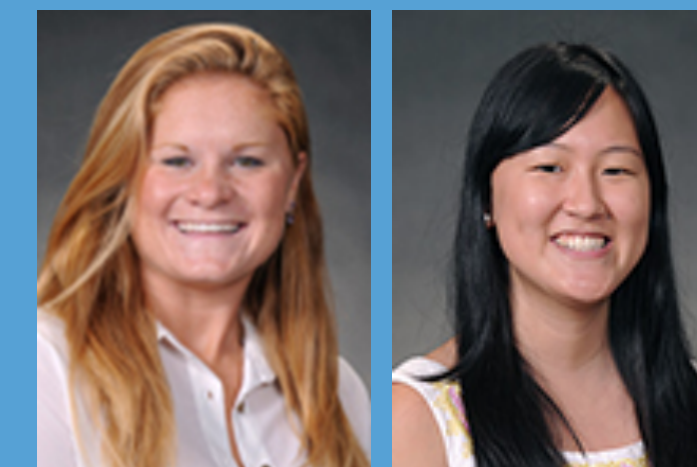




Oral Hygiene and Occupational Therapy Education and Intervention for Direct Support Professionals and Adults with Developmental Disabilities

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NC Albert Schweitzer Fellows 2016-2017



PROJECT GOALS and SERVICES

GOALS:

- As Albert Schweitzer Fellows, the aim of our project was to improve the oral health and daily functioning of developmentally disabled adults in Orange County living in Residential Services, Inc. (RSI) housing.
- Through individualized protocols, pre and post surveys, and presentations, DSPs will report improved comfort with assisting routines and residents will have improved oral health.

SERVICES:

- In our program, we visited each RSI group home three times, each visit averaging two hours in length. At each of these visits a dental student, dental hygiene student, and an occupational therapy student would observe each resident's nightly oral hygiene routine.
- Administered pre and post surveys to measure DSP comfort with assisting routines.
- Gave educational presentations on oral hygiene and nutrition to residents and DSPs.
- Created individualized protocols for each resident with oral hygiene and occupational therapy suggestions.
- Dental and occupational therapy students provided reflection on improvements and areas for growth were discussed. Any remaining questions or adjustments to individualized protocols were addressed.

VISITS

1st VISIT

- Recorded plaque scores, nightly routine observed by dental students and occupational therapy student
- Pre oral hygiene surveys administered
- Oral hygiene presentations presented to DSPs and residents
- Individualized protocols sent to DSPs for review and implementation



2nd VISIT

- Nightly routines observed
- Pre nutritional surveys administered
- Nutritional presentations given
- Individualized protocols discussed, modified if necessary



3rd VISIT

- Recorded plaque scores, nightly routine observed by dental students and occupational therapy student
- Post oral hygiene & nutrition surveys administered
- Progress reviewed with residents and DSPs

RESULTS

- **40 out of 46** residents living in the RSI group homes that we have visited had an improvement in oral health measured by a decrease in at least one of the following: plaque score, gingival index or caries risk; within one month from the initial visit. 7 residents were unable to be evaluated (due to unavailability or personal reasons).
- **19 out of 20** Direct Support Professionals (DSP) reported via a pre and post survey that they feel more comfortable in assisting the residents with their nightly routine. 25 surveys were inconclusive (due to the DSPs not being available to take one of the surveys or omitting taking the survey). A total of **45 DSPs** were served.
- Every RSI resident that we have worked with (**46 residents**) has an individualized implemented oral hygiene and occupational therapy protocol.
- Visited **11 RSI homes**
- Visited all homes not visited by the previous ASF program

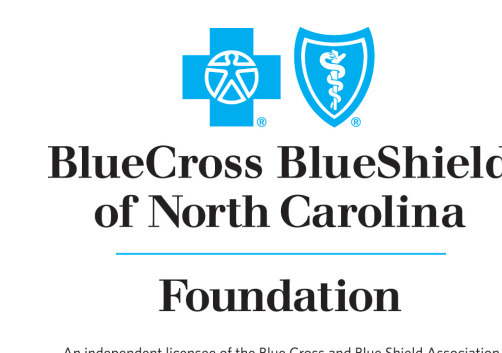


SUSTAINABILITY

- Our program will be sustained through the service organization ENNEAD at UNC. UNC dental students on the ENNEAD board will oversee coordination of continued visits to the houses along with an occupational therapy student
- Recorded guided voice-overs of oral hygiene and nutrition powerpoint presentations that will be used during RSI orientation to train future DSPs

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