

**Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine**  
**Division of Community Health Programs**  
**Annual Report 2011-2012**

In the 2011-2012 academic year, the Division of Community Health Programs (CHP) at Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM) continued its mission of enhancing the educational experience of our students and improving the oral health and quality of life of our community through strategic partnering, oral health education and promotion, and implementation of public health initiatives.

**Teaching:** CHP faculty contributed to GSDM pre and postdoctoral courses on preventive and community dentistry; served as course directors, lecturers, preclinical instructors, and thesis readers; and managed the fourth year students' Community Health Projects that have been incorporated into the existing Externship program.

**Service Learning:** As part of the first year DMD curriculum's *GD 510* course, CHP faculty and staff managed the community-based rotations that serve as the foundation for the students' service learning activities. During these rotations, under the supervision of CHP faculty, each first year student created grade-level appropriate lesson plans, provided oral health education for classrooms, and provided preventive services (dental screening, sealants, and fluoride varnish treatments) to students enrolled in seven public elementary schools in Boston.

**Advising/Mentoring:** CHP faculty served as advisors for GSDM students, faculty, alumni, and community members who are interested in community-based clinical research, and public health and community service; as mentors to pre and postdoctoral students' community outreach and research projects; and as mentors to students in BUMC's Division of Graduate Medical Sciences and School of Public Health. Additionally, several students from Boston University's Sargent College completed a semester internship with CHP faculty.

**Service:** CHP faculty also provided service to the profession and the community. Michelle Henshaw served on the Massachusetts Association of Community Health Workers Oral Health Advisory Board, as Immediate Past President of the Boston Chapter of the American Association of Dental Research, as a member of the Boston Task Force on Improved Perinatal Clinical Care, as a member of the Healthy Birth Boston, as a member of the Massachusetts Coalition for Oral Health, on the Advisory Board of the Better Oral Health for Massachusetts Coalition, and along with Kathy Lituri, as a member of the Boston Oral Health Improvement Coalition. Additionally, Kathy Lituri served as Oral Health Consultant to ABCD Head Start and Early Head Start and as a member of the Health Advisory Board of the South Boston Head Start, Dorchester Early Head Start, and Roxbury Early Head Start. Corinna Culler served as a member of the Massachusetts Early Childhood Oral Health Consortium and Chair of the Surveillance Work Group for the Better Oral Health for Massachusetts Coalition. In addition, Ana Keohane served on the Lawrence Mayor's Oral Health Task Force, and Gladys Carrasco served on the CAPIC Head Start Health Advisory Committee and the Chelsea Family Network, both in Chelsea, Massachusetts. On a national level, Kathy Lituri served as Section Councilor and as Chair of the Scientific Program Planning Committee for the Oral Health Section of the American Association of Public Health. Brenda Heaton served as Chair of the Community and Preventive Dentistry Section of the American Dental Education Association.

## **School-Based Oral Health Programs**

Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine currently runs five city wide prevention programs and operates in 59 schools in Boston, Chelsea, Framingham, Natick, and Lawrence delivering preventive services to thousands of Boston area children, including dental screenings, fluoride applications, placement of sealants, and oral health education. During the 2011-12 academic year, these programs provided 4443 oral screenings and fluoride applications, and 4021 dental sealants were placed for 1442 children. Oral health education was provided to 13,986 children, including 2744 children in Chelsea, 1269 children in Framingham, 464 children in Natick, 3780 children in Lawrence, and 5729 children in Boston's *Smart Smiles in Boston Public Schools* Program.

**Chelsea Comprehensive School-Based Dental Program:** For the 11<sup>th</sup> year in Chelsea, GSDM provided city-wide comprehensive services including classroom education, dental screenings, dental sealant placement, fluoride varnish applications, and restorative dental care for children enrolled in the public schools. Through partnerships with CAPIC Head Start and the Chelsea Family Network, services are also provided to many of Chelsea's preschoolers. This comprehensive oral health program is included in the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality's Health Care Innovations Exchange, a national program designed to support health care professionals in sharing and adopting innovations that improve the delivery of care to underserved patients.

During the 2011-12 school year, this program provided classroom oral health education to 2744 students in pre-kindergarten through grade 4 in the Chelsea Public Schools. Dental screenings and fluoride varnish treatments were provided to 1322 students, and 978 dental sealants were placed for 387 first through fourth graders in Chelsea.

Since opening in April of 2003, the **Chelsea School Dental Center**, managed by GSDM and located in the Williams Middle School, has provided preventive and restorative services for thousands of children. Five bilingual dentists treat patients in this full service clinic. Many of the patients, ranging in age from preschoolers to high school seniors, have never been to the dentist and would have no other source of dental care if it were not for this full service dental center.

**Framingham School Dental Program (SEAL Framingham):** Funded by the MetroWest Health Care Foundation, CHP operates a town wide school-based dental program for second graders within all 8 public elementary schools. During the 2011-12 school year, oral health education was presented to 1269 students in grades kindergarten through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. Additionally, 436 children received a dental screening and fluoride treatment. A total of 511 sealants were placed for 179 children.

**Lawrence School Dental Program (SEAL Lawrence):** CHP provides second and third grade children in all 10 elementary schools and 2 middle schools in the City of Lawrence with oral health education, dental screenings, fluoride applications, and sealants. In 5 elementary schools this past year, the grades served were expanded to include 1<sup>st</sup> through 4<sup>th</sup> grades. Oral health education was presented to 3780 students; 1080 students received dental screenings and 1238 sealants were placed on the teeth of 469 students.

