

Oral Health Program

Directory of Dental Access Programs

August 2009

The North Dakota Department of Health's Oral Health Program does not run dental clinics in the state, but provides support to selected agencies and organizations to provide dental care. The listing below provides information about the ways you may be able to find dental care for children and families.

Safety Net Dental Clinics

Safety net clinics are most often nonprofit, community-sponsored dental clinics that usually see patients who do not have other access to dental care. These programs typically serve patients covered by Medicaid and offer sliding fee schedules or reduced fees.

Bridging the Dental Gap

1223 South 12th Street, Suite #1

Bismarck, N.D. 58504

Phone: 701.221.0518

Email: dentalgap@yahoo.com

Bridging the Dental Gap is a nonprofit, community dental clinic serving low-income and uninsured individuals in the Bismarck-Mandan area.

Eligibility and Rules:

To qualify for services, individuals must:

- Reside within a 50-mile radius of Bismarck or Mandan.
- Be low-income or uninsured children.
- Be accompanied by a parent or guardian if younger than 18.
- Be low-income or uninsured adults with emergency dental needs.
- Supply proof of total household income and family size.

Individuals pay for services based on a sliding fee scale. Medicaid clients are accepted. Appointments are required.

Services:

Sliding fee discounts cover exams, cleanings, sealants, fluoride applications, x-rays, fillings and extractions. Dentures, partials, root canals, IV sedation, oral surgery and root planning/scaling have maximum 50 percent discount.

Hours:

Monday – Friday, varied hours

Open at 8 a.m. each day

Family HealthCare Center Dental Clinic**306 4th Street North (lower level)****Fargo, N.D. 58102****Phone: 701.271.3332****Email:****Website: www.famhealthcare.org**

The Family HealthCare Center Dental Clinic is a federally qualified community health center serving low-income and uninsured individuals within the Red River Valley Region of both Minnesota and North Dakota.

Eligibility and Rules:

To qualify for services, individuals must:

- Be low-income or uninsured children and adults.
- Be accompanied by a parent or guardian if younger than 18.
- Supply proof of total household income and family size.

Individual pay for services based on a sliding fee scale. Medicaid, Healthy Steps, CHIP and Minnesota Care Plan clients from both North Dakota and Minnesota are accepted. Appointments are required; however, walk-ins are accepted for emergency toothaches.

Services:

Emergency care, extractions and exams, x-rays, cleanings, fillings, fluoride applications and sealants for children are available.

Interpretive services are free of charge to patients during clinic appointments.

Hours:

Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Red River Valley Dental Access Project**Urgent Care/Walk-In Dental Clinic****Family HealthCare Center****Moorhead Dental Clinic – Family Service Center****715 North 11th Street, Suite 106B****Moorhead, Minn. 56560****Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1748, Fargo, N.D. 58107****Phone: 701.364.5364****Email: mberg@rrdentalaccess.com****Website: www.rrdentalaccess.com**

The clinic is a humanitarian project that serves low-income, uninsured or Medicaid-eligible individuals who have urgent dental pain and do not have access to a dentist. The clinic is staffed by 51 volunteer Fargo-Moorhead area dentists, including eight dental specialists.

Eligibility and Rules:

To qualify for services, individuals must:

- Be low-income or uninsured (may have Medicaid or CHIP).
- Be accompanied by parent or guardian if younger than 18.

There are no residency requirements to receive treatment. A \$20 per visit co-pay is required and must be paid at the visit. No appointments are necessary; walk-ins are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.

Services:

- Services are provided for immediate relief of pain only and may include:
 - Sedative fillings.
 - Palliative treatment.
 - Management of oral infections.
 - Assessment of minor dental trauma.
 - Extractions.

Hours:

Tuesdays, 5:30 p.m. – 7:45 p.m. (An appointment sign-up sheet is posted at 4 p.m.)

First and third Fridays of the month, 1 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. (An appointment sign-up sheet is posted at 11:30 a.m.)

Valley Community Health Centers Dental Clinic

212 South 4th Street, Suite 101

Grand Forks, N.D. 58201

Phone: 701.757.2100

E-mail: sharon.ericson@valleychc.org

The Valley Community Health Centers Dental Clinic is part of a federally qualified community health center serving low-income, uninsured and insured individuals of all ages in the Northern Red River Valley.

