

# DENTAL NOTES

Newsletter of D.O.H.M.H. - The Bureau of Oral Health, Programs and Policy

Special Issue Winter 2004

Dedicated to Quality

Committed to Excellence

Number 22



OHPP: Renovating New York City Dental Clinics from the 1930s to the Cyber 21<sup>st</sup> Century

## Lower Manhattan Dental Clinic Reopens February 6, 2004 at the Leona Baumgartner Health Center in Chelsea

### OHPP Celebrates American Dental Association's National Give Kids a Smile Day and Launches *Seal Your Smile*- New York City Sealant Initiative During Children's Dental Health Month

The Lower Manhattan Child and Adolescent Oral Health Clinic renovation has been completed by the Bureau of Oral Health, Programs and Policy (OHPP). A welcome addition to this high need community, the Lower Manhattan Clinic improves access to dental care for children up to age 21. Comprehensive dental care and prevention services are available year round. Treatment services are listed under Services at a Glance (see page 5).

Built in 1935, the fully renovated Lower Manhattan clinic will provide much needed dental care, complementing the geographic delivery of services. The ergonomically designed clinic has been standardized with OHPP clinics to ensure optimal efficiency and effectiveness for the delivery of services. The clinic is an enlarged facility with state-of-the-art equipment. Features include: five operatories; enhanced radiographic diagnostic capacity, including panorex; a dental laboratory; and a sterilization area, which supports increased clinical capabilities.

The clinic is a *Center of Excellence* which, together with OHPP's four existing Health Center dental clinics, increases the capacity to provide clinical and public health services, ensures continued access during the summer and school holidays, and serves as a *hub* in the clinical network. The integrated network includes 45 community-

based dental clinics located in schools and other sites. An expansion from 45 to 66 sites is planned in 2004.

### American Dental Association Component Dental Societies, NYU and Columbia Join OHPP as Founding Members of *Seal Your Smile* Initiative

Dental decay is one of the most common chronic childhood diseases. The mission of the *Seal Your Smile* Initiative is to increase the number of New York City school aged children who receive dental sealants, the thin, hard protective coatings that prevent decay on the chewing surfaces of teeth. The initiative will focus on education, changing healthcare-seeking behaviors and improving access.

The NYC Dental Sealant Steering Committee, spearheaded by the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH), will provide leadership for the initiative. At present, the following are members: Bronx County Dental Society; Columbia University School of Dental and Oral Surgery; DOHMH OHPP; New York County Dental Society; New York University College of Dentistry; Queens County Dental Society and Second District Dental Society.

# ORAL HEALTH, PROGRAMS AND POLICY

## Highlights



▲ Year 2003 marks 90th anniversary of the Bureau of Oral Health, Programs and Policy (OHPP).

► Renovating New York City Dental Clinics from the 1930s to the Cyber 21st Century. OHPP's five health center dental clinics, with multiple treatment rooms, increase capacity. The renovation of Corona Clinic, (picture) was completed in November, 2003.



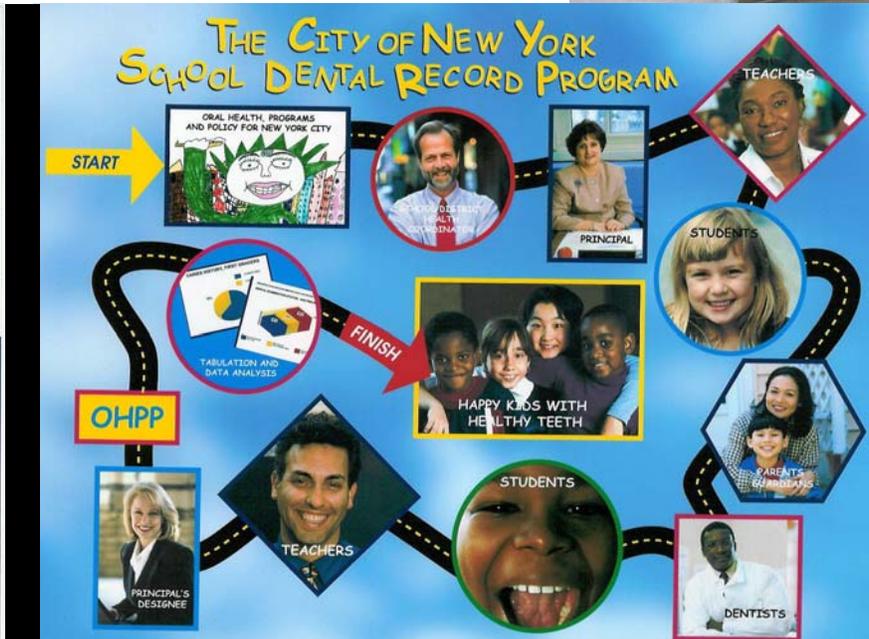
**OHPP'S MISSION**

To improve and maintain the oral health of New York City residents by the prevention and control of oral diseases and by the promotion of oral health

