



**Franklin County Health  
Department  
LIP Application  
2012-13**

- 1. Applicant:** Franklin County Health Department (FCHD)
- 2. Medicaid Provider Number:** 0279293-00
- 3. Provider Type:** 77-County Health Department
- 4. Amount applying for:** \$406,803.00
- 5. Identify as a new or enhanced program:** New
- 6. Description of the delivery system and affiliations with other healthcare service providers:**

Franklin County Health Department (FCHD) has been serving Franklin County for well over fifty years and has long standing relationships with the community healthcare providers, government, schools, business, and faith-based organizations. FCHD provides the core public health services of family planning, immunizations, disease surveillance, environmental health, school health, and disaster response. The health department provides health education and wellness promotion in health fairs with local providers, schools, and other community partners.

In the past year, FCHD has launched its tri-annual Community Needs Assessment. Initial community stakeholder meetings have identified public health needs and priorities. A top priority identified was dental services to children and adults who are indigent or uninsured.

There are seven medical providers in the county, an FQHC providing primary care through the services of an ARNP to residents in central and eastern Franklin County, Gulf County Health Department's FQHC providing primary care to the western part of Franklin county, Coastal Cardiology providing internal medicine and cardiology services, Harbor Medical in Apalachicola providing family medicine, Phoenix Medical in Carrabelle a family practice provider and Weems East in Carrabelle providing urgent and primary care.

There is a twenty-five bed county hospital. Franklin County has only one dentist who does not accept Medicaid or have a sliding fee scale for indigent patients. In this past year, Dr. Robert Head with Sacred Heart Health System opened a pediatric practice in Franklin County. FCHD and Dr. Head work collaboratively to ensure well and sick child services are available to all children in Franklin County.

What is missing for Franklin County's children is dental care that is available regardless of economic status.

**7. Service Area:** Franklin County, Florida

**8. Service Area characteristics (including demographics or population served and distribution of current population served by funding source, e.g., Medicaid, Medicare, Uninsured, Commercial insurance, etc.):**

Franklin County is designated by the US Department of Health and Human Services as a Health Professional Shortage Area and Medically Underserved Area/Population as indicated in the table below and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Health Resources and Services Administration website, <http://muafind.hrsa.gov/>. Franklin County has a score of 17 for population and a score of 12 for the correctional institution.

Franklin County	
Health Professional Shortage or Medically Underserved Area/Population	Designation
	Type
Primary Care Professional Shortage Area	Single County; RHC; Correctional Facility
Dental Health Professional Shortage Area	LIP Franklin, Single County; Correctional Facility
Mental Health Professional Shortage Area	Single County; Correctional Facility
Medically Underserved Area/Population	LI/MFW, Franklin, MUP
LIP = Low Income Population; LI/MFW = Low Income/Migrant Farm-worker; MUP = Medically Underserved Population	
Source: BIG BEND HEALTH COUNCIL, 2011 County Health Profile	

Source: BIG BEND HEALTH COUNCIL, 2011 County Health Profile



Franklin County is in the fourth quartile in the state of Florida for the health status indicators that relate to adults who had their teeth cleaned in the past year, adults who visited a dentist or a dental clinic in the past year, and adults who had a permanent tooth removed because of tooth decay or gum disease. It is in the third quartile for adults who could not see a dentist in the past year because of cost. Franklin County currently supports one full time dental provider that does not serve the low-income and Medicaid populations. The Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) in Eastpoint does not offer dental services, but refers patients in need to Taylor County's FQHC or Gulf County's FQHC. Both are many miles away and transportation is a barrier to accessing care. In addition, the demand for dental services in the area is so great that appointments are often not immediately available.