Eligibility and Rules:

To qualify for services individuals must:

- Present insurance cards at the time of service (Blue Cross Blue Shield, Medicaid, Healthy Steps, Minnesota Care, Minnesota health plans, CHIP, etc.).
- Supply proof of total household income and family size for sliding fee discount.
- Pay a co-payment of \$30 at the time of service (or the co-payment for your insurance).
- Be on time for appointments.
- Be accompanied by a parent or guardian if younger than 18.

Individuals pay for services on a sliding fee scale. Medicaid clients from both North Dakota and Minnesota are accepted. Appointments are required. No cell phones are allowed.

Services:

Services provided at the dental clinic include exams, cleanings, sealants, fluoride applications, fillings and extractions.

Hours:

Monday – Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.

State Sponsored Health Programs

Healthy Steps (Children's Health Insurance Program – CHIP)
North Dakota Department of Human Services
600 E. Boulevard Ave., Dept. 325
Bismarck, N.D. 58505-0250
Phone: 877.KIDS.NOW or 877.543.7669
E-mail: jmhulm@nd.gov
Website: www.nd.gov/humanservices/services/medicalserv/chip/

Healthy Steps insurance is intended to meet the needs of working families who cannot afford health insurance coverage for their children, but who earn too much to qualify for Medicaid. Healthy Steps is a program to help cover dental expenses for children of families who qualify.

Eligibility and Rules:

To qualify for services, individuals must:

- Be children who do not have health insurance coverage.
- Be 18 or younger.
- Be children who do not qualify for the North Dakota Medicaid Program.
- Be children who live in families with qualifying incomes.
- Be single 18-year-olds with eligible incomes.

For eligibility guidelines, visit www.nd.gov/humanservices/services/medicalserv/chip/eligible.html.

To locate services near you, visit www.nd.gov/humanservices/locations/countysocialserv/.

Services:

Exams, x-rays, cleaning, fillings, sealants, fluoride application, space maintainers, crowns, root canals, extractions, dentures (partial and full) and anesthesia

Hours:

By appointment with participating providers

North Dakota Medicaid Program
Medical Services Division
North Dakota Department of Human Services
600 E. Boulevard Ave., Dept. 325
Bismarck, N.D. 58505-0250
Phone: 701.328.2321 or 800.755.2604 (toll-free)
Fax: 701.328.1544
E-mail: dhsmed@nd.gov
Website: www.nd.gov/humanservices/services/medicalserv/medicaid/

Finding dental care can be difficult for many low-income individuals. The North Dakota Medicaid Program can help cover dental expenses for individuals who qualify.

Eligibility and Rules:

For eligibility requirements, visit www.nd.gov/humanservices/services/medicalserv/medicaid/eligible.html.

Services:

Exams, x-rays, cleaning, filling, surgery, extractions, crowns, root canals, dentures (partial and full) and anesthesia

Hours:

By appointment with participating providers

Children's Special Health Services (CSHS)

North Dakota Department of Health

600 E. Boulevard Ave., Dept. 301

Bismarck, ND 58505-0200

Phone: 701.328.2436

ND toll-free 800.755.2714

E-mail: dohcshsadm@nd.gov

Website: www.ndhealth.gov/CSHS/

Children's Special Health Services provides dental services for children with special health-care needs.

Eligibility and Rules:

A child must be a North Dakota resident from birth to age 21 with a special health-care need.

- To be medically eligible, a child must have one of the following dental conditions:
 - Cleft lip and/or palate
 - Handicapping malocclusion
 - Congenital dental disorder (e.g., dentinogenesis imperfecta, congenitally missing teeth, etc.)
 - Ectodermal dysplasia
- Financial eligibility for treatment services is at 185 percent of the federal poverty level. If family income is over this level, children may still be eligible. In this instance, income that is above the CSHS financial eligibility level is divided by 12 to arrive at a monthly cost share. Once the family's share of health-care expenses has been met for the month, CSHS can cover care related to the eligible dental condition.
- Dental specialists providing services must be enrolled with the Children's Special Health Services Program (e.g., oral surgeons, orthodontists, pedodontists and prosthodontists).

See Children's Special Health Services eligibility guidelines at

www.ndhealth.gov/CSHS/docs/cshs-diagnostic-and-treatment-services-fact-sheet.pdf.

A list of North Dakota dental specialists that have agreed to participate with the Children's Special Health Services Program is posted online at **www.ndhealth.gov/CSHS/docs/cshs-provider-list.pdf**.

Services:

Dental diagnostic services – These services help identify a potentially eligible dental condition or help to develop a treatment plan. Diagnostic services do not require financial eligibility.