**Natick School Dental Program (SEAL Natick):** CHP runs a town wide school-based dental program for second graders within all 5 public elementary schools. During the 2011-12 school year, through this program 464 children received oral health education, 133 received oral screenings and fluoride varnish treatments, and 123 sealants were placed on 38 children.

**Smart Smiles in Boston Public Schools:** During the 2011-12 school year, GSDM provided education for 5729 children, dental screenings for 1472 students, and placed 1171 sealants for 369 children in 29 schools in the Boston Public Schools (BPS), including: Beethoven, Boston Teachers Union, Clap, Conley, Dever, Edison, English High, Everett, Gardner, Grew, Haley, Henderson, Higginson/Lewis, Holland, Hurley, Kenny, Kilmer, Lyndon, Mason, McKay, Mission Hill, Mozart, Orchard Gardens K-8, Perkins, Roosevelt, Sumner, Trotter, Winthrop and Young Achievers. All students in the *Smart Smiles* Program also receive dental cleanings.

As part of Boston University's commitment to Mayor Menino's StepUp initiative, CHP offered oral health services to four schools—English High School, Orchard Gardens K-8 School, John Winthrop, and the William Monroe Trotter School. Oral health education was provided to 618 students in these schools, and 195 students received dental screenings, fluoride varnish treatments, and/or dental sealants through this program. These numbers are also included in the above Smart Smiles totals.

### **Preschool Oral Health Programs**

GSDM's community efforts include providing screenings and/or oral health education to over 2000 children in 26 Boston area preschools, day care centers, Early Head Start, and Head Start programs; oral health education to parents and guardians; and oral health education to preschool teachers, staff, and administrators.

**Action for Boston Community Development Early Head Start and Head Start:** At the Action for Boston Community Development (ABCD), oral health screenings and referrals were offered to children enrolled in four ABCD Early Head Start centers located in Dorchester, East Boston, Madison Park, and the South End.

Dental health education was provided to children in 29 classrooms at four ABCD South Boston Head Start centers (Orton Marrotta, Old Colony, South Baptist, and West Broadway), and to children at ABCD Dorchester Head Start and Gertrude-Townsend Head Start. Additionally, parent workshops on oral health were presented at all South Boston Head Start centers.

**Allston Brighton Area Planning Action Council:** Interactive classroom dental health education was conducted at two Allston Brighton Area Planning Action Council (APAC) child care centers by GSDM faculty, and goodie bags with toothbrushes, toothpaste, stickers, and other items were given to the children at the end of each session.

**Associated Early Care and Education:** CHP's oral health program at Associated Early Care and Education includes dental health education, oral screenings, and fluoride varnish applications to children, and staff and parent training at the Jamaica Plain, Sunnyside, Ruggles/Gilday, and Castle Square sites.

**Chelsea Head Start (CAPIC):** Dental health education, screenings, and fluoride varnish applications were provided twice each year for 236 Head Start children ages three to five years enrolled in the CAPIC Head Start (Chelsea, Revere, Winthrop) Program. A CHP representative is an active member of the CAPIC Head Start Health Advisory Committee.

**Chelsea Family Network:** CHP provided oral health education and dental screenings to preschool children in two day care centers, the CAPIC CDC Arlington Street Day Care and Kangaroo's Pouch, during the 2011-2012 school year. These annual events help to remind parents and caregivers to initiate good oral health habits and routine dental care early in their children's lives. Dental screenings were conducted for 82 children between the ages of 3 and 5 years. A CHP faculty member serves each year as the health representative on the Family Network Advisory Council.

**Crispus Attucks Children's Center:** Dental screenings and oral health education were offered to the children enrolled in Crispus Attucks Children's Center in Dorchester. The center with 15 classrooms serves children between the ages of 6 weeks to 6 years.

**Framingham SMOC Head Start:** As a part of the SEAL Framingham Program, 210 preschool age children were provided oral health education, and 98 children received dental screening and fluoride treatments.

**Greater Lawrence Community Child Care Center:** Dental screenings and fluoride varnish applications were provided to 37 preschool children.

**Horizons for Homeless Children:** At Horizons for Homeless Children (HHC), oral health education, screenings, and fluoride varnish treatments were offered to all children ages 6 weeks to 6 years enrolled at Horizons for Homeless Children in Dorchester, Roxbury, and Jamaica Plain in 2011-2012.

**Inquilinos Boricuas En Accion Esquilito Boriken:** Since 2007 CHP has provided oral health education for the children attending the Inquilinos Borickuas En Accion (IBA) Escuelita Boriken, a multicultural and bilingual preschool program servicing 80 children in Villa Victoria and the surrounding South End community.

### **Community Outreach and Partnerships**

The Division of Community Health Programs continued to expand its community outreach activities and recruit dental students, faculty, and staff volunteers into its various service programs. In 2011-12, 59% of GSDM's predoctoral students (363/614) participated in School-sponsored community outreach activities. Of the 363 students who participated in one or more of GSDM's outreach events, 128 students (21%) participated in volunteer activities and 235 participated as part of their ongoing curriculum. Additionally, 16 postdoctoral students and 44 faculty and staff volunteered to serve in one or more community outreach activities.

Strategic partnerships form the foundation for many of the research, teaching, and service programs managed by CHP. This past year the Division participated for the first time in the following organizations' programs/events: Bay Cove Habilitation, BPHC Book Bag Drive, BPHC Community Health Education Center (CHEC), Community Voices, Health Careers

Opportunities Program (HCOP), Healthy Kids Festival, Homeless Education Resource Network (HERN), Metropolitan Baptist Church, Mother Caroline Academy, National HIV Testing Day, New Pentecostal Church, and Project Cope. Additionally, as an expansion of Countdown to Kindergarten, a school readiness event was held at Project Hope.

