

Northwest Tribal Dental Support Center



Bonnie Bruerd, DrPH Preventive Consultant

Bonnie has a doctorate degree in Public Health from the University of Michigan. She has worked as a consultant for the Indian Health Service Dental Program for over 20 years. Bonnie has worked in the Oklahoma, Aberdeen, California, and Portland Areas as a dental disease prevention specialist. She has worked with IHS Headquarters on various research projects, primarily aimed at the prevention of Early Childhood Cavities, the development of community-based interventions, and the design of culturally relevant health education materials. Bonnie has also worked as a consultant for the Centers for Disease Control, National Cancer Institute, Head Start, and various State Health Departments.

Description of HP/DP Services:

- Provide on-site program reviews, training, and technical assistance upon request from programs served by the NTDSC, evaluating both clinical and community-based HP/DP activities.
- Evaluate local dental program data to determine the level of prevention services provided and offer guidance to program staff in the use of local data to manage their programs.
- Provide orientation in public health dentistry and the NTDSC prevention initiatives for dental program managers and prevention coordinators who are new to IHS and tribal dental programs.
- Assist local dental programs with grant writing and advocating for increased local funding for HP/DP initiatives..
- Plan and coordinate a yearly Prevention Coordinators' meeting.
- Provide training on a wide range of HP/DP topics at area-wide or national IHS dental meetings, as requested by Portland Area Office or IHS Headquarters.
- Actively participate in the national IHS HP/DP Committee quarterly conference calls and meetings, making presentations upon request.
- Work in conjunction with the epidemiology consultant on new prevention initiatives.
- Design new educational materials as appropriate to HP/DP prevention initiatives.