**Baby Teeth Matter: 1 Year Results**

Baby Teeth Matter is a collaborative project between the Northwest Tribal Dental Support Center and the Washington Dental Service Foundation. Seven tribal dental programs in the Pacific Northwest volunteered to participate in this project.

**Baby Teeth Matter Goal and Program Objectives**

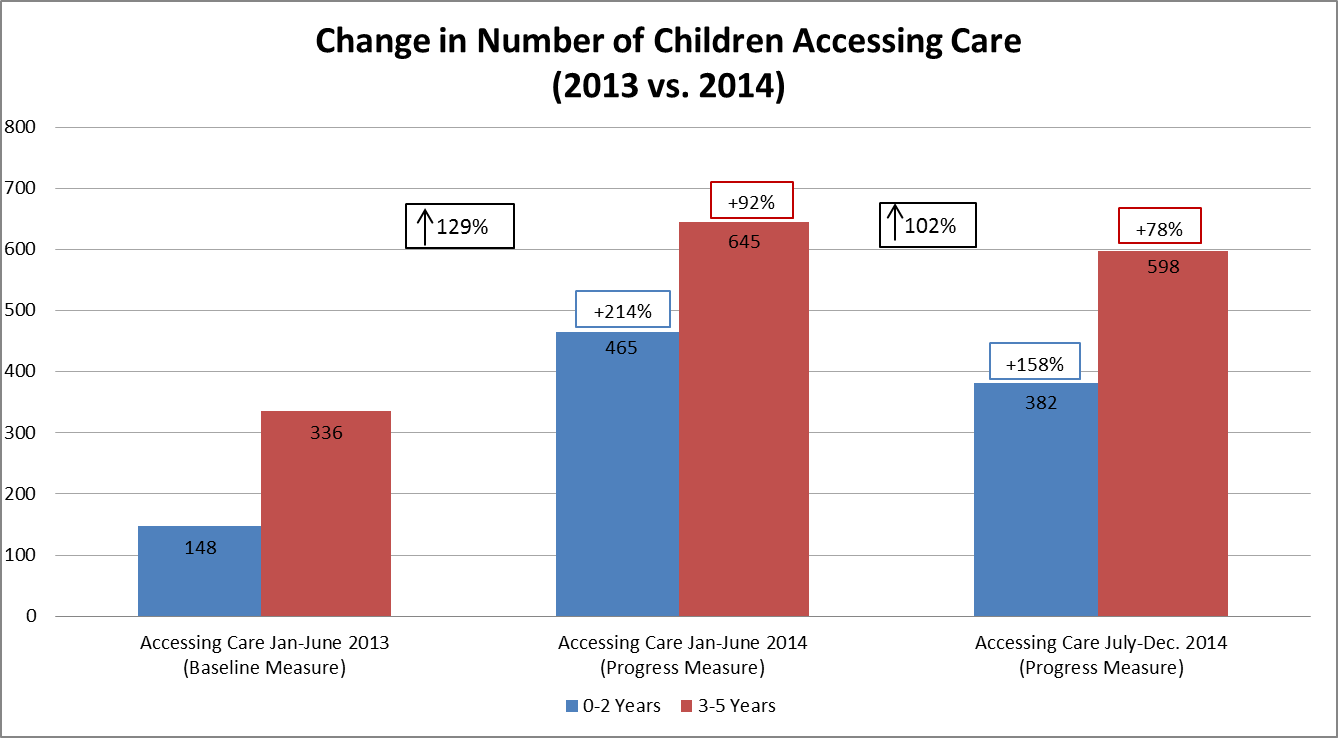
The overall goal was to improve the oral health of American Indian children ages 0 - 5.

**Objectives**

* Increase the number of 0-5 year olds who receive dental access, with an emphasis on 0-2 year olds.
* Increase the number of 0-5 year olds who receive comprehensive dental care at their IHS/Tribal dental program. (Reduce referrals to private pediatric dentists)

**One-Year Results:** The graph below compares baseline data from Jan-June 2013

to Jan-June 2014 and July-Dec 2014 .



* Access for 0-5 year olds more than doubled during both six-month intervals in 2014 compared to baseline.
* Access for 0-2 year olds increased by 214% (from 148 to 465) in the first half of 2014 and by 158% (from 148 to 382) in the second half of the year compared to baseline.
* Access for 0-5 year olds increased at all dental programs during 2014.
* Referral to private pediatric dentists for 0-5 year olds was 14% in 2013 and decreased to 8% in the first half of 2014 and to 10% in the second half of the year.

**Promising Practices**

* Protocols : screening/exams, fluoride varnish, sealants on primary molars, minimally invasive dentistry, motivational interviewing, and frequent recall.
* Tribal Policies: Include a dental visit as part of a well-child visit, scheduling dental as the first stop in the appointment for the family.
* Real Open Access: Babies can be seen whenever the dental clinic is open without scheduling an appointment.
* Case Management: Tracking all 1-2 year olds to schedule dental appointments
* Home Visits: Coordinated with Early Head Start