INTRODUCTION
The Kansas Department of Health & Environment (KDHE) Bureau of Family Health (Title V) and Oral Health Focus areas on education, service delivery, access, training, technical assistance, and behavior change. Both projects directly align with and impact Title V MCH and CDC Cooperative Agreement performance measures and standards, particularly related to the following maternal and child health populations:
• Infants
• Children
• Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs

PROJECT #1
Project Goal
Improve oral health for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN) and connect them with a dental home.
1. Provide dental hygiene education and instruction/incentives for family caregivers and professional staff.
2. Provide children and youth visiting specialty clinics with health services and treatments.
3. Promote the integration of public health and primary care; and
4. Identify and implement evidence-based strategies.

Background
In 2013, the Title V CYSHCN program conducted a survey of families served through the multi-disciplinary specialty care clinics in Kansas City and Wichita. The survey focused on service gaps and needs of families. Survey data indicated the top concern was dental care.

Future Actions
• Continue support of oral health in Title V CYSHCN clinics
• Support community-based health efforts
• Conduct oral health assessment of CYSHCN in Kansas

PROJECT #2: Healthy Smiles
Project Goal
Change behavior and practices in KDHE licensed day care homes to reduce the rate of untreated decay upon entering school.
1. Increase the number of day care home child care facilities that provide daily tooth brushing for children in care.
2. Increase the number of child care providers trained on the topic of oral health and healthy practices and routine; and
3. Increase the number of child care providers with policies and practices related to tooth brushing and oral health care.

Launch & Implementation
Children and youth visiting KDHE Title V Specialty Clinics were offered the following services:
• Comprehensive dental hygiene oral health assessment, including:
  - Scanning survey
  - Interview with child, family and caregivers to discuss questions and concerns
  - Documentation of child’s oral conditions and concerns
• Fluoride varnish
• Referral to dental home for preventive and follow-along care
• Child/Parent education and training, using a Monkey puppet for child-friendly demonstrations
  - How to self-screen for signs of decay, disease, or sore
  - Creating a home care plan, including oral health care, appropriate foods, beverages, and eating habits, and regular self-screen to prevent decay
  - Correct tooth brushing and flossing technique.

Results & Data (as of FY2015)
A total of 66 clinics were held in FY2015, where approximately 550 patients were provided the opportunity to learn from the dental hygienist, ask questions, and receive oral health screenings or fluoride varnish treatments.

DISCUSSION
Oral health promotion and prevention is critical to reducing disease burden and increasing quality of life.

The state Title V – Oral Health partnership and highlighted projects are a catalyst for change with potential for community, regional and statewide impact on oral health care and outcomes.

State MCH programs have prioritized oral health in recent years and should advance goals by coordinating with state dental directors/oral health programs to improve the oral health of individuals, especially low income children and families lacking the resources necessary to access dental services.

State MCH programs can maximize reach and impact by incorporating state oral health goals and strategies into the five-year action plan and/or purchasing direct care services when there are no other resources available.