

*Pediatric Disease Management:  
The Role of the Dental Hygienist and Promotora  
in the Reduction of Early Childhood Caries*

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## Phase I

In 2006,

- The University of Florida College of Dentistry
- Health-care Network of Southwest Florida
- Florida Southwestern State College - previously Edison State College
- The Naples Children and Education Foundation (NCEF)

Constructed a dental care facility to expand clinical services for at-risk children in Collier County, Florida and the site for UFCDs Pediatric Dental Residency Program.

# NCEF Pediatric Dental Center University of Florida College of Dentistry

- The pediatric dental center offers routine and specialty services for children ages birth-21 in a new, 20,000 square foot state-of-the-art pediatric dental facility.
- The NCEF Pediatric Dental Center has 17 operatories (11 closed operatories, 4 open bay operatories, and two sedation suites).



## Phase II Dental Outreach Program



**Project I: Dental Sealant Program**

Providing 13 Elementary schools in Collier County with dental sealants/fluoride varnish -1<sup>st</sup> / 2<sup>nd</sup> grades  
 \*Placing over 2000 dental sealants (2016/2017 SY)

**Project II: Oral Surveillance/Screening Program**

Screening 31 Collier County Elementary Schools 3<sup>rd</sup> Gr. Students  
 ECC Screenings/Fluoride performed on over 300 children in early learning centers every 3 mo .  
 \*Completed over 12,000 Dental Screenings of 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Students (2013-2017)

**Project III: Promotores de salud and Interactive Education Room, Fluoride Varnish Program**

3- month Fluoride varnish program offered to those children on oral sedation, OR/IV waiting lists to monitor oral condition until restorative work is completed.  
 Placing SDF to maintain oral health condition while awaiting restorative treatment.  
 \*Over 2,530 Family Visits with Promotora Providing Oral Health Education  
 \*Over 1126 Fluoride Varnish applications and education provided to those on waiting list

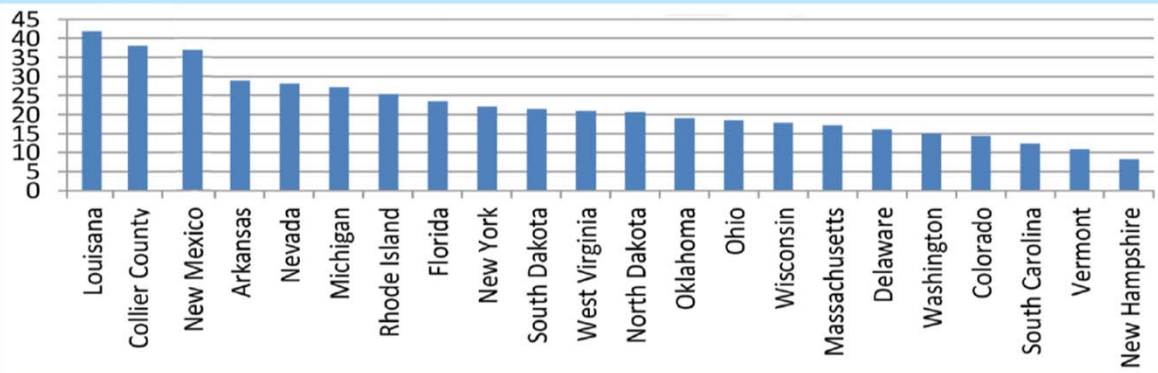
**Project IV: WIC Oral Health Program**

Reaching Pregnant Women and New Mothers with Oral Health Education and Prevention. Two sites in Collier County  
 Providing dental screenings, fluoride varnish, dental sealants and placement of SDF on children.  
 Providing dental screening and referral for prenatal clients.  
 \*3,273 Dental Screenings and Oral Hygiene Education Provided  
 \*2,670 Fluoride Varnish Applications  
 \*Dental Screenings/Oral Health Education Provided to 325 Prenatal Clients

## Collier County 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Dental Screening Results

School Year 2016/17	Number Screened	Caries Experience	Untreated Caries	Urgent Need	Sealants Present
	<b>3,647</b>	<b>63.80%</b>	<b>37.10%</b>	<b>6.9%</b>	<b>62.60%</b>
School Year	Number Screened	Caries Experience (%)	Untreated Caries (%)	Urgent Need (%)	Sealants Present (%)
2013/14	2,636	66.8	40	9	35.1
2014/15	2,987	65.4	45.7	15.1	48
2015/16	3,436	66.7	37.7	4.9	54.3
2016/17	3,646	63.8	37.1	6.9	62.6

Percent of Untreated Cavities in 3rd Graders



Source: National Oral Health Surveillance System; [www.cdc.gov/oralhealthdata/](http://www.cdc.gov/oralhealthdata/)

## PROMOTORA

**Definition:** A **PROMOTORA** is a community member who provides:

- \*Basic health education in the community
- \*Guidance in accessing community resources associated with health
- \*Interpretation and translation services

## Promotora Model

- Used in Latin American countries since 1950's-1960's
- Used in United States since 1973 for outreach to rural, marginalized and hard-to-reach communities
- 1990s, model regained attention in USA due to efforts of CDC
- USA and some Latin American countries have used Promotora Model to modify health behaviors and health outcomes specifically in Latino population

## IMPLEMENTING PROMOTORA MODEL

### Objective

- To increase the parents knowledge and their ability to improve the child's oral health, using educational strategies and intervention amongst Hispanic/Latino families registered in WIC-Oral Health Program and Fluoride Varnish program offered in Education Room at NCEF.

## ECC Predictors Found at Community Level

- Low oral health literacy of client population
- Low socio-economic status
- Employment status ---migrant community
- Lack of access to dental care by adults/children
- High incidence of untreated dental caries in caregivers
- Lack of transportation
- Cultural dietary habits
- Common use of soda/sports drinks
- Lack of use of fluoridated community water supply
- Extended use of sippy cup and baby bottle

## PROMOTORA MODEL