### **Community Based Oral Health Promotion Programs**

In addition to GSDM's work in 85 elementary schools and preschools, we were involved in 68 additional oral health promotion programs, initiatives, school field trips, and other community-based outreach activities providing care for populations that have difficulties accessing oral health services including the homeless; financially disadvantaged; uninsured and underinsured; elders; survivors of torture; refugees; and individuals with HIV. We have been able to reach individuals from very diverse backgrounds and educational levels with oral health preventive services and in doing so have helped to promote the oral health and overall health of thousands in the greater Boston area. Additionally, students and non-dental health professionals have been trained to provide oral health services for underserved, at-risk populations.

### **GSDM's Community Based Oral Health Programs**

**Blackstone School 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Third Grade Field Trip:** Seventy-seven third grade children from the Blackstone Elementary School made their annual trek to GSDM for a full day of oral health activities, including presentations on oral health and nutrition, a lesson on teeth and gums, and interactive activities in the Simulation Learning Center on sealants and dental impressions. The field trip ended with a pizza party on the Talbot Green. This annual field trip continues to be one of GSDM's most successful outreach programs, offering a lot of fun and learning for the children and an opportunity for Boston University dental students to inspire a young child to pursue a higher education and possibly a career in dentistry.

**Boston Medical Center (BMC) Food Pantry Benefit Concert:** The American Student Dental Association (ASDA) in conjunction with the GSDM Band (The Mental Blocks) and BUMC Band put together a concert to help raise money for the food pantry in the Bakst Auditorium. The concert raised \$2,500.00 for the BMC Food Pantry. The Food Pantry distributes items to referred patients from all BMC clinics, feeding approximately 80 families per day and providing three days' worth of food to patients every two weeks.

**Christ Lutheran Nursery School Oral Health Presentation:** Interactive oral health presentations were made to two groups of 20 children each attending the Christ Lutheran Nursery School in Belmont, Massachusetts. Using a popular dental puppet, a GSDM student taught the children the importance of caring for their teeth by brushing with the help of a parent, eating healthy foods, and visiting the dentist.

**Community Health Outreach Workers' Oral Health Training:** A representative from CHP provided a three hour workshop on oral health to 14 Community Outreach Workers enrolled in a certificate program.

**Community Voices NEU Field Trip:** High school students enrolled in the Community Voices Program at Northeastern University visited GSDM during the summer. The purpose of the visit was to learn about oral health disparities, especially in the context of racial and ethnic

health disparities. Additionally, the students had the opportunity to learn about various oral health careers and to talk with current dental students about the dental field.

**Edward W. Brooke Charter School Field Trip:** Three classes of third grade students from this Roslindale charter school enjoyed a day of educational and fun activities at GSDM in both the classroom and the Simulation Learning Center. The children were very eager to learn about life as a dental student and many came armed with questions to ask the students. They participated in lessons on nutrition and sealants, dressed up as dental students, and made models of their thumbs using an alginate impression and dental stone.

**Health Careers Opportunities Program Oral Health Presentation:** The Health Careers Opportunities Program (HCOP) is an eight-week educational program for middle and high school children that aims to create a “pipeline” to funnel Boston area students into higher education programs geared toward the health and medical professions. A member of CHP’s staff visited the program to speak with HCOP students about her choice to work in the health field and the various career opportunities in oral health. Oral health education was provided with a fun and interactive game of “Dental Jeopardy,” which highlighted six oral health topics of interest to teenagers.

**HIV Dental Care/Ryan White:** Through support from the Ryan White Care Act, GSDM provides a considerable amount of treatment to patients with HIV and AIDS throughout New England. A network for education referral has been established and includes Cambridge Cares about AIDS, Boston University Medical Center, the AIDS Support Group of Cape Cod, and others.

**HIV Focus Group on HIV Jeopardy Game:** Dental Public Health postdoctoral students participated in a focus group conducted by the Boston University School of Public Health. The purpose of the focus group was to obtain feedback on an HIV Jeopardy Game being developed for oral health professionals.

**MGH/Chelsea Adult Refugee Dental Screenings:** Each year new populations of refugees move into Chelsea and receive health care through the Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) Chelsea Health Center. Although the children receive dental care through the BU/Chelsea partnership school-based programs, the adults do not have any such program to rely upon. For the third year in a row, therefore, the refugee health group at MGH asked CHP faculty to provide dental screenings for adults and to assist staff in finding appropriate referral sites. Thirty adults were screened this year with most in need of dental treatment.

**New Pentecostal Church Oral Health Outreach:** GSDM’s chapter of ASDA and CHP held an oral health outreach effort at the New Pentecostal Church in Mattapan. The outreach effort included oral health promotion activities geared toward children, oral health screenings, and referrals. The group screened about 40 people, both children and adults, and handed out oral health supplies.

**Notre Dame Educational Center Oral Health Outreach:** The Notre Dame Education Center (NDEC) is a community-based nonprofit that offers Adult Basic Education programs to over 350 adult learners yearly from all over the world. The Center’s mission is to provide quality education and support services in a diverse caring community that empowers adult

learners to realize their full potential. At NDEC adult learners and youth are provided with the tools to succeed in school, to compete in the job market, and to achieve financial independence.

- **NDEC Dental Health Fair:** GSDM's chapter of ASDA in cooperation with CHP organized a fall dental health fair to provide NDEC students with oral health education, over 30 dental screenings, referrals, and provision of oral hygiene supplies. Students and staff at NDEC were welcoming, engaging, and appreciative.
- **NDEC Oral Health Outreach for Evening Program:** Nine students from ASDA as well as CHP faculty and staff provided oral health outreach to NDEC evening students, including oral health education, 58 dental screenings, referrals, and provision of oral hygiene supplies.

