



The Public Health – Muskegon County Dental Health Promotion Program was created in August 2000 and has impacted the community in the following ways:

- 40,424 children and adults have received dental health education (data through March 2010).
- An average of 1,000 children in grades 1-5 rinsed weekly with fluoride in the School Fluoride Rinse Program in 8 schools in Muskegon County (2001 – 2010).
- 47,900 dental health brochures were distributed in the community (data through Nov 2010).
- Over 21,500 toothbrushes were distributed through events for diabetics, the elderly, Children's Dental Health Month, Head Start screenings, fluoride programs and various school and health projects in the community (data through March 2010).
- 1,987 Head Start children have been screened for dental problems and given a dental home at one of the two dental clinics. All Head Start children can be seen for dental services at Hackley Community Care Center Dental Services and Muskegon Family Care Dental Services. Early Head Start children will be seen for dental services at Muskegon Family Care (2010).
- Over 2,800 calls have been received from dental professional inquiry (2010).
- Over 7,650 calls have been received and referrals made for Medicaid and uninsured persons looking for a dentist (data through March 2010)
- In year 2000, 296 cases of Baby Bottle Tooth Decay, a severe dental decay of the young child was identified as a problem in Muskegon County. A community education program was developed to educate all primary care providers' offices about BBTD, and the fact that the 296 cases were seen at a cost of \$3,605 per case or over \$1 million cost to the community. Over the first four years of the education program we saw a reduction in cases of 11% which saved the community \$117,378.80. By 2009, Dr. Rafferty, a full time dentist, was providing dental service to Muskegon County BBTD cases and children from other counties as well. Muskegon County cases are down 20% to 240 and out-of-county children BBTD cases numbered 160 (March 2010)
- The Baby Bottle Tooth Decay Community Awareness campaign won a National Counties' Award for Muskegon County in 2004.
- 542 uninsured children received over \$121,000 of free dental services donated by 389 volunteer dental professionals to 542 during national Give Kids a Smile Day over a 7 year period between 2003-2009.
- A total of \$18,047 in grants have been received from the Gerber Foundation, American Dental Association, Community Foundation for Muskegon County, Greater Muskegon Service League, Michigan Department of Community Health and the Muskegon District Dental Society's CDE Fund (data through March 2010).
- Collaboration between local dentists, the Muskegon Community Dental Coalition and Public Health – Muskegon County has contributed to improved access to dental care in the County.