



Rock County Oral Health Task Force

Making An Impact In Oral Healthcare in Rural Minnesota

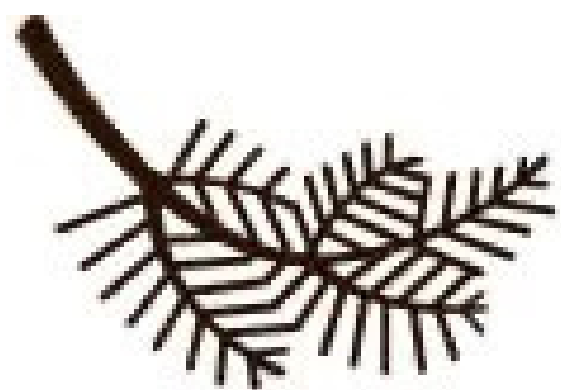
Impacting An Oral Healthcare Crisis

Minnesota Rural CHW Conference 2025
"Boots On The Ground From All Around"

06 November, 2025



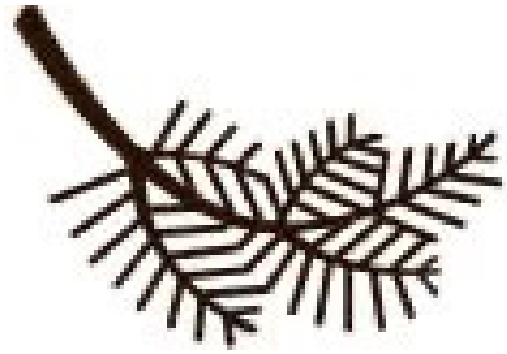
MY WHY



Blandin Foundation™
STRENGTHENING RURAL MINNESOTA

Nine Dimensions of Healthy Community

Resilient. Rural. Community



Blandin Foundation™
STRENGTHENING RURAL MINNESOTA

Leaders Partnering to End Poverty (LPEP)



***Jodi Farr, poverty
expert***

***Poverty Dinner
Theater***

***Poverty
Simulation***

***Community
Cafes***



Five Issues to Address

Safe and Affordable Housing

Senior Nutrition

One-stop Shop For Resources

Dental Care Access

Mental Health





Rock County Oral Health Task Force

Southwest Minnesota



Rock County, Minnesota

- 18 Counties in Southwest Minnesota region identified as having little or no access to dental care.
- Rock County ranked #2 in the state with the least dental care access.
- 1 dentist serving Rock County–population 9,687
(Average ratio: 1 per 2,272 for small or rural communities.
1 per 3,938 for rural or isolated communities.)

Brainstorming

Dental Clinic for Patients on MA

Varnish/Sealant Programs

Bring In Another Dentist to Luverne

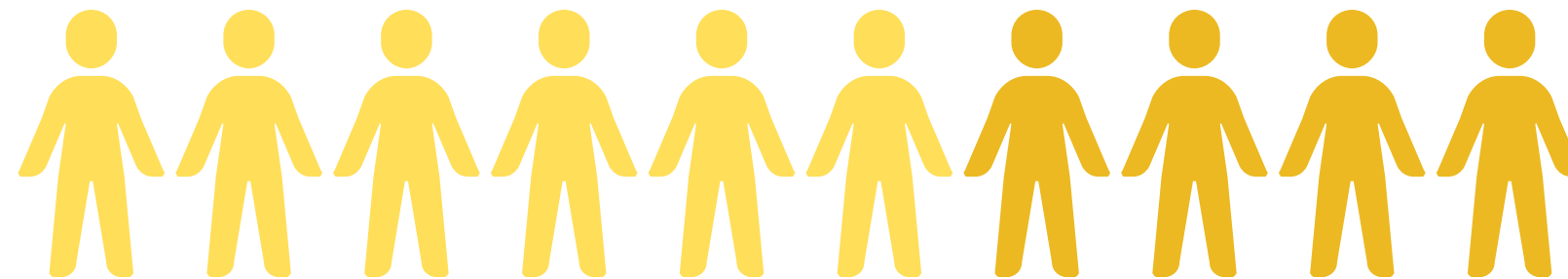
**Legislatively:
Equal Compensation for
Doctors and Dentists**

Closed Doors and Barriers

Local Dentist: Efforts to Collaborate

Local Medical Clinic: Critical Care Access Facility

Location: UCare Mobile Dental Clinic would not travel the distance



What We Did

Caring Hands Dental Spring/Fall 2018



Trunk or Treat



Tooth Brushing Pilot Program



CDS Dental Clinics



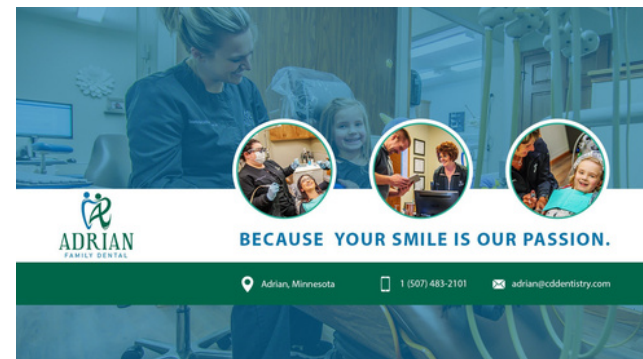
PARTNERS



Blandin Foundation™
STRENGTHENING RURAL MINNESOTA



Minnesota West
Community &
Technical College



SMOC/Terri Janssen

In Conclusion/Q&A