**Project COPE Oral Health Outreach:** Project COPE is a women's residential substance abuse treatment program located in Lynn, Massachusetts. CHP provided interactive oral health education, printed materials, and oral health supplies to the residents in attendance at this event.

**Refugee Dental Care Week:** The Chelsea School Dental Center's (CSDC) held its annual Refugee Dental Care Week; and this year along with Somali refugees, patients from Rwanda and the Republic of Congo were included for a total of 42 persons treated. All patients received an initial comprehensive oral exam, full mouth x-rays, prophylaxis, in some cases scaling, and fluoride varnish application. Patients requiring further treatment were given an appointment for their next visit, and all patients received their next six month recall appointment. Coordination and oversight of the event was carried out by a pediatric dentist from Chelsea's MGH satellite clinic, along with the CSDC's clinical coordinator. This annual dental care week always proves to be a successful and very beneficial event for the refugee populations living in Chelsea.

**Rosie's Place Outreach:** Rosie's Place, a sanctuary for poor and homeless women, offers emergency and long-term assistance to women who have nowhere else to turn. Founded in 1974, Rosie's Place welcomes each guest with respect and unconditional love. Rosie's Place accepts no government funds, and relies instead on committed volunteers and private supporters to accomplish its effective and innovative work.

- **Rosie's Place Clothing Drive:** The student-run GSDM clothing drive collected items needed during the winter holidays including socks, gloves, boots, and winter coats for clients at Rosie's Place.
- **Rosie's Place Dental Health Fair:** CHP and GSDM's chapter of the American Association of Women Dentists (AAWD) set up an interactive dental health fair for the Rosie's Place Childworks Program. At this summer health fair, children were taught about the importance of good dental hygiene and how to properly care for their teeth. The children were instructed to use a dental "passport" to guide them through each of the fair's six dental-themed stations; and after the passport was completely stamped, a goodie bag with prizes was awarded. The event allowed the children to play dress up as dentists with the use of gloves, gowns, face masks, and goggles.
- **Rosie's Place "Women to Women" Program:** Early in 2011 GSDM's chapter of AAWD in cooperation with CHP launched a monthly community service initiative

named “Women to Women,” aimed at improving the oral health of the women of Rosie’s Place. This initiative enhances previous efforts by providing a standing monthly commitment. The main goal of the monthly events is to improve the oral health of the women by providing screenings and educational information, and by answering any dental-related questions. Over the past twelve months, the students screened 119 women, with many more women stopping by for oral health information or a toothbrush. An added bonus for the student volunteers has been getting to know some of the other groups volunteering at the monthly events and learning about their perspective on oral health and overall health.

**Yawkey Club of Roxbury Dental Health Fair:** The GSDM chapter of ASDA partnered with CHP faculty and staff to host their annual interactive dental health fair for children at the Yawkey Boys and Girls Club of Roxbury. More than 100 children of the Yawkey Club, who range in age from elementary to high school, attended this event. The fair featured the popular passport format with several stations at which GSDM students taught the children about oral health issues including hygiene, nutrition, consequences of tobacco use, tooth protectors, and dental occupations. The children were encouraged to visit each station to have their passports stamped and receive prizes at the end.

### **GSDM’s Integration of Oral Health Into Other Community Based Programs:**

**Action for Boston Community Development Head Start & Early Head Start Health and Resource Fair:** At this Action for Boston Community Development (ABCD) health and resource fair held in Dorchester, Massachusetts, GSDM faculty and students set up a table to promote oral health, education, and hands-on activities relevant to the parents whose children qualify for Head Start and Early Head Start.

**Bay Cove Human Services Outreach** is a private, not-for-profit corporation that provides a wide variety of services to individuals and their families who face the challenges of developmental disabilities, aging, mental illness, and drug and alcohol addiction. GSDM participated in the following programs at Bay Cove this past year:

- **Bay Cove Habilitation:** This program transports adults with special needs to Bay Cove for a variety of services. GSDM faculty and students provided oral health education and dental hygiene supplies to program participants.
- **Bay Cove’s Center Club Oral Health Promotion:** GSDM faculty and students provided screenings and one-on-one oral health education at The Center Club, a Bay Cove program for people with psychiatric disabilities, located in Boston’s North End.
- **Bay Cove Wellness Fair:** GSDM student volunteers and CHP faculty promoted oral health to the attendees of the Bay Cove Wellness Fair. The group offered oral health education, dental screenings, and referrals to the adults who utilize the programs offered by Bay Cove Human Services.

**Boston Area Health Education Center (BAHEC)** aims to diversify the pool of health professionals in Boston by increasing middle and high school students’ awareness of health professions, and public health issues and concepts. Through its Youth to Health Careers (Y2HC)



program, BAHEC provides academic enrichment, job shadowing, leadership training, and college preparation for middle and high school students.

- **BAHEC Youth to Health Careers Summer Enrichment Program Health Career Expo:** The purpose of this annual BAHEC event is to connect Boston adolescents who are interested in exploring health careers with a variety of health professionals representing a broad range of career fields. GSDM's Dental Public Health Division provided BAHEC students with an understanding of the range of oral health careers, their education and fiscal requirements, and the roles and function of each profession in providing and supporting health care.
- **BAHEC Youth to Health Careers Summer Enrichment Program Panel Discussion:** A representative from CHP was a panel speaker along with other oral health professionals at an Oral Health Career Workshop attended by 18 Boston area youths enrolled in the BAHEC Youth to Health Careers Summer Enrichment Program. The workshop was held at the Boston Public Health Commission.

**Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center Youth Program Thanksgiving:** Students from the Asian Dental Student Organization (ADSO) helped celebrate Thanksgiving with youth members of the Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center (BCNC). The DMD students pitched in to help take photos for the BCNC youth group bulletin board, assisted with a scavenger hunt, and served Thanksgiving dinner.

**Boston Housing Authority Unity Day at Old Colony Housing Development:** The Boston Housing Authority (BHA) Unity Day provides local area health and social service providers with an opportunity to deliver health information and interact with families within the community. The GSDM Tooth Smart Healthy Start (TSHS) team had the opportunity to introduce their TSHS dental research study and provide dental health education to residents while engaging the children in fun, educational, and interactive activities.

**Boston Public Health Commission Book Bag Give-A-Way Event:** Organized and sponsored by the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) each year, this event provided school supplies to over 900 children living in Boston's low income communities. GSDM promoted oral health by offering oral screenings and education to school-aged children and their families.

**Boston Public Schools Health Fair, *Nurses in Your Corner*:** The purpose of the Boston Public Schools (BPS) community health fair was to facilitate an open and casual dialogue between parents and clinicians in order to help address the health needs of students, to help increase parents' understanding about school health issues, and to help create the link between good health and learning. At this fair, CHP emphasized to families its positive relationship with BPS nurses, provided information about its *Smart Smiles in Boston Public Schools* Program, and provided information on the importance of children's oral health and how to maintain it.

**Boston Public Schools Parent University:** Boston Public Schools hosted Parent University at Northeastern University. Parent University was designed to help parents increase their understanding of how children learn and develop, and to offer workshops in parent advocacy, family health and wellness, and much more. GSDM provided families with

information (in English and Spanish) on the importance of children's oral health and gave out toothbrushes, toothpaste, and educational brochures.

**Boston University Wellness Fair:** CHP led a team of volunteers to the 7<sup>th</sup> annual Boston University Wellness Fair held in the George Sherman Union. The popular interactive game, *Celebrity Smiles*, was featured again at this year's fair. A GSDM student designed this game as a way to engage college students by using a poster picturing the smiles of popular celebrities and asking participants to identify a celebrity based on their smile. The idea is to reiterate that a person's smile is vital to their personality. Taking care of one's teeth (and hence the result being a healthy smile) is essential to a person's identity. A toothbrush was given out to every person who identified at least three celebrities, and a camera was donated as a door prize to "capture the winning student's smile."

**Chelsea Back to School Celebration:** Faculty and staff from CHP's school-based dental programs participated again this year in the 8th Annual Chelsea Back to School Celebration. The event was sponsored by Chelsea Community Organizations and was held at the Williams Middle School. The Celebration featured groups from the community welcoming students back to school with games, prizes, giveaways, and information on a variety of topics. Approximately 1,000 people were in attendance including students and their family members. Seven GSDM volunteers discussed general oral health with participants, gave information about the Chelsea School Dental Center, and handed out toothbrushes, toothpaste, and informational materials.

**Chelsea Early Learning Center (ELC) Open House:** CHP faculty set up an information table at the Early Learning Center's Open House for parents of children in pre-kindergarten and kindergarten. Educational materials were distributed to 150 parents about the importance of early dental care, the Chelsea Dental Program, and the availability of the Chelsea School Dental Center for children's dental appointments.

**Countdown to Kindergarten Celebration:** Countdown to Kindergarten is a non-profit collaborative that engages families, educators, and community members in a city wide effort to celebrate and support children's transition into kindergarten. The Celebration is part of a year-long process that helps parents register their children for kindergarten at BPS and includes connecting parents with resources that help children thrive in school. Each year CHP along with GSDM student volunteers attend the Celebration to offer dental screenings, host tooth brushing and arts and crafts stations, and distribute toothbrushes and oral health information to children and parents. Staffed this year by 18 GSDM students, over 118 dental screenings were provided to children as students addressed the oral health needs of young children and the concerns of their parents.

**Early Childhood Center Field Day:** *Smart Smiles in Boston Public Schools* was invited to join in on field day at the Early Childhood Center to promote the program and to provide oral health education to children ages 3 to 5 years with special needs. Flyers were given to parents about *Smart Smiles*, nutrition, and oral health.

**East Boston Bicycle Safety Fair:** Faculty and staff from CHP's school-based dental programs attended the annual East Boston Bicycle Safety Day at the Salesian Boys and Girls Club. Children received free bicycle helmets and bike safety checks while local organizations

distributed information about their services. Educational materials were provided about the importance of oral health and the use of mouth guards, and goodie bags were given to those who visited the table.

**Everett School Open House:** At the Everett School Open House, CHP informed parents about *Smart Smiles in Boston Public Schools*, encouraging them to both enroll their children in the program and take them to a local dentist for any recommended follow up oral health care. Educational handouts and toothbrushes and toothpaste were given out.

**Get Healthy in Chelsea Fair:** This event, held at the Williams Middle School, offered an opportunity for school nurses and local health care providers to distribute printed information on various health topics. CHP faculty provided oral health education and information about the free oral health services offered to children from preschool age through high school at the Chelsea School Dental Center.

**Habitat for Humanity Greater Boston:** Habitat for Humanity Greater Boston, Inc. is a Massachusetts charitable nonprofit organization and independent affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International, dedicated to building simple low-cost homes by forming partnerships with low-income families in need of decent and affordable housing.