**SDR'S PROGRAM GOALS**

- Encourage early and regular oral examinations for children
- Promote access to care and follow-up dental treatment for children with oral health needs
- Collect information from returned Dental Records in order to:
  - Assess oral health status of NYC school children
  - Determine their dental treatment needs

Funded by the NYC Department of Health



**SCHOOL CHANCELLOR'S REGULATION**

- Recognizes effect of untreated dental problems
- Encourages parents to seek dental care for their children
- Strongly recommends dental examinations

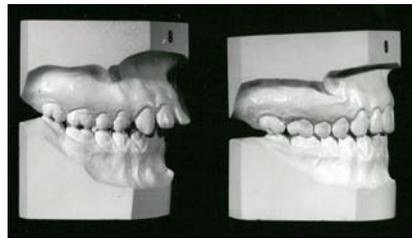
**TARGETED POPULATION**

Two different versions of the same form:

- DR-01: Children in pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, and 1st grade
- DR-02: Children in grades 5, 7, and 10

Oral Health, Programs and Policy for New York City  
299 Broadway • Suite 500 • NY, NY 10007 • 212-978-5540

▲ In 2003, School Dental Record Forms were distributed to educate 403,000 children in all 1,100 public schools and targeted grades (15,000 classrooms) in accordance with the School Chancellor's Regulation. Annually, information about the availability of services and age specific oral health messages are made available in 15 languages. A significant impact was made through outreach activities and public/private collaborations, in which screening, education and treatment referral services were provided to 37,000 children.



▲ Orthodontic Rehabilitation Program's new cases increased by record 43% in year 2003. The active case load was 23,283.

► Expansion plan was devised in 2003 to increase the number of Community-based clinics from 45 to 66, removing barriers to care and increasing access. PS 18 Clinic staff members include Dr. Joseph Taitelbaum and Alice Glickman, RDH.

*It's tiny now. Don't let it grow up to be oral cancer.*

See your dentist. Testing is now painless.

ADIA  
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◀ Oral Cancer Consortium screening and awareness campaign partners with American Dental Association efforts.



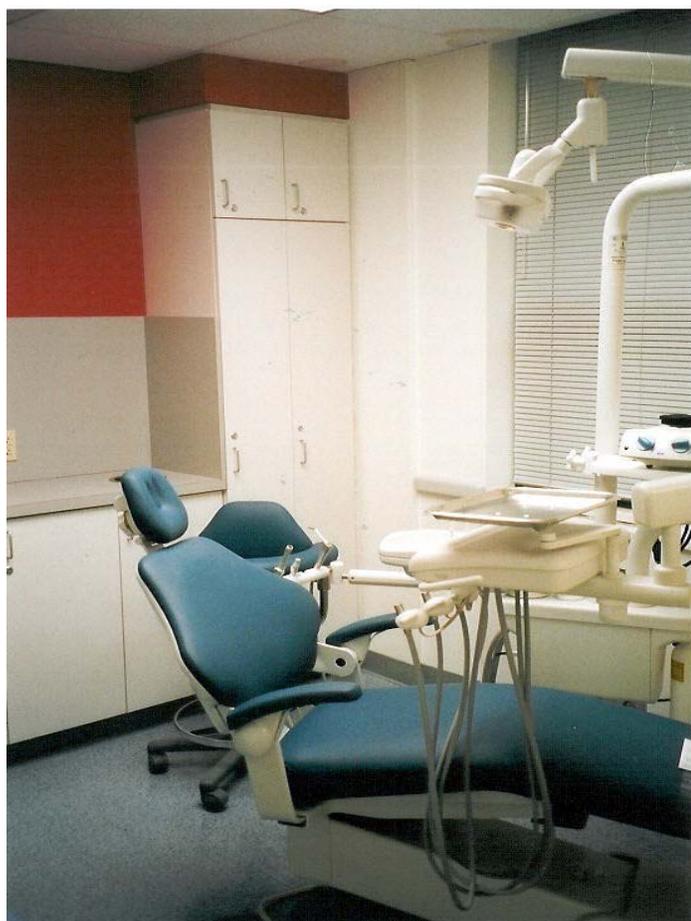
# LOWER MANHATTAN HEALTH CENTER DENTAL CLINIC



