Dental Clinic Profiles for Inland Empire Region of Southern California

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FIRST IN WHOLE PERSON HEALTHCARE

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INTRO

- Underserved populations face significant barriers to accessing dental care.
- Lack of insurance, low health literacy, and transportation difficulties contribute to oral health disparities.

- **Objectives:** To provide school-based oral health education to children (K-5th grade) in underserved communities and increase awareness of dental health care services in the Riverside and San Bernardino Counties area.

METHODS

- **Ethics:** This study was reviewed and approved by the Institutional Review Board (IRB) at A.T. Still University
- **Participants:** 14,710 underserved children from 23 schools; 56 dental offices affiliated with the Tri-County Dental Society (TCDS).
- **Education Component:** 5-7 minute oral health presentations in classrooms.
- **Clinic Profiles:** Contacted 56 dental offices to document services, languages spoken, and accessibility features.
- **Dissemination:** Clinic profiles were published online via TCDS and distributed to public health agencies.

RESULTS

- **14,710 children** received education on brushing, flossing, and healthy eating habits.
- **56 clinics profiled** (96% response rate).

DISCUSSION

- School-based education effectively reached children in low-income areas, fostering awareness and behavioral changes.
- High response rate from clinics indicates strong community engagement and interest in improving accessibility.
- Limitations: Inability to assess students' oral hygiene knowledge and establish contact with all TCDS-affiliated offices.

By educating over 14,000 children and **profiling 56 dental clinics** in Southern California, this project helped empower underserved communities and bridge gaps in access to care.

http://tiny.ucsf.edu/IEProfiles

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Table 1.

Oral Health Hygiene Education Talks

School	# of students who received oral health education
Mission Crest Elementary School	1028
Hollyvale Elementary School	400
Kingston Elementary School	650
Joshua Circle Elementary School	662
Maple Elementary School	800
Butterfield Elementary School	830
Urbita Elementary School	530
Manuel Salinas Elementary School	620
Morgan Elementary School	620
Helen L. Elementary School	665
Vermont Elementary School	700
Virginia Primrose Elementary School	400
Ernest Garcia Elementary School	700
Boyd Elementary School	550
Edward Fitzgerald Elementary School	200
Bemis Elementary School	700
Hughbanks Elementary School	700
Lasselle Elementary School	820
Mead Valley Elementary School	645
Myers Elementary School	670
Dunn Elementary School	620
Henry Elementary School	550
Sam V. Curtis Elementary School	650
	Total: 14,710

Table 2.

Dental Clinic Profile Example from TCDS Website

Apple Valley

Apple Dental Center
19190 CA-18
Apple Valley, CA 92307
Tel: (760) 242-7753

Languages: English, Spanish, Italian, Chinese, Mandarin, Cantonese, Farsi
Insurances: All PPOs and Medi-Cal
Accepts special needs patients on a case-by-case basis
Monday-Thursday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

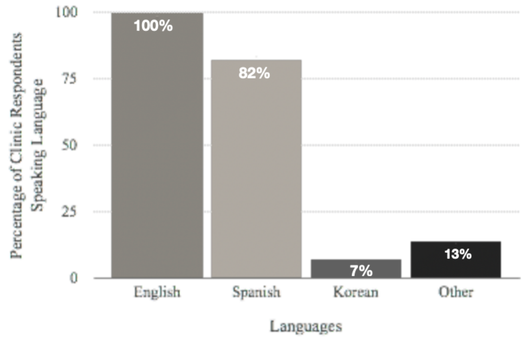

Figure 1. Dental Clinic Language Demographics (n=56)