Population estimates for 2011 provided by the Florida Legislature's Office of Economic and Demographic Research (EDR) showed that Franklin County has a total population of 11,549. Franklin County has 24.2% of all ages living in poverty compared to the state percentage of 16.5. Data shows 32.9% of families with children between the ages of 5-17 living in poverty. This is significantly higher than the state percentage of 21.9. Poverty rates indicate that 35.0% of residents under age 18 are in poverty, significantly higher than the state rate of 23.6. As indicated on the Education Information and Accountability Services Report, July 2010, 100% of PK-12 students are eligible for free/reduced-price lunch. Franklin County had the largest gain in the percentage of eligible students, from 64.20% in 2000-01 to 100% in 2009-10. The median income for Franklin County (\$36,490) is well below the state median income (\$47,661.00). Documented access to dental care through publicly funded programs at 200% FPL for the calendar year of 2010 data shows that 29% of the children had access to dental care and only 5.6% adults had access. Poor oral health among low-income people is a significant health care problem. Although it is firmly established that oral health is an integral component of an individual's overall health and well-being, Franklin County residents do not receive the recommended preventive and primary oral health

care. Dental care is one of their most prevalent unmet health care needs. Difficulties obtaining dental care disproportionately affect low-income and minority populations. Based on the statistics presented above, funding is required to address the implications of need.

**9. Organizational Chart and point of contact:**

David Walker, Program Manager  
Franklin County Health Department  
139 12<sup>th</sup> Street  
Apalachicola, FL 32320  
850-653-2111 x 119  
David.Walker@doh.state.fl.us

See Table of Organization in Appendix A.

**10. Proposed budget for funding detailing the request:**

***Salary Expense:***

***Dental Clinic:***

			<b>Comments</b>
Dentist	(1 FTE)	\$120,000	Preventive and Restorative Care
Dental Assistant	(2 FTE)	47,373	Dental Provider support
Dental Hygienist	(1 FTE)	28,027	Dental Cleanings and Sealants
Program Manager	(1 FTE)	45,173	Ensures care delivery and program evaluation
Interviewing Clerk	(1 FTE)	22,808	Patient registration and billing
Eligibility Specialist	(1 FTE)	27,036	Resource enrollment and prescription assistance

***Benefit Expense:***

116,386

28.61% of salary expense

**Total LIP Funds Requested**

**\$406,803**

**11. Provide a brief summary of your proposed project:**

In order to address the growing oral health disparities in our community, it is essential for the Franklin County Health Department (FCHD) to increase its scope and establish a dental program. The target population is Medicaid eligible

children and adults, as well as underinsured children and adults and individuals with special health needs. These patients will be found and referred through a large network of local and regional healthcare partnerships. The FCHD Dental Program will consist of two components: 1) a fixed land clinic; and 2) a school based dental sealant program. The fixed land clinic will operate with a full-time staff consisting of a dentist, two dental assistants, a dental hygienist, an interview clerk and an eligibility specialist providing services and connecting patients with sources of funding for their medical and dental needs five days per week in the FCHD Carrabelle satellite location. The Dental Clinic will be a two-chair full-service clinic offering oral health services for children and adolescents from low-income families, as well as emergency dental care for low-income adults. The clinic will also serve Medicaid eligible children, adolescents and adults.

The FCHD School Based Dental Sealant Program will establish a two-chair fixed operatory within the Franklin County Consolidated K-12 School (FCS) located in Eastpoint. The project will be offered to 100% of children enrolled in first through third grade utilizing the established team of dental providers. The expectation is that 250 students will receive services. School based program services will be offered daily based on the approved school calendar. Services provided will include: examinations, prophylaxis, topical fluoride treatments, dental sealants, oral hygiene instruction, follow-up and referrals.

Referrals to specialists and/or private practice offices will be made for services not provided at the FCHD Dental Program. These include the following: periodontics (e.g. gum surgery), orthodontics (braces), dentures and partial dentures, oral surgery-including extraction of impacted teeth, Complex root canal treatment, Extensive/complex restorative treatment plans and Dental Implants. FCHD will maintain a referral network with regional providers and specialists to handle treatment needs.

The intended outcome of the dental program is to increase access to care for low income families in Franklin County. Dental care is clearly one of Franklin County's most prevalent unmet health care needs. Franklin County currently supports one full time dental provider that does not serve the low-income and Medicaid populations. The Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) in Eastpoint does not offer dental services, but refers patients in need to Taylor County's FQHC or Gulf County's FQHC. Both are many miles away and transportation is a barrier to access care. The FCHD will be the only Medicaid provider of dental services in the county. This dental program will significantly improve access to dental services for Franklin County residents. Expected outcomes include:

- Reduction of untreated dental decay in children and adults,
- Increased preventive dental services for low-income children and adolescents,
- Increased access to effective preventive and dental treatment services, and
- Increased utilization of oral health system.

