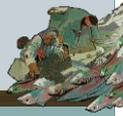


Oregon Pilot Project and DHAT Project Update



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JULY QB, LUMMI
JULY 17, 2018





Skagit Valley College and Swinomish Indian Tribe Collaboration



ANTHC/Illisagvik Training program is the **gold** standard for Dental Therapy Training

- With the ANTHC/Illisagvik program as the basis of our education program, we are making a **conscious decision** to ensure accessibility for tribal members, and other underrepresented groups in the health professions.



Progress to date

- In early 2017, the project secured a cooperative agreement between Swinomish and Skagit Valley College to start a DHAT education program in partnership with the college.
- Skagit Valley College will house the first calendar year of the education program. The second calendar year of the education program will be at the Swinomish dental clinic.
- In 2017, Swinomish created and approved plans for a clinic expansion to accommodate the education program.
- Mid-2017 the project convened the DHAT Education Advisory Committee.
- DHAT Education Advisory Committee, Swinomish, and Skagit Valley College decided to use the Alaska Dental Therapy Education program as a basis for the Washington Dental Therapy Education Program because it incorporates both CHAP standards and CODA requirements.
- A feasibility study was completed.
- A gap analysis of the college programs was completed.
- Swinomish and Skagit Valley have created an implementation timeline which will culminate in acceptance of a first class in the fall of 2020.
- First round of funding has been secured.
- Swinomish broke ground in April 2018 for the clinic expansion.



Next Steps – Education Program

- Skagit Valley College will begin the remodel and retrofit of the classroom and lab space in the latter part of 2018.
- Curriculum and course design will begin summer 2018.
- The College and Swinomish will hire a program director in 2018.
- The program will identify and train instructors and staff through 2019.
- Through 2018 and 2019, Swinomish and Skagit Valley College will work through the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) process to attain CODA accreditation.
- Through 2019, Skagit Valley College will seek internal and regional accreditation of the program.



Next Steps – Washington, Idaho and Oregon

- Students returning in 2018 and 2019
- More students headed to ADTEP for class of 2020
- Legislation has been introduced in Idaho
- Oregon Pilot Project through 2021 – then we will explore with the state permanent legislation for dental therapy



NPAIHB Partner Sites: Tribal Dental Health Aide Therapist Project



Oregon Site Visit Report



- Site visit to NARA in February 2018
- Preliminary findings made available in April 2018
- Stipulated agreement with state was signed in April detailing some requirements of the project.
- Final report will be released in August 2018
- Broadly, the OHA's findings included issues with record keeping, data collection and general project management, as well as a misunderstanding around what is appropriate under a preceptorship;
- There was concern that the DHAT was working outside of his scope of practice on three procedures – he was not.
- Clinic staff and Project staff immediately began the process of **analyzing and changing protocols to remedy concerns** expressed by the OHA.



Oregon Pilot Project Update

- **The Project has significant oversight and safety measures in place;**
- **Patient safety was not compromised in any way.** No patient was harmed or at risk as a result of the OHA's findings;
- The Project is **dedicated to addressing the issues raised** and using the feedback from the OHA **constructively** to ensure that their **commitment to patient safety, quality care and clinic efficiency is met;**
- Project staff has met several times with OHA to clear up misunderstandings and gain a clearer understanding of OHA's expectations
- Communications within the project has dramatically improved
- Communications with OHA have dramatically improved



Oregon Pilot Project Update

- While the **Dental Pilot Project** is still very much in its beginning phase, there are several positive results worth noting:
- The **first student graduated** from the Alaska Dental Therapy Education Program in 2017 with **three (3) additional students set to graduate this year** in the class of 2018;
- An **experienced dental therapist** (an Oregon tribal citizen from the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians) **returned** to Oregon and joined the NARA (Native American Rehabilitation Association) dental team and the Urban Indian Health Program in Portland;
- Preliminary data from the Pilot sites shows an **increase in patients seen;**
- **Patients report being happy** with the care they are receiving from dental therapists in the Pilot Project; and,
- **Patients report being comfortable** with dental therapists and supervising dentists report that dental therapists have been able to connect personally with their patients.



Marissa Gardner
CTCLUSI,
Class of 2018

Alex Jones
Coquille,
Class of 2018

Jason Mecum
Coquille,
Class of 2018

Kari Douglass
NARA,
Class of 2019



Summary of project

Accomplishments:

- Naomi is nearing the end of her preceptorship
- DHAT students co authored a paper that was presented at the NOHA Conference in Louisville, KY in April
- Dr. Gita Yitta has been hired to provide additional management support to the pilot project



Summary of project

Key Current Activities:

- Collecting data and preparing Quarter 2 reports
- Standard operating procedures being written with training to follow
- Working with Coquille to create a plan for their students
- Revising all project documents (application, evaluation plan, etc...) to reflect current status
- Participating in Rules Advisory Committee
- Upgrading intraoral cameras for better image quality
- CTCLUSI clinic temporary expansion near complete, adding two chairs to accommodate DHAT providers. Clinic building expansion resulting in a 7 chair clinic expected to break ground early fall.

