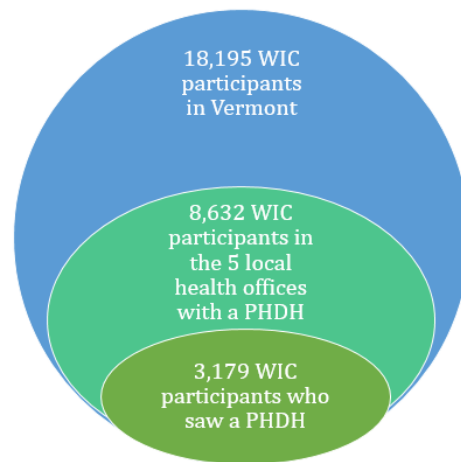


Public Health Dental Hygienists in Vermont: Their Reach in Five Local Health Offices in 2016

Public Health Dental Hygienists (PHDH) work to create an environment that supports early preventive dental care for families. They help bridge the divide between medicine and dentistry, and support dental public health programs in the communities they serve.

In 2016, 5 Public Health Dental Hygienists:

- Saw **3,179 individuals** in five Health Department local offices - **more than 1/3** of the WIC participants served by those offices
- Applied fluoride varnish at **468 WIC appointments** (mostly children)
- Had appointments with **149 non-WIC individuals** (mostly adults)



WIC = The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children

Public Health Dental Hygienist Outreach



(Image courtesy of Donna Fahner)

Susan Rand, Brattleboro Public Health Dental Hygienist, works with a parent and child at an outreach event.

Conducted 73 out-reach activities:

- ⇒ Fluoride varnish training
- ⇒ Age 1 dental visit training
- ⇒ Craniofacial clinic
- ⇒ 802 Quits Training
- ⇒ Adult Dental Care Day
- ⇒ ECHO Early learning program
- ⇒ and more...

...reaching ±1,300 individuals:

- ⇒ Community members
- ⇒ Dentists
- ⇒ Medical providers
- ⇒ Teachers
- ⇒ Day care providers
- ⇒ Students
- ⇒ and more...

...with 43 key partners:

- ⇒ Bennington Oral Health Coalition
- ⇒ Dental Offices
- ⇒ Head Start
- ⇒ University of Vermont
- ⇒ United Way
- ⇒ and more...

About the Public Health Dental Hygienist Program

The Vermont Department of Health is composed of one central office, a public health laboratory, and 12 local health offices around the state. Currently there are four half-time and one full-time Public Health Dental Hygienists located in five of the 12 local health offices. This program is relatively new, with the goal of expanding to new sites.