

Rising Strong and Raising Stronger: Dental Education for Families with Children

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Abstract

Target Population: Children of Rising Strong

- A:** Use of pre-test to assess the needs of children and parents. Determine average dental IQ, homecare habits, current nutrition habits/sugar intake, dental home status, frequency of dental visits, etc.
- D:** Based on needs assessment and evaluation of pre-test answers, decide on procedures to be implemented such as home-care and nutritional education involving the use of voice-over PowerPoint presentations and tell-show-do demonstrations.
- P:** Plan event including time-frame of each activity. Utilization of the logic model to distinguish inputs/resources, activities, output, and outcomes/impacts.
- I:** Implement planned activities to improve oral health education
- E:** Use of post-test evaluation to determine outcomes. Include questions directly pertaining to activities performed to assess knowledge and learning.

Community Partner

Rising Strong

Our community partner, Rising Strong, is funded by Eastern Washington Catholic Charities. This program is centered around families recovering from addiction and moving toward healing from life's traumas while maintaining their family unit, to rebuild their foundation.

Program Goal

Our program goal is to educate the families of Rising Strong about the importance of oral health by educating on caries prevention and how to establish home care routines.



Future Goals

Parents/Guardians of children are educated on the importance of baby teeth, homecare, routine dental visits, fluoride, nutrition etc.

All children have had dental visits and established a dental home that suits their individual needs.

Upon completion of dental education and establishment of dental home, needs are being met and ECC rate is reduced.

Outcomes - Impact

Logic Model

Inputs/Resources	Activities	Output	Short-term	Intermediate-term	Long-term
Dental hygiene students and staff Directors at Rising Strong Supplies (sealant material, fluoride, dental chair, educational materials) Facilities (EWU dental hygiene clinic, classroom, rising strong organization site)	Homecare education, distribute homecare goodie bags (floss, toothbrush, toothpaste) Education session to families Place sealants, varnish and dental screenings	Number of families Number of educational sessions to parents and children Number of sealants placed, and varnish applied	Parents and children more knowledgeable about oral health	Children and parents receive high quality oral health assessment, education, and preventative measures during visit to develop and increase dental IQ	Develop dental home. Develop understanding of importance of dental care and need for routine care. Reduce incidence of tooth decay, improved oral health and better access to care for all individuals

Partnership Reflection

Our partnership with Rising Strong has been a great learning experience. We met with our community partner earlier this year to discuss the needs of our target population and wanted to find ways we could reach out to families at Rising Strong. Our goal was to help them find dental homes, offer homecare education, nutritional counseling, and the educate on the importance of their children's oral health. Despite COVID, we still plan to implement our project in safe, socially distanced way.



References

- Beatty, C. F. (2021). *Community oral health practice for the dental hygienist*. Philadelphia: Saunders.
- Rising strong: Catholic Charities Eastern Washington. (n.d.). Retrieved March 28, 2021, from <https://www.cceasternwa.org/risingstrong>