Dental treatment services – Treatment services do require financial eligibility. These services help children with cleft conditions, handicapping malocclusion, congenital dental disorders, and ectodermal dysplasia. Covered services vary depending on the condition. Possible services include:

- Preventive dental care – oral exams, teeth cleaning, sealants, fluoride treatments, and x-rays.
- Restorative care – fillings and crowns.
- Surgical care – tooth extractions and endodontics.
- Emergency care – pulp treatments and treatment of abscesses.
- Dental implants.
- Orthodontic services.

- Oral prosthetics.

Cleft lip and palate clinics are available at no cost in Bismarck, Fargo, Grand Forks and Minot to help families get the care and services needed to manage their child's cleft condition. Clinics provide multidisciplinary team evaluations where families have an opportunity to see many different health-care providers in one place at one time.

Hours:

Appointments can be scheduled with participating providers.

Other Dental Access Programs

North Dakota Donated Dental Services (DDS)

Michell Palmer, Coordinator

National Foundation of Dentistry for the Handicapped

1800 15th Street, Unit 100

Denver, CO 80202

Phone: 866.572.9390

Email: mpalmer@nfdh.org

Website: nfdh.org/joomla_nfdh/content/view/75/112/

A network of volunteer dentists provide dental care to the state's most vulnerable people; disabled, elderly or medically-compromised individuals who cannot afford necessary treatment nor get public aid. The program is a partnership between the North Dakota Dental Association and the North Dakota Department of Health in cooperation with the National Foundation of Dentistry for the Handicapped.

Eligibility and Rules:

People of all ages are eligible if they cannot afford needed dental care because of a serious disability, advanced age or medical problems.

Services:

Comprehensive dental care

Hours:

By appointment with participating volunteer dental providers

To open a Donated Dental Services application, go to nfdh.org/joomla_nfdh/images/applications/pdf/north%20dakota.pdf.

Caring for Children Program

4510 13th Ave. South

Fargo, N.D. 58121-0001

Phone: 877.KIDS.NOW or 877.543.7669

Website: www.ndcaring.org/

The North Dakota Caring Foundation – with financial support from businesses, community and church groups, and individuals – provides Caring for Children, a specially designed health- and dental-benefit program for eligible children, at no cost to the children or their families.

Eligibility and Rules:

To qualify for services, individuals must:

- Be an unmarried child whose guardians have an annual income of between 141 percent and 170 percent of the federal poverty level.
- Be without comprehensive medical coverage through Medicaid, Healthy Steps or a private insurance carrier.
- Be younger than 19.
- Be a resident of the state of North Dakota.
- Be a U.S. citizen or legal permanent resident.
- Be enrolled in school through grade 12, if school age.
- Be within household income guidelines of the North Dakota Caring Foundation, Inc.

For eligibility guidelines, visit www.ndcaring.org/apply/.

To locate services near you, visit www.nd.gov/humanservices/locations/countysocialserv/.

Services:

- Preventive dental services (two check-ups and cleanings per year)
- Restorative dental services* (copay required)

*Limits apply

Hours:

By appointment with participating providers

Screening and Referral Programs

North Dakota Health Tracks

Child Health Screening Program

North Dakota Department of Human Services

600 E. Boulevard Ave., Dept 325

Bismarck, N.D. 58505-0250

Phone: 877.KIDS.NOW or 877.543.7669

E-mail: jmhulm@nd.gov

Website: www.nd.gov/humanservices/services/medicalserv/health-tracks/

North Dakota Health Tracks (formerly EPSDT) is a preventive health program that is free for children ages 0 to 21 who are eligible for Medicaid. Health Tracks pays for screenings, diagnosis and treatment services to help prevent health problems from occurring or help keep health problems from becoming worse. Health Tracks also pays for orthodontics (teeth braces), glasses, hearing aids, vaccinations, counseling and other important health services. Health Tracks will help schedule appointments for services and also will help with finding transportation to the services. Some services require prior authorization, so be sure to check with your screener about these requirements. For more information or to schedule an appointment, contact your local county social services office or local public health unit. A listing of local public health units can be found at www.health.state.nd.us/localhd.



For more information, contact:

Oral Health Program

Division of Family Health

North Dakota Department of Health

600 E. Boulevard Ave., Dept. 301

Bismarck, N.D. 58505-0200

701.328.2356 or 800.472.2286 / www.ndhealth.gov/oralhealth