◀ One of five Treatment Rooms



▶ Panoramic X-ray Unit



▲ Treatment Room with Cabinetry



▲ Modern Sterilization Area

## Chronology of Dental Public Health in New York City

**Past... Present ... Future...**

1791	The nation's first health dispensary for the treatment of the indigent is established by Skinner in New York City and dental services are included.	1987-1989	The Bureau provides dental services to 60,000 children in 18 Health Centers and 80 Schools, and is renamed Bureau of Dental Health Services, October, 1989.
1884	M. L. Rhein of New York City coins the term <i>oral hygiene</i> and urges dentists to teach their patients proper methods of tooth brushing.		The Bureau embarks on a pioneering initiative for the purpose of enhancing outcomes, controlling costs and promoting operational efficiencies. This model utilizes multi-faceted MIS and Quality Assurance programs on the cutting edge of dentistry at the time.
1908	First school-based dental clinic opens in New York City through efforts of a philanthropic organization.		Targeting of high risk children is instituted utilizing hygienists screening and educating children in schools. Innovations: regionalization; development of pre-school program; expanded continuing education.
1913	<b>A dental component is established in the New York City Department of Health (DOH) under the Division of School Medical Inspection, Bureau of Child Hygiene, marking the beginning of the commitment by municipal government to combat the widespread prevalence of dental disease. Construction of dental clinics in elementary schools follows.</b>	1990	Under the direction of Dr. Murray Rosenthal, 1986 - 1991, the Bureau tests and begins to deploy portable dental clinics as an alternative delivery model to fixed dental sites in response to the following trends: emergence of adolescents and immigrants as high-risk groups and demographic changes. Conversion of fixed school sites to 32 portable clinics in elementary, intermediate and high schools is completed by 1991.
1915	The <i>School Dental Note</i> is instituted in elementary schools to urge parents to take children for regular dental visits.		
1916	New York State authorizes Dental Hygienists as a licensed profession.	1991	Due to the efforts of Dr. Neal Herman, Assistant Commissioner and Director, 1991-1992, the Bureau sustains NYC's second fiscal crisis.
1921	The NYC Board of Education and the NYC Department of Health agree that all clinics in public schools established by voluntary agencies are placed under the supervision of the Bureau of Child Hygiene, the NYC Department of Health.	1994	Bureau is functionally transferred to NYC Health and Hospitals Corporation, November, 1994; renamed Oral Health, Programs and Policy for NYC (OHPP).
	NYC Department of Health introduces Dental Hygienists to its staff.		Video documentary of OHPP programs is featured at World Health Organization, World Year of Oral Health ceremony. Colgate-Palmolive "Bright Smiles, Bright Futures" Mobile Dental Van Partnership is initiated.
1925	The first dental public health initiative for the New York State Health Department occurs when a dental hygienist is assigned to the Maternal and Hygiene Program.	1996-1997	Updated <i>School Dental Note</i> is renamed <i>School Dental Record Program</i> in School Chancellor's Regulation. Revisions include: epidemiological data; multi-language age specific health messages and referral information.
1931	The Division of Dental Services is established in the Bureau of Child Hygiene. Larger dental clinics are constructed in Health Centers throughout the 1930s.		The first fully renovated Health Center dental clinic in major capital plan reopens in 1996 and three more gut renovations are completed in 1997 under the leadership of Dr. D. Mercedes Franklin, serving progressively as Assistant Commissioner, and Director, Medical Affairs 1993 - present. Design of remaining clinics follows.
1932	A special health commission reporting on public health in New York State recommends that a Division of Dentistry and Mouth Hygiene be established in the New York State Health Department.	1998-2000	Quality Assurance Program formally offers CDE credits. OHPP is a founding member of the Oral Cancer Consortium; adult screening is institutionalized.
1938	As a result of the Social Security Act of 1935, the New York State Department of Health appoints a public health dentist to its staff.		OHPP cosponsors City Smiles 2000 with the component dental societies: New York County; Second District; Queens County; and the Bronx County. The Colgate-Palmolive Dental Van Partnership is expanded.
1947	Executive order of the Commissioner creates the Bureau of Dentistry in NYC Department of Health.	2002	OHPP launches New York City component of the New York State Oral Health Surveillance System.
1949	Bureau of Dentistry administers <i>Orthodontia</i> Program; 235 children are under active treatment and Bureau provides interceptive orthodontic care in clinics.	2003-2004	OHPP is transferred back from HHC to NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and becomes the Bureau of Oral Health, Programs and Policy, July 2003. Integrated clinical network consists of 45 Community-based clinics and the Washington Heights, Fort Greene and Bushwick Health Center dental clinics.
1965	Fluoridation begins for NYC's eight million residents at 11 A.M. on September 30, 1965, due to the efforts of Dr. Arthur Bushel, Director 1955-1965, Bureau of Dentistry.		<i>Centers of Excellence</i> are established with completion of Corona Health Center dental clinic gut renovation in Nov. 2003, and the Lower Manhattan clinic in Feb. 2004.
1974	A formal Quality Assurance Program is established under the leadership of Dr. Morton Fisher, Director 1972-74 and Dr. Yale Pava, Director 1974-1987.		Community-based clinics will expand from 45 to 66 during 2004, bringing the total number of clinics to 71.
1975-1980	At it's peak, the Bureau of Dentistry provides dental services to 113,000 children in 28 health centers and 164 school clinics, in 1975.		
	Due to the efforts of Dr. Yale Pava, the Bureau is able to continue operations despite the fiscal crisis in NYC.		

