

# Questions?

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## Children's Dental Services

*Bringing smiles for miles*

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## Children's Dental Services

A User Guide

for

Minneapolis Public Schools

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# Children's Dental Services

## Who are we?

Children's Dental Services (CDS) is a non-profit, public health dental clinic that provides dental care to low income children and pregnant women. Since the 1960's CDS has been providing a full range of portable dental care within the Minneapolis Public Schools (MPS). CDS' is especially well-equipped to serve diverse students and those with special needs. CDS' staff speak over 17 languages and hail from more than 20 countries. CDS also serves many feeder programs for MPS including all Head Starts in Hennepin County.

## Who do we serve?

- ◆ Children age 0-26, pregnant women of all ages
- ◆ Accept all forms of insurance
- ◆ Sliding fee scale for income eligible families



## What do we offer?

- ◆ Screenings
- ◆ Onsite dental care
- ◆ Oral health education

## Why do we do it?

- ◆ Dental disease is the most common, chronic childhood illness
- ◆ Over 51 million hours of school time are lost in the U.S. annually due to dental-related illness
- ◆ Oral health is essential to a child's overall health, well-being, and school success

# Contact

*Please don't hesitate to contact CDS with regarding services, scheduling on site care, screenings, outreach events, or helping families connect with resource. If a student is in immediate pain, please call immediately and we will work to provide them care as soon as possible.*

## Jo Koski

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# Outreach

CDS offers our knowledge, materials and energy at school and community events! This is a great opportunity for families to ask any questions they may have about our services and sign up for on site dental care. Screenings can also be performed at these events!

## **Outreach is most often completed at the following school events:**

- ◆ Open Houses and Back to School events.
- ◆ Parent/Teacher Conferences.
- ◆ Kindergarten Round-Up.
- ◆ Any School event where families will be gathered

Oral Health Presentations are also offered during school hours. These are 30-60 minute oral education classes for all ages that educate students on the importance of oral health and help answer questions about access to care. Please contact Jo Koski to set up outreach or presentations!



## Benefits of school-based dental care

CDS addresses the three main barriers to care:

1. Transportation
2. Financial
3. Cultural

- ◆ Portable equipment is set-up, taken down and transported independently in CDS van by trained CDS staff
- ◆ Enables easy and efficient follow-up care
- ◆ Equipment folds up for easy transport and easy set-up
- ◆ Equipment is small enough to fit in just about any room
- ◆ CDS has several sets of equipment, enabling multiple sites in one day



# On site care

## Who's eligible?

ALL STUDENTS ARE ELIGIBLE FOR ON SITE DENTAL CARE!

No child is denied treatment due to an inability to pay. CDS accepts all forms of public and private insurance, and offer a sliding scale discount program for families not eligible for medical assistance. Families who do not have insurance at the time of signing a consent will be contacted prior to care to discuss options. CDS also works in partnership with Assured Access through Hennepin County, and recognizes its discount program.

## Active Consent

1. Parents or guardians fill out a one page medical history and consent to treat, valid for one year from date signed.
2. In signing this form, parents consent to an exam and preventative services without a parent or guardian present.
3. If restorative care is required, parents are contacted and a treatment plan is discussed prior to further care. Parents of patients who require extractions are notified the day of expected treatment, prior to taking student out of class

## Verifying ID

In order to ensure services are being provided for the correct child, two processes of identifying take place:

1. Students are identified by a MPS staff member
2. A CDS provider will follow protocol to identify the student present using information provided from the consent form

# Screenings

## The Service

The screening is not done by a dentist and is not meant to replace regular visits to your family's dentist; the purpose is to determine which children have problems that need the immediate attention of a dentist. Time needed to screen entire school greatly depends on student body size and school class schedule.

## The Process

### 1. Passive Consent

Letters sent home one week prior to screening ask families who do NOT wish to participate to fill out and return the form

### 2. The Screening

Trained CDS staff will arrive at school to realize screening process for all students who did NOT return the passive consent.

### 3. Follow up

After screening, CDS sends a second letter home to those who participate alerting families to visible cavities and urgent dental problems. A follow up phone call is also made to answer questions about the screening and our school based dental care



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