- **Boston Collaborative Group of the Massachusetts Dental Society Project (MDS):** The GSDM community showed that its giving spirit extends beyond dentistry when a group of alumni, faculty, and staff helped build a home in Dorchester for Habitat for Humanity Greater Boston. The outing was a partnership between Habitat for Humanity and the Boston Collaborative Group of the MDS. The group worked hard to build and paint two closets, frame and install two doors, and frame four windows.
- **Massachusetts Dental Society Habitat for Humanity Project:** Two students, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Delegates, from GSDM's Chapter of ASDA were invited to participate by the MDS in a second project with Habitat for Humanity Greater Boston. The students along with MDS staff and an area dentist spent the day painting the interior of a condo unit for a Boston family and found it to be a very rewarding experience.

**Healthy Athletes® Special Smiles® Initiative:** GSDM staff, students, and faculty came together with other dental schools, hygiene schools, and dental practitioners at the Special Olympics Massachusetts games held at Harvard University. At the games volunteers registered athletes, gave free oral health screenings, made mouth guards, demonstrated proper hygiene, provided nutrition counseling, and gave out goodie bags filled with dental supplies as part of the Healthy Athletes® Special Smiles® Initiative.

**Healthy Baby Healthy Child Summer Camp Program:** Each year CHP participates in the Boston Public Health Commission's Healthy Baby/Healthy Child (HB/HC) summer camp picnic activities. Oral health education, interactive dental activities, and oral health screenings are offered to those attending this summer camp event.

**Healthy Kids Festival:** CHP and the BU Chapter of ADSO teamed up with the Harvard Chapter to provide oral health outreach at the Healthy Kids Festival, sponsored by the Children's Museum. The festival celebrated children's healthy growth and gave them the opportunity to play and learn about healthy habits, exercise, and good eating. GSDM used dental puppets to

demonstrate tooth brushing and flossing as well as counting teeth at a dental visit. Hundreds of children and their families turned out for the event.

**HIV National Testing Day:** CHP faculty and several dental students participated in a health fair themed around National HIV Testing Day (NHTD). NHTD is an annual campaign coordinated by the National Association of People with AIDS. The purpose of NHTD is to encourage people of all ages to "Take the Test, Take Control." CHP provided oral health promotion, especially as related to HIV and dental screenings.

#### **Homeless Education Resource Network Symposium for Homeless Shelters**

**Providers:** The Homeless Education Resource Network (HERN) provides a comprehensive program for students who are temporarily without homes so they may continue to have stable educational experiences. The purpose of the symposium was to inform participants about how to maintain wellness for themselves and their clients, as well as to give an update on administrative policies. CHP faculty presented information to attendees on *Smart Smile in Boston Public Schools*, with an explanation of the benefits of sealants and fluoride.

**Inite Pou La Sante/United for Health Fair:** GSDM faculty and students participated in the 6<sup>th</sup> annual Inite Pou La Sante/United for Health Fair to provide outreach to the more than 500 families of Haitian descent in attendance at the annual fair held at the Voice of the Gospel Tabernacle Church in Mattapan. GSDM and CHP faculty, staff, and students in collaboration with the Massachusetts Section of the American College of Prosthodontics (AP) provided dental screenings to more than 50 individuals and offered translation services to the French-speaking attendees.

**Inquilinos Boricuas En Acion Educational Fair:** Inquilinos Boricuas En Acion (IBA) is an organization established to support the development and empowerment of the South End's Villa Victoria community. The fair is held in GSDM's neighborhood and attended by many people with Spanish as their first language. As in the past, this year GSDM faculty and Spanish-speaking students presented oral health workshops at this family health fair, providing oral health education and hands-on activities for the young children in attendance as well as their parents. Goodie bags with school supplies including crayons, pencils, and books were passed out to the children.

**Lawrence Oral Health Fair:** In response to a chronic need for low cost to no cost dental services in the Greater Lawrence area, the Lawrence Mayor's Oral Health Task Force held its first Oral Health Fair, *Healthy Teeth, Healthy Families*, held at the Lawrence Senior Center. The goal of this event was to provide oral health education for children and adults and to introduce the public to oral health services available in their area. GSDM's school-based programs staff attended and set up 8 stations, each with a color as a theme. At each station, participants learned about a specific oral health topic (the importance of baby teeth, decay, early childhood caries, nutrition, brushing and flossing, fluoride, sealants, and visiting the dentist). Other participants were local dental clinics and social service agencies.

**Massachusetts Operation Stand Down for Homeless Veterans:** This two-day annual event, presented by the VA Boston Healthcare System in cooperation with Volunteers of America Massachusetts, offers homeless and at-risk veterans in Boston critical benefits and

services such as food, clothing, medical and dental treatment, housing referrals and placement, and career and job counseling. GSDM provided dental screenings, toothbrushes, toothpaste, denture cleanings, and referrals to the veterans. In total 22 students and several GSDM faculty and staff volunteered their time and efforts to this event, and they were able to screen 143 veterans over the two day period. Many of the student volunteers are attending GSDM through the Armed Forces Health Professions Scholarship Program (HPSP) and the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps (USPHS).

**Mattapan Community Health Center's Health Care Revival:** Mattapan Community Health Center's Health Care Revival is an annual event that provides up-to-date information on a variety of health topics and community resources. CHP faculty shared a tent with staff from the Mattapan Community Health Center, engaging families in dental health conversations and interactive activities on topics such as tooth brushing, flossing, healthy eating, and cavity prevention, as well as the importance of fluoride, mouth guards, and sealants. Over 60 dental screenings were conducted, and oral hygiene supplies and educational pamphlets were handed out. Hundreds of families attended this popular health fair.