**12. Describe plan for identification of participants for inclusion in the population to be served in the project:**

The Franklin County Dental program will accept referrals from any source. The target population will be Medicaid eligible children and adults, as well as underinsured children and adults and individuals with special health needs. These patients will be found and referred through a large network of local and regional healthcare partnerships. FCHD works collaboratively with Dr. Robert Head, the only pediatrician in Franklin County to refer for primary care and immunization services. Additionally, FCHD works closely with Franklin's county hospital, Weems Memorial Hospital, and Gulf County's hospital, Sacred Heart Hospital on the Gulf. FCHD has a robust School Health Nursing Program housed in the two schools in Franklin County. All of these healthcare partners will be networked.



**13. How will access to primary care access system services be enhanced by this project?**

This project will provide access where there currently is none. There are no dental providers in Franklin County that serve the proposed target population. The intended outcome of the dental program is that individuals from indigent and uninsured families in Franklin County will have access to dental care locally through the FCHD because the dental program will be free or reduced for low-income children and their families. As previously stated, dental care is one of Franklin County's most prevalent unmet health care needs. The FCHD dental program is expected to significantly improve access to dental services for Franklin County residents and reduce dental related emergency room visits.

**14. Does the enhancement include hours of operation after 5:00 pm and/or on weekends at existing sites or the establishment of a new clinic site?**

The enhancement establishes a new service site and the provision of dental services to low income, uninsured and Medicaid-eligible children and adults in a county where there are no dental services available to that population.

**15. Describe your capability to serve minority and culturally diverse populations:**

Franklin County Health Department is fully committed to and capable of serving minority and culturally diverse populations residing in the county. The health department has a long history of successfully serving the African American and Hispanic populations including Spanish speaking only patients. The health department has the ability to take advantage of Language Link as well as a relationship with the local Catholic Church's Dominican Sisters who willingly provide interpreter services for the Spanish speaking only population.

Population groups whether minority or majority and regardless of socioeconomic status are treated by staff with professionalism, respect, and kindness as well as sensitivity to the nuances of culture on a community and



even familial basis. The health department offers cultural sensitivity training annually.

**16. Describe how you will identify and address health care diversity issues as well as health care literacy barriers:**

Health care diversity is important both from the provider and patient point of view. The patients' relationship with the healthcare provider is one of the major factors contributing to patients' continuing access to care and as a result can be a barrier to that care. Studies have shown that patients are more likely to seek care from someone of their own ethnic or racial background. It would be tragic to have overcome the most significant barrier to care, existence of dental services for low income children and adults, only to create other barriers to care. Every effort will be made to hire a team representative of the racial and ethnic composition of Franklin County and to maintain a culturally diverse competent team. In addition the project will develop satisfaction surveys that include questions related to cultural competence and diversity of staff. Franklin County Health Department staff will complete annual training related to cultural competence.

Based upon the target population to be served, the project is very likely to encounter health care literacy barriers. Dental program staff will provide education and practice alike in good oral hygiene and tooth care to adult patients throughout the county and students in Franklin County's public schools. The school health program staff will expand already provided education regarding good oral hygiene and follow-up reminders throughout the school year. Staff will educate patients and students about the consequences of poor dentition on overall health.

**17. Describe measures and data sources that you will use to evaluate the effectiveness of each initiative comprising your project:**

Measures are:

- Increase in the percent of children, adolescents and adults visiting a dentist within the last year;
- Increase in the number of public school children with sealants;
- Decrease the number of emergency room visits for dental problems.

Data sources will include Florida CHARTS, Oral Health Florida, and Health Management System the completed NRID/CDC surveys. Our proposed evaluation will also look at barriers and enablers to implementation in each of program components. For this, the evaluator will rely on three types of data gathering: (1) observation, (2) interviewing and (3) survey. Observations will be conducted at the sites to determine if the proposed components are actually being implemented. Either individual and/or group interviews will be conducted with project personnel and patients to identify barriers and enablers to the implementation process as well as recommendations for future interventions.

