

## Project Description

- This project addressed the dental needs of elementary students within at-risk Pitt County schools by giving on-site oral hygiene instruction as well as offering low/no-cost dental screenings and services through partnership with Greene County Health Care's Greene Access Program (GAP).
- Why Pitt County schools? Recent data showed that almost 2,000 public school students at six Pitt County schools were not currently served by oral health prevention efforts and many of these