**Metropolitan Baptist Church Health Fair and Cookout:** CHP provided oral health promotion at a health fair for the members and surrounding community of the Metropolitan Baptist Church in Dorchester.

**MGH Chelsea 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Summer Safety Fair:** The MGH Chelsea Health Center's Summer Safety Fair is an annual summer kick-off celebration which focuses on keeping children safe during the summer months. This year as in the past children received free bicycle safety checks and bike helmets. Many agencies participated, providing tips on home, water, fire, sun, and car safety. CHP faculty and staff provided oral health education, promoted the use of mouth guards, invited children to the Chelsea School Dental Center, and distributed toothbrushes and toothpaste to hundreds in attendance at this popular and fun summertime event.

**Middle O! Orientation:** Middle O! is an event held each year at Fenway Park designed to prepare sixth-grade students for their entrance into middle school at the Boston Public Schools. The Boston University Chapter of the Student National Dental Association (SNDA) along with CHP faculty and staff provided information on dental careers, mouth guards, sealants, healthy eating, and the risks of smoking and oral piercing. Complimentary mouth guards and toothbrushes and toothpaste were given out. One of SNDA's goals is to inform young students about oral health and encourage them to not only consider but prepare for a dental career as they continue through their middle and high school years.

**Mother Caroline Academy Health and Wellness Day:** A day of health and wellness titled, *You Go Girl*, was held at Mother Caroline Academy, an all-girls school in Roxbury. GSDM faculty and students presented interactive lessons on oral health and discussed dental careers with the student participants.

**Newcomers Assessment Center Outreach:** The Newcomers Assessment & Counseling Center connects families who are new to the Boston area with community resources.

- **Newcomers Assessment Center Health Fair:** This annual Newcomers Assessment Center event lets people who are new to the Boston area know of the large variety of

health resources available to them in the City of Boston. GSDM provided information about *Smart Smiles in the Boston Public Schools*, brushing techniques for children and adults, and tobacco education materials.

- **Newcomers Assessment and Counseling Center's Stop & Learn Tuesday:** CHP provides information at the Stop & Learn Tuesday event about its *Smart Smiles in Boston Public Schools* program.

**Perkins School Open House:** At the Perkins School Open House, CHP passed out informational materials and talked with 100 parents about GSDM's *Smart Smiles in Boston Public Schools* program. Oral health education included a demonstration of proper tooth brushing, and goodie bags with hygiene supplies, pencils, and stickers were given out.

**Project Hope and Family Child Care Business Enterprise School Readiness Event:** This event is part of the ongoing Countdown to Kindergarten/School Readiness Events held throughout the year in the Boston area. Sponsored by Project Hope and Family Child Care Business Enterprise (FCCBE), the event was designed to prepare Boston area pre-kindergarten children and their families for kindergarten through the performance of an entertaining play and by providing parents the opportunity to meet vendors and representatives from local resources. GSDM faculty and students attended the school readiness event to provide dental screenings to children, host tooth brushing and arts and crafts stations, and distribute toothbrushes and oral health information to families.

**Reading Awareness Day at the Early Learning Center:** Communities across the nation joined the National Education Association (NEA) November 14-19 to celebrate American Education Week. The annual observance celebrates students' hard work to learn, thanks parents and the community at large who help students succeed, recognizes the professionalism and dedication of teachers, and honors support staff and other educators. The Early Learning Center in Chelsea participated in this celebration by asking professionals in the community to spend time in learning activities with the children. CHP contributed by reading a picture book with the children, and in doing so promoted reading among the children.

**Relay for Life:** The BU Relay for Life took place at the Track and Tennis Center on the Charles River campus. For the 4<sup>th</sup> year in a row, GSDM participated in this overnight event which raises money for the American Cancer Society. Two teams of GSDM faculty, staff, and students walked laps and raised close to \$800 for the cause.

**Research Science Institute:** Since 1994 GSDM has been a participant in the Research Science Institute, a six-week summer program for high school students. Sponsored by the Center for Excellence in Education in collaboration with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the students experience college-level classes and complete hands-on research guided by selected mentors at corporations, universities, and other organizations.

**Rosie's Place Wellness Fair:** GSDM has a long-standing program that enables women at Rosie's Place to receive oral health information and complementary hygiene supplies. GSDM student volunteers joined with CHP to distribute toothbrushes and toothpaste and to teach those attending the fair about the importance of oral health, healthy eating, consequences of tobacco, and other health topics of interest.

**Suffolk University Health and Wellness Fair:** GSDM promoted oral health to Suffolk University college students in attendance at this health fair by offering dental screenings and providing information on oral health topics of interest and relevance to this age group.

**Tech Boston Academy Health Fair:** A team of Boston University students from the Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine, the School of Medicine, and the School of Public Health participated in a health fair held at the Tech Boston Academy promoting oral health by raising awareness of the Academy's school-based dental clinic, discussing oral health with attendees, and handing out educational materials.

**TET in Boston Festival:** The Asian Dental Student Organization (ADSO) in collaboration with CHP volunteered at TET in Boston 2012. The festival is an annual Vietnamese new year festival organized by the Vietnamese-American Community of Massachusetts and the Intercollegiate Vietnamese Student Association that every year attracts around 1000 attendees and hundreds of vendors. This year's festival celebrated the beginning of the Year of the Dragon and was held at Harbor Point Middle School in Dorchester. Volunteers hosted a table with interactive oral health activities and information, and handed out complimentary toothbrushes and toothpaste.

**Toys for Tots:** ASDA students continued their tradition of making the holidays more joyful for Boston children in need by once again hosting their toy drive prior to Intersession. The GSDM community donated 119 new, unwrapped toys, as well as \$50, which they donated to the U.S. Marine Corps Toys for Tots Initiative. This is more than double the amount of donations that were collected last year.