# **BUREAU OF ORAL HEALTH, PROGRAMS AND POLICY (OHPP)**

**MISSION:** to improve the oral health of New York City residents through the prevention and control of oral diseases and the promotion of oral health. OHPP advocates for oral health issues and operates a wide range of programs and activities. Partnerships with private corporations, academic institutions and dental organizations maximize the use of limited resources.

## **SERVICES AT A GLANCE (2/02/04)**

### **Clinical Network of Community-based and Health Center Dental Clinics**

OHPP operates an integrated network of community-based and health center dental clinics, providing comprehensive dental treatment for children and adolescents up to age 21 who are at high risk for dental diseases and/or who may not otherwise receive professional dental services. The children are from poor, working poor and immigrant families who experience a greater prevalence of dental diseases. In FY '03, the total number of clinic visits is 59,296.

The City of New York has provided dental services in public schools since 1913, recognizing that oral health is integral to general health. The current operating model consists of a fleet of innovative community-based portable dental clinics, which brings comprehensive treatment, prevention and referral services directly into communities, expanding reach and increasing access to care. Portable dental clinics are located directly in public schools and other community locations, such as recreation centers, day care centers and Head Start programs throughout the five boroughs, for up to several years depending on need. The number of community-based clinics is being expanded from 45 to 66 in FY'04.

Since the 1930s dental clinics have been located in the city's District Health Centers. Recently renovated, these state-of-the-art clinics have four to five treatment rooms and provide much needed dental care, complementing the geographic delivery of dental services. In addition to the dental clinics in operation at the Washington Heights, Fort Greene, Bushwick, and Corona Health Centers, the Lower Manhattan Health Center dental clinic will open in February 2004.

The clinical program's goals are to educate, prevent and treat oral diseases, and help link families to primary care dental services within their communities. Treatment services include the following:

- Diagnostic and radiographic services.
- Emergency treatment.
- Preventive treatment, (including oral health education; prophylaxis; fluoride; occlusal sealants; space maintenance).
- Restorative treatment (amalgam and composite restorations; stainless steel crowns).
- Endodontics, periodontal care and oral surgery.
- Interceptive orthodontic care; referral for full banding and surgical orthodontic treatment.

A partnership with Colgate-Palmolive's Bright Smiles, Bright Futures (BSBF) Mobile Dental Program is aimed at children in grades pre-k through eight. It serves as a one-time enhancement component bringing additional free screening, education and treatment referrals to significantly more schools. OHPP coordinates the selection of school sites for the BSBF mobile dental van, which is situated outside of schools on or adjacent to school property. In FY '03, the van reached 12,483 children and an additional 75 schools.

### **Orthodontic Rehabilitation Program (ORP)**

ORP enables eligible children up to age 21 who manifest severe, disabling malocclusions to receive treatment in accordance with Title V of the Public Health Law (PHCP), and ensures the quality of care. ORP uses an extensive panel of private and institutional orthodontists, multi-discipline surgical and specialty care providers, and three state approved academic screening institutions, which provide initial screening and case review services. Recipients must be eligible for Medicaid or State Aid Assistance and have a severe malocclusion. This includes treatment of birth defects (cleft lip/palate) and malocclusions associated with skeletal deformities. At the end of FY '03, the number of active cases was 22,220.

### **School Dental Record Program (SDRP)**

SDRP implements the School Chancellor's Regulation, which strongly recommends an oral health examination for students in selected grades in elementary, intermediate and high schools. In FY '03 parents of 403,000 students were informed through the SDRP about the locations of OHPP and other community dental providers and how to maintain good oral health. Program goals include:

- encourage early and regular examinations.
- promote access to dental care and follow-up treatment for children with needs.
- collect information to establish needs assessments and treatment profiles.
- provide age appropriate messages (now in 15 languages) for parents and children and information about available services.