**18. Describe data collection and reporting capabilities including systems and staffing resources provide a reporting template:**

The project will use already existing data collection and reporting sources with the addition of satisfaction and NIDCR/CDC surveys referenced above. The interview clerk will distribute the NIDCR/CDC surveys to patients at their initial visit and annually thereafter. Satisfaction surveys will be distributed annually. Franklin County Health Department's home visiting programs will assist in gathering survey data from patients who are enrolled in the dental and home visiting programs. The Department of Health's Health Management System will be used to gather data as is currently done on all health department patients. Current data collection and reporting sources are adequate for monitoring of program performance with the addition of the surveys. The Dental Program Manager will be responsible for tracking outcomes and compiling reports.

The reporting template is as follows:

Goal	Objective	Data Source	Measurement	Completion
Improve Dental Health in Children and Youth residing in Franklin County	Increase the percent of young children who visit a dentist in the past year	Surveys	Baseline and 12 month intervals	3 years
Improve Dental Health in Children and Youth residing in Franklin County	Increase the number of public school students with dental sealants	HMS School Health Program	# of children receiving dental sealants	3 years
Improve Dental Health in Children and Youth residing in Franklin County	At least 20 percent of children who received sealants will receive retention checks.	School Health Program	# of children receiving retention checks during dental visits at 12 month intervals.	3 years
Improve Dental Health in adults residing in Franklin County	Increase the percent of adults who have visited a dental clinic	Florida Charts BFRSS # of client encounters	Percent of adults visiting a dental clinic within the last 12 months	3 years
Improve Dental Health in children and adults residing in Franklin County	Decrease the number of emergency room visits for dental problems	Weems Hospital and Sacred Heart Hospital on the Gulf ER Utilization data	Reduction in Emergency Room visits for dental problems	3 years

Improve Dental Health in adults residing in Franklin County	Increase the percent of adults who have had their teeth cleaned	Florida Charts BFRSS # of client encounters	Percent of adults having their teeth cleaned within the last 12 months	3 years
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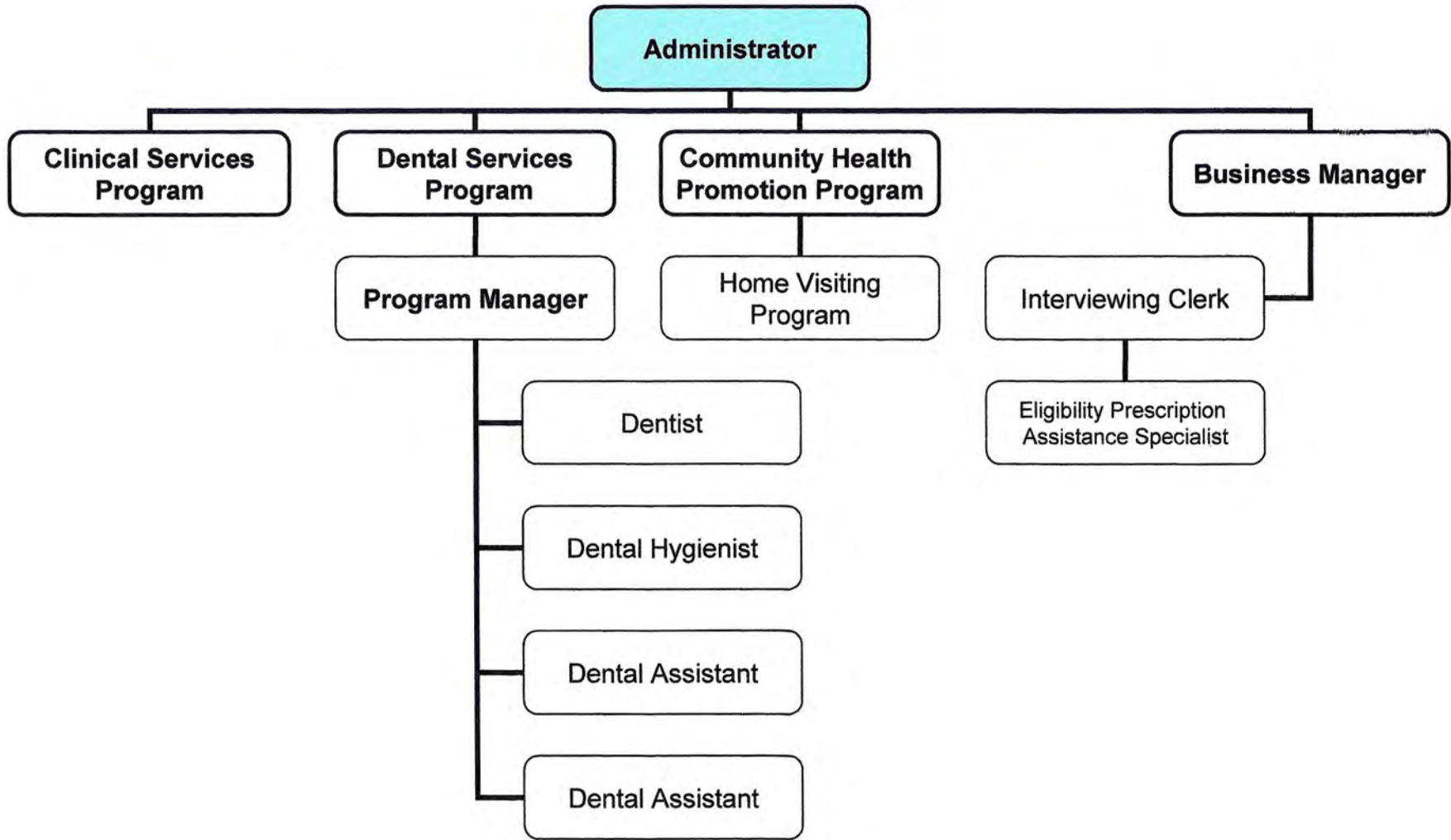
**19. Provide a letter of commitment from the local match fund source on that entity's letterhead:**

