

2020 Strategic Initiatives Grantees

Organization Name	Project Name	Project Summary	Amount Awarded
Arkansas Center for Health Improvement (ACHI)	Arkansas Statewide Dental Care Assessment for Children and Adults	<p>ACHI will provide an updated analytic assessment of dental care and related outcomes for children and adults throughout Arkansas. Project will examine public and private claims data, transforming claims data into analytic data sets, tracking populations over time and across insurance carriers, application of geographic variables, and comparative statistics.</p> <p>Analysis will include key indicators to generate population profiles of adult tooth decay and periodontal disease, child and adolescent utilization of preventive dental care, and dental-related emergency care utilization.</p> <p>Geographic (county and/or regional) and provider-level (ownership type, payer mix, etc.) reporting components will serve to inform targeted intervention efforts throughout the state.</p>	\$163,000.00
Arkansas Community Foundation	Engaging the Community in Increasing Access to Oral Health Care for Young Children	<p>The Excel by Eight Foundations (E8F) Collaborative has a goal of increasing high quality health and education services to almost 36,000 low income infants and toddlers by 2025. Increasing access to oral health care is a key part of this goal. Project will reach children at home through home visits and at early child care centers to help child care providers assess and improve their practices around tooth brushing, food and beverages provided, teacher practices, education and professional development, and center policies. Local steering committees of early childhood education providers, dentists, and other community leaders will develop and implement plans for connecting families to oral health services through one or more of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Oral health providers provide education to parents at meetings hosted by child care or home visiting programs o Oral health providers assess/screen children at child care or home visiting programs o Child care or home visiting programs or other local partners help families access dental insurance and find a dental home 	\$155,290.00
Arkansas Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics Foundation (ARAAP)	Engaging the Community in Increasing Access to Oral Health Care for Young Children	<p>ARAAP will provide continuing medical education at their annual meetings in 2020 and 2021 that focuses on the pediatrician's role in addressing oral health according to AAP guidance, including referral to a dental home and use of existing AAP oral health resources, and communicating to patients about the changing coverage landscape for children's oral health in Arkansas.</p> <p>ARAAP will host seven regional partnership convenings to build awareness and strengthen referral relationships among providers who support children's well-being, including pediatricians, dentists, school nurses, home visitors, mental health providers, developmental service providers, early childhood centers, and community partners who support families' basic needs such as food pantries and shelters. Following the convenings, ARAAP will provide guidance on implementing oral health screening, oral health services such as fluoride varnish, and social determinants of health screenings. They will support communities in identifying and operationalizing a referral process that assures children and their families get connected with dentists and other services as identified by screeners.</p>	\$67,300.00
Arkansas State University System Foundation, Inc.	Initiating Oral Health Preventive Measures in Rural Arkansas	<p>The project's goal is to reduce the proportion of adults with untreated dental decay and improved outcomes for low-income children, adolescents, and adults in Arkansas. The purpose of this project is to improve awareness, improve oral health education to patients and increase screening referrals in the adolescent and geriatric populations. The target population is patients receiving their annual wellness exam, with particular focus on the existing 1600 Medicare and Medicaid patients, within two rural health clinic settings. Maximizing usage and implementation of evidenced based existing resources such as the Oral Health Risk Assessment Tool will be key factors in the ultimate success of this study. Findings are expected to improve oral health education for patient/providers, increase dental consults, and improve overall oral health for patients due to earlier availability to dental care. Multiple data sets including but not limited to co-morbidities of patients with dental caries, dental home referrals, and percentages of those that have received previous preventive care measures will be tracked to increase the knowledge base for potential future studies.</p>	\$53,908.00