

Colorado Rural Mobile Health Project Project Update

Grant #:	Kids In Need of Dentistry <i>Denver, Denver County</i>
Organization and Projects <p>KIND provides high quality, comprehensive dental care and education to kids in need throughout Colorado. In 2005, KIND provided 5,531 patient visits through all their programs. The Denver clinics provided 2,208 of those visits, El Paso provided 727 and Chopper Topper provided 1,545. The Miles for Smiles program started in 1998. From 1998 – 2004, it served the Western Slope.</p> <p>After findings that Crowley and Otero Counties have the highest percentage of untreated decay in children’s teeth in Colorado, KIND began services in the Eastern Plains in 2004. In 2005, they provided 1,051 patient visits in Denver and the Eastern Plains.</p> <p>Grants were awarded for three projects: expanded services SE Colorado at Otero Junior College, services in Walsenburg, and services in Salida.</p>	
Funding Status <p>KIND was awarded a total of \$80,000 - \$50,000 for SE Colorado; \$15,000 for Walsenburg; \$15,000 for Salida.</p> <p>To date, KIND has received payment for the Walsenburg and Salida visits (\$30,000) and \$7,500 for the visits to SE Colorado.</p>	
Update – March 2007 <p>MFS visited Walsenburg for 13 days in December 2006. The grant anticipated serving 50-60 children through 75-100 patient visits; they actually cared for 87 children through 129 visits. The van was parked at the Spanish Peaks Regional Health Center. One challenge they encountered was having to keep the generator running 24/7 due to the cold weather, to keep the equipment from freezing. They were able to collect Medicaid payments from some of the clients, as well as a small co-pay from non-Medicaid clients.</p> <p>KIND visited Salida for 6 days in January 2007, and again the week of March 26th when weather conditions cut the January visit short. The van was staffed with one dentist, one dental assistant, and the MFS Coordinator. The van was located at the middle school and they were assisted by the school nurse, Cathy Scarborough. They saw 35 children through 52 visits in January.</p> <p>One story they shared – They encountered a mother battling cancer, had no insurance for her 7 children, all of whom had significant dental problems. They were able to care for all her children. I was able to be in Salida for the March visit. The school nurse couldn’t say enough about how grateful they were for the MFS services. She has been working with the four local dentists, 2 of whom are now willing to accept more Medicaid and uninsured patients, thanks to the support of MFS.</p>	