See Appendix B



Appendix A:  
Organizational Chart

**LIP Program Organizational Chart  
Franklin County Health Department**



**Appendix B: Philip Street Document**



Rick Scott  
Governor

John Armstrong, MD  
State Surgeon General

July 24, 2012

Phil Williams  
Assistance Deputy Secretary for Medicaid Finance  
Agency for Health Care Administration  
2727 Mahan Drive, Tallahassee, FL 32308

Dear Mr. Williams,

The purpose of this letter to document the Department of Health's commitment to provide the matching funds necessary to permit the participation of the Department of Health's county health departments in the 2012-13 Low Income Pool funded primary care grant opportunity as reflected in Specific Appropriation 195 of the 2012-13 Appropriations Act. The Department currently operates a number of primary care and disease management hospital alternative programs and believes we are well prepared to expand our efforts.

Franklin County Health Department is submitting a request for \$406,803 to expand access to primary care services. The Department will meet this obligation by providing the required match amount of \$171,956 from state General Revenue funds appropriated by the Legislature.

Please contact me at 850-245-4036 if you need additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Philip Street", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Philip Street  
Senior Policy Coordinator  
Health Statistics and Assessment  
Department of Health

LIP Grant Application-Budget Data

FTE	LIP FTE	CATEGORY	POSITION NUMBER	POSITION TITLE	SALARY/BENEFITS
1.00	1.00	O10000	OOO617	Dentist	\$ 168,000.00
1.00	1.00	O10000	OO2312	Dental Hygienist	\$ 39,238.00
1.00	1.00	O10000	OO4265	Dental Assistant	\$ 33,161.00
1.00	1.00	O10000	OO4338	Dental Assistant	\$ 33,161.00
1.00	1.00	O10000	O81290	Interviewing Clerk	\$ 31,931.00
1.00	1.00	O10000	TBA	Accountant I/Elig. Spec	\$ 37,853.00
1.00	1.00	O1000	OO4081	Program Manager	\$ 63,459.00
					<b>\$ 406,803.00</b>