### **New York City Oral Health Surveillance System**

OHPP conducts the city's component of the CDC-funded New York State Oral Health Surveillance System to monitor oral diseases and conditions, access and use of preventive services in public and non public school children.

### **Core Public Health Policy/Services**

OHPP provides leadership for oral health policy direction and provision of public oral health services for the City of New York. The core public health components include:

Oral Health Policy/Assessment:

- Policy, planning and oral health legislative issues
- Maintenance of water fluoridation standards
- Community oral health assessment; research
- Community partnerships; access issues

Oral Diseases Intervention

- Public and professional education (presentations for parents, classrooms, health care professionals and community organizations among others; publications; Continuing Dental Education).
- Community prevention/ early detection (Oral Cancer Consortium events for adults; Mouth guards/oral injury prevention; Early Childhood Caries (ECC)).
- Outreach and linkages (identification of high risk groups; case finding (screening) and referrals).

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

The Bureau of Oral Health, Programs and Policy expresses its gratitude to those who lent support and assistance to the renovation of the Lower Manhattan Child and Adolescent Oral Health Clinic and the realization of today's celebration.

Special thanks to City Council member Christine Quinn for her support of the Leona Baumgartner Health Center and the Lower Manhattan Dental Clinic renovation.

**NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE****Office of the Commissioner**

Thomas R. Frieden, MD, MPH, Commissioner  
Christina Chang

**Division of Administration**

Scottie Owings-Leaks

**Bureau of Operations**

James Durrah

**Leona Baumgartner Health Center**

Kevin McGrath, Bernard Everett, Teresa PaParone

**Division of Financial and Strategic Management**

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**Office of the Communications**

Sandra Mullin, Sid Dinsay, Jessica Morris, Monique Duwell

**Office of the General Counsel, Governmental Affairs**

Francis Paris

**Division of Health Care Access and Improvement**

James L. Capozziello

**Bureau of Administrative Services**

Carl Geffken, Michael Tannerbaum

**Bureau of Oral Health, Programs and Policy**

D. Mercedes Franklin, DMD, MPH, Herbert S. Kenigsberg, DDS, James M. Wolin, MBA, Neal G. Herman, DDS, Robert J. Grace, DDS, Toni D. Smith, Jesse Kravit, DDS, B. Kaye Tinkelman, Meryl Hersh, DDS, Sheldon Lisogorsky, Helen Williams, Jacqueline Richardson, Joseph Guillaubert, DA, Kee Fung, Nirva Samy, Antoinette Gulstone, Deborah Creal, Diane Scott, Ivanette St. Agathe, Joann Veras, PoTung Wong, Tarik Washington, Neal Campbell, Jose Minaya, Frank Cardinale, Jonas Acevedo

**Lower Manhattan Dental Staff**

Florian Honore, DDS, Fitzroy Maitland, DDS, Allan Matthew, DDS, Anthony Nguyen, DDS, Madlen Nishanian, DDS, Lili Gafni-Montag, DDS, Gail Kashdan, RDH, Barbara Reiter, RDH, Tracy Bolden, DA, Camila Ramos, DA, Nydia Santos, DA, Amy Zhang, DA, Lillian Rodriguez-Gross, DA, Li Zhang, DA

**NEW YORK CITY HEALTH AND HOSPITALS CORPORATION****Facilities Development**

Philip Robinson, Peter Hadaszy, Marsha Powell

**NEW YORK STATE DORMITORY AUTHORITY**

Anthony Botta, Project Manager

**THE HALL PARTNERSHIP, Architects**

Klaus W. Schmitt, RA

**L & B Construction, Inc., General Contractor**

Rajinder Singh, Satwinder Singh

Staff for Dental NotesDental Notes is Published by:

New York Department of Health and Mental Hygiene  
Oral Health, Programs and Policy  
299 Broadway, Suite 500 - CN 75  
New York, New York, 10007

**D. Mercedes Franklin, D.M.D., M.P.H.**  
Director, Medical Affairs

**Herbert S. Kenigsberg, D.D.S., M.A.G.D.**  
Director, Clinical Affairs  
and Disease Intervention

**Anthony DiBartolo, D.D.S.**  
Director, Orthodontic Rehabilitation Program

**James M. Wolin, M.B.A., C.P.P.B.**  
Director, Operations Management  
and Budget

**Neal G. Herman, D.D.S.**  
Senior Policy Advisor

**Deborah G. Creal**  
Executive Assistant

**Diane Scott**  
Assistant Coordinating Manager

**PoTung Wong**  
Computer Aide I



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