**Wang YMCA Holiday Party:** Members of the Boston University Chapter of ADSO volunteered at the annual holiday party at the Wang YMCA in Chinatown in December. Volunteers set up two tables for children's oral health activities and handed out oral health information and toothbrushes to their parents. In total, nearly 400 people attended the party. The children were very enthusiastic and engaged in learning more about their oral health.

**Yankee Dental Congress 37/HIV Dental Work Group:** Seventeen Boston University dental students joined with dental students from Harvard and Tufts to staff the HIV Workgroup table sponsored by the Boston Public Health Commission. The HIV Dental Workgroup is part of the Boston Public Health Commission's AIDS program, the HIV dental program which facilitates access to oral health care for persons with HIV. This was the HIV Workgroup's 17th year of providing an educational exhibit on HIV oral health issues and infection control at Yankee Dental. GSDM students handed out packets of oral health information, talked with people who stopped by the booth, and assisted in collecting consumables donated for use in programs for persons with HIV.

### **GSDM's International Dental Missions**

GSDM continued its involvement in international dental missions to provide preventative and restorative oral health care to underserved communities worldwide, serving those who otherwise would not have access to care. These GSDM supported dental missions have increased in both number and type, as well as in the number of students participating in the trips.

During this past year, GSDM students participated in twelve international mission trips to Columbia, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, and Ukraine.

- An Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery postdoctoral student went to Ukraine with the Smiles International Foundation's Smiles of Ukraine team. The team provided consultations and performed surgeries on underserved children affected with various facial deformities and developmental anomalies, including cleft lip and palate.
- Faculty and postdoctoral students from the Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery Department traveled to Columbia with Healing the Children, NE, Inc., to perform surgeries on children affected with various facial deformities and developmental anomalies including cleft lip and palate.
- Two dental students traveled to Azacualpa, Honduras, as part of a health mission organized by the Medical Eye Dental International Care Organization (MEDICO). The pair of students was part of a six-person dental team that worked alongside medical and optometry teams to provide care to the residents of 21 villages surrounding Azacualpa. The mission group worked at a technical school treating a mix of 318 adults and children over the course of five days. The students also went with members of the team to local schools to provide fluoride treatment and promote oral health.
- Three dental students signed on with the Boston University Chapter of Global Brigades to travel to Honduras. Global Brigades is the world's largest student-led global health and sustainable development organization. The group spent four days providing oral health outreach, treating between 40 and 50 patients each, mainly performing extractions and composite fillings.
- Three dental students traveled to Poptun, Guatemala, with LIGA International treating patients of various ages in the dental clinic at Poptun Hospital. The team spent five days at the hospital performing a combination of extractions and restorations for 150 to 200 patients.
- Three dental students participated in a mission trip to Cap Haitien, Haiti, with the Cap Haitien Dental Institute to provide oral health outreach. Over the course of their week-long trip, the group treated a wide variety of adult and child patients in four different locations, working in some locations that were without running water or electricity. The team often would see well over 50 patients per day, working until supplies ran short.
- A group of GSDM alumni volunteers and two dental students traveled to Panama with Northeast Volunteer Optometric Services to Humanity (NEVOSH). The group treated 750 patients in three locations where a great deal of their outreach was focused on the very-poor indigenous population who reside in huts in a local mangrove swamp. Most of those they treated had no access to care and had no idea about how to care for their teeth.
- A dental student who hopes to become an oral and maxillofacial surgeon accompanied two oral surgeons from his home town on their annual mission trip to Cap Haitien and Milo, Haiti. The student assisted with cleft palate repair and surgeries to remove tumors and reconstruct jaws for individuals at both a local orphanage and hospital.



- Two dental students, paired with pediatric dentists serving as mentors, traveled with a GSDM faculty member to Rio San Juan, Nicaragua, with the San Juan Relief Organization. A total of 19 volunteers, including local Nicaraguan dentists, treated 519 adults and children. The students were a part of a group serving children and together they performed over 500 extractions.
- A dental student accompanied Dentistry for All (DFA) teams to Comitancillo, Guatemala, in the fall and to El Remate, Guatemala, in the spring of this past year. The teams consisted of 6 volunteers and 18 volunteers, respectively; and in both cases, the groups treated both children and adults in a full range of procedures.
- Four dental students joined GSDM faculty and alumni on a recent Project Stretch dental mission to Teacapan, Mexico, where they provided dental care to local children. The group treated more children than had been accomplished by any previous Project Stretch trip, treating 350 patients by performing extractions, placing sealants, applying fluoride, and carrying out 200 operative procedures.

### **Grants/Research Activities**

Health Resources and Services Administration <i>Community Based Dental Partnership Program</i>	PI: M. Henshaw	9/1/11-8/31/12 \$300,000
MetroWest Health Care Foundation <i>SEAL Framingham</i>	PI: C. Culler	9/1/11-8/31/12 \$67,862

### **Publications**

Devlin D, Henshaw MM. Improving Access to Preventive Dental Services through a school based dental sealant program. *J Dent Hyg.* 2011 Summer;85(3):211-9. Epub 2011 Aug 8.

### **Oral Health Policy**

Better Oral Health for Massachusetts Coalition – Michelle Henshaw is a member of the Steering Committee and member of the Assessment and Surveillance Work Group. Corinna Culler is Chair of the Assessment and Surveillance Work Group and member of the Steering Committee.

Massachusetts Coalition for Oral Health – Michelle Henshaw is a member.

Oral Health Advocacy Task Force – Michelle Henshaw is a member.