare started to reimburse medical providers for fluoride varnish.
- **September 2009** – Maine Medical Association Resolution for Oral Health Prevention into Medical Practices was approved.
- **January 1, 2010** – MaineHealth was the first self-insured employer in the state to include fluoride varnish in the system's health benefit plans.
- **July 2010** - From the First Tooth: Eliminating Early Childhood Caries in Maine, A White Paper Prepared By Center for Research to Evaluate and Eliminate Dental Disparities.
- **January 1, 2011** – EMHS and MaineGeneral added fluoride varnish to their system's health benefit plan.

Early Childhood Caries Prevention Implementation Guide

In the Spring, 2011, From The First Tooth will convene Task Forces in three regions of Maine consisting of medical and dental providers to develop guidelines that specify:

Definition of :

- Target populations
- Description of the training and educational requirements
- Description of documentation

Recommendations for:

- Frequency of procedures
- Recommendations for referral to medical, dental or other providers
- Recommendations for the dissemination of the Guide

Conclusion

From The First Tooth

Purpose is to improve the oral health of Maine children by:

- Increasing children's access to preventive oral health services in light of the dental provider shortage
- Providing a model to integrate early oral health as the standard of care for all children in medical settings
- Seeking reimbursement by private payers for universal medical health plan coverage.
- Creating a referral system between medical and dental health care providers

