

SOUTHEAST IOWA MOBILE DENTAL CLINIC

INCREASING RURAL DENTAL HEALTH ACCESS

Data collected via local outreach

Des Moines County 2022 Statistics:

5,400+ Youth held Medicaid Insurance Coverage

2,800+ Youth **DID NOT** Receive Any Dental Care

1 Area Provider for Medicaid Youth Dental Care

Alternative Provider is **Over 70 Miles Away**



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Conduct Market Research

Supply & Demand of Youth Medicaid Dental Care
Private vs Public Insurance Reimbursement Inequity
Barriers to Dental Care Service Attainment

1

Build Strong Relationships

Area public school student health coordinators & advocates
Dental students at UI Dental Clinics (Teledentistry model)
Southeast Iowa Community Health Centers
Area public health dental hygienists & dental assistants

2

Identify Funding Opportunities

Dental mobile clinics are expensive (\$500,000+)
Incorporate outreach to the broader community & rural region
Leverage existing relationships to grow development reach

3

Collaborate to Develop/Implement

Integrating existing **systems** to increase dental care access:
Social: Marketing, Education, Outreach & Community Engagement
Technical: Legal, Clinical & Physical Operative Requirements
Interpersonal: Organizations, Logistics & Service Delivery Facilitation
Follow-Through: Referrals, Transportation & Care Coordination

4



THE SELF RELIANCE GROUP

“Cavities (also known as caries or tooth decay) are the most common chronic disease of childhood in the United States. Untreated cavities can cause pain and infections that may lead to problems with eating, speaking, playing, and learning. Children who have poor oral health often miss more school and receive lower grades than children who don’t.”*

*<https://www.cdc.gov/oralhealth/basics/childrens-oral-health/index.html>