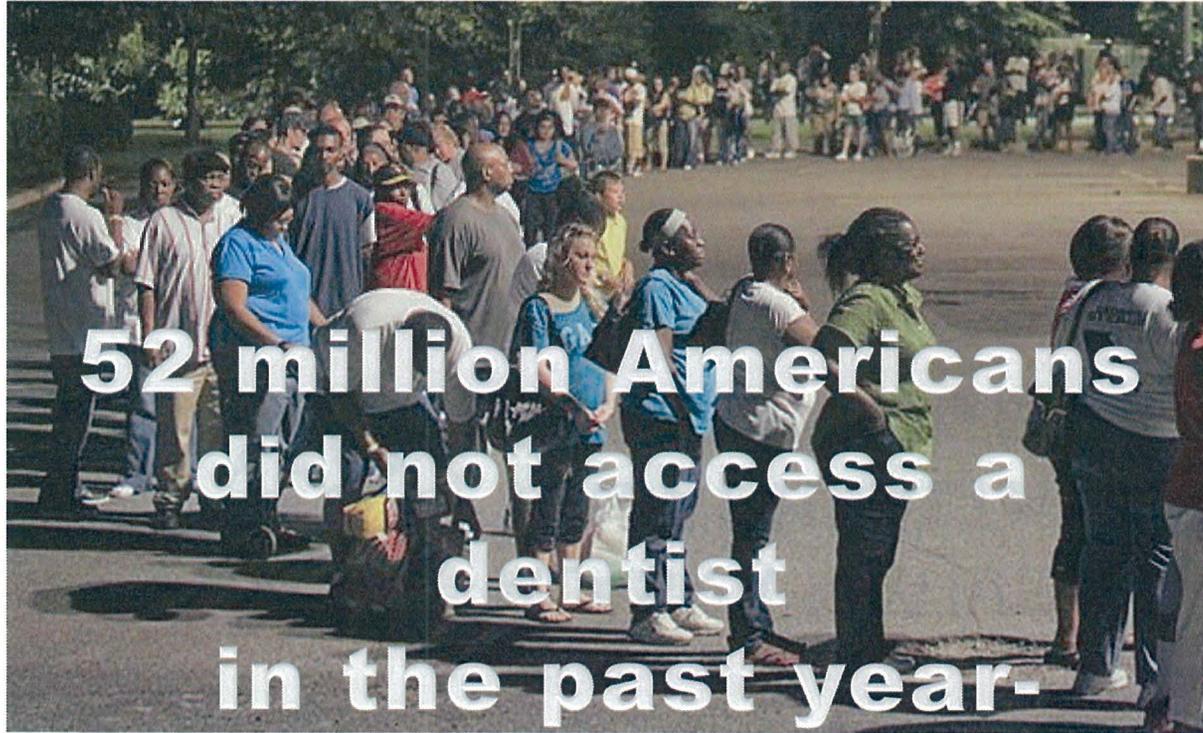


Alaska DHAT



**ALASKA NATIVE
TRIBAL HEALTH
CONSORTIUM**

Mary Williard, DDS
Bismarck, ND
August 2, 2016



**52 million Americans
did not access a
dentist
in the past year-
our system is broken**

John Spink-copyright

<http://www.ajc.com/news/cherokee/thousands-line-up-for-1101295.html>



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AI/AN adult dental patients suffer disproportionately from untreated dental caries, with twice the prevalence of untreated caries as the general U.S. population and more than any other racial/ethnic group. *

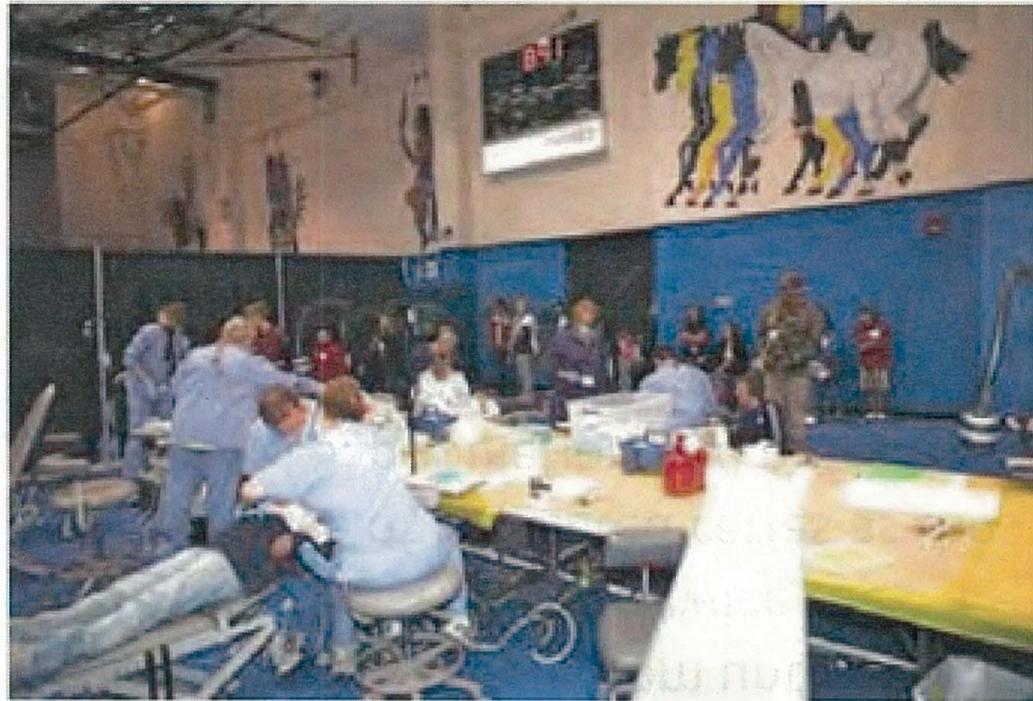
Our treaties promise better

*IHS Data Brief, March 2016,
Results of the 2015 IHS Oral Health Survey
Drs. Phipps and Ricks



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Spirit Lake Pediatric Dental Day



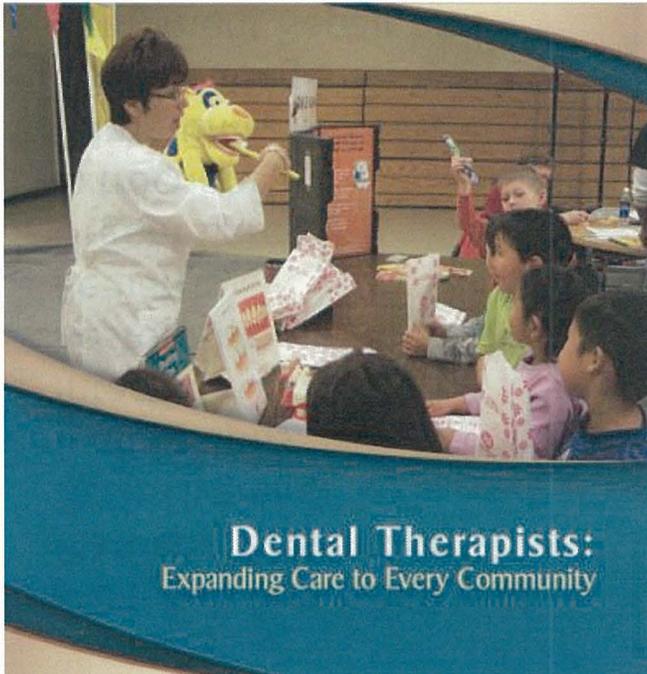
<http://www.pediatricdentistrytoday.org/2012/March/XLVIII/2/news/article/39/>

Pediatric Dentistry Today, AAPD
March 2012 Volume XLVIII Number 2
By Jan Silverman



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Dental Therapists: A Definition



Primary oral health care professionals

- Basic clinical dental treatment and preventive services
- Multidisciplinary team members
- Advocate for the needs of clients
- Refer for services beyond the scope of the dental therapist's practice.*

*SASKATCHEWAN DENTAL THERAPISTS ASSOCIATION

WK Kellogg Foundation,

<http://www.wkkf.org/resource-directory/resource/oral-health-resources/dental-therapists-expanding-care-to-every-community>

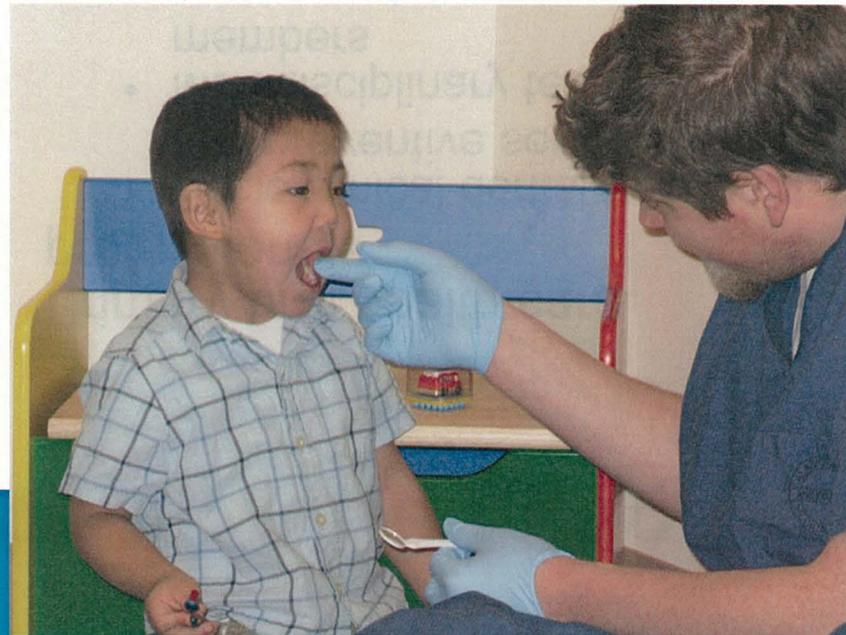


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DHAT Scope of Practice 2 year educational program

Diagnosis and Treatment
Planning, Prevention,
Basic Hygiene,
Radiographs,
Infection Control,
Restorative,
Pediatric,
Urgent Care,
Extractions,
Community Projects,
Clinic Management,
Equipment Repair and
Maintenance,
Referral Process

- **All ages**
- **General Supervision**
- Part of a **team** of dental and medical providers

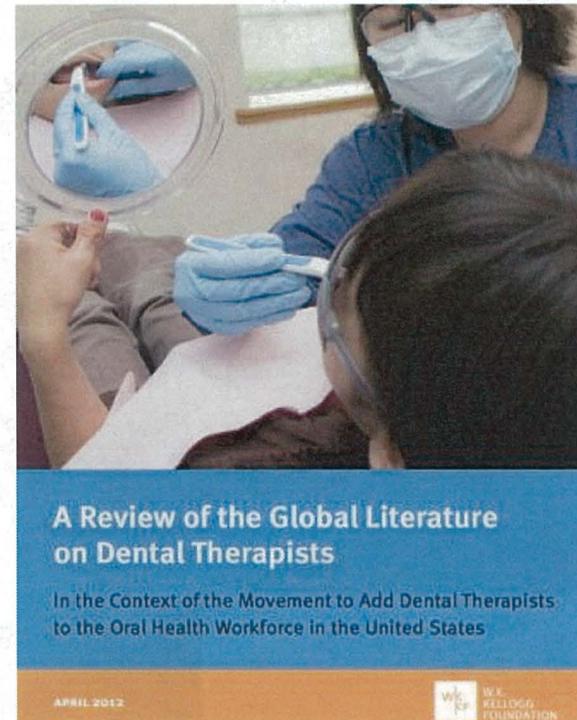


DHAT, Ben Steward, examining patient

“A Review of the Global Literature on Dental Therapists”*

Dental Therapists:

- Decrease cost of care
- Improve access to care
- Provide care safely
- Public values the role of dental therapists
- Traditionally 2 years education



<http://www.wkcf.org/news-and-media/article/2012/04/nash-report-is-evidence-that-dental-therapists-expand-access>

*Prepared by: David A. Nash, Jay W. Friedman, Kavita R. Mathu-Muju, Peter G. Robinson, Julie Satur, Susan Moffat, Rosemary Kardos, Edward C.M. Lo, Anthony H.H. Wong, Nasruddin Jaafar, Jos van den Heuvel, Prathip Phantumvanit, Eu Oy Chu, Rahul Naidu, Lestey Naidu, Irving McKenzie and Eshani Fernando

Supported by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation



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Research Triangle Institute Clinical Evaluation*



DHAT provide:

- Competent, safe and appropriate care
- High patient satisfaction
- Well accepted in AK tribal villages

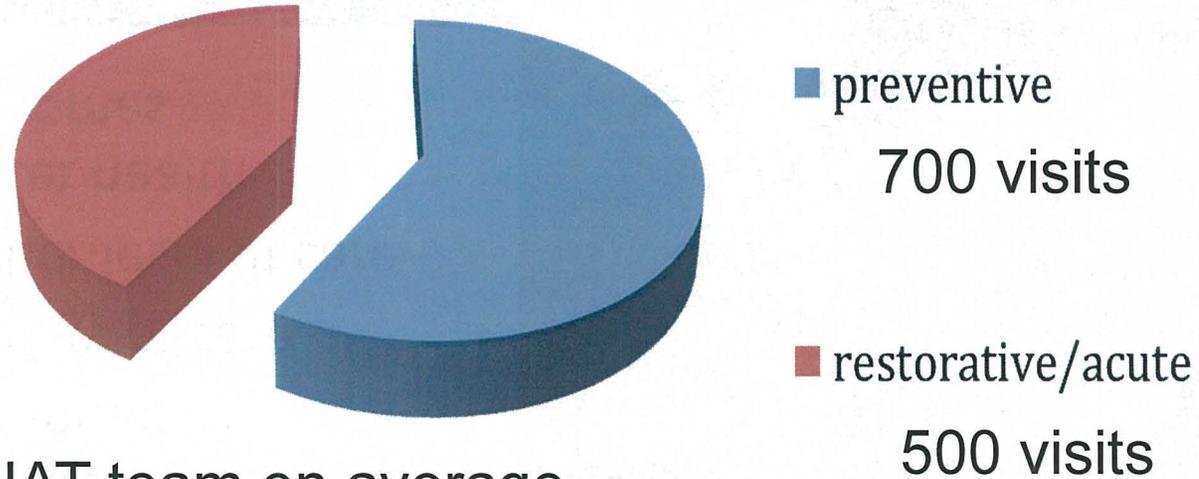


*"Evaluation of the Dental Health Aide Therapist Workforce Model in Alaska Final Report" Prepared for: W.K. Kellogg Foundation, Rasmuson Foundation, Bethel Community Services Foundation. Prepared by: Scott Wetterhall, MD, MPH, James D. Bader, DDS, MPH, Barri B. Burrus, PhD, Jessica Y. Lee, DDS, PhD, Daniel A. Shugars, DDS, PhD, MPH. RTI International 3040 Cornwallis Road Research Triangle Park, NC 27709. RTI Project Number 0211727.000.001



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Patient visits



Each DHAT team on average, provides care to 830 patients during approximately 1200 patient encounters (or visits) each year.

From ANTHC Consultant Survey of AK Tribal Dental Directors

Scott and Co. Consulting



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Improved Access, Improved Care

- 40,000 people in rural AK now have direct access to care
- Living and working in communities
- Continuity of care
 - Higher level of care
 - Better health outcomes



DHAT Aurora Johnson, NZ
Educated

DHAT do more than just fill teeth

- 31 working in over 80 villages
- State saves \$40,000 in avoided travel per DHAT
- Roll models
- Culturally competent
- Rural jobs



Trisha Patton, DHAT student, taking x-rays



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OUR VISION:

Alaska Native people are the
healthiest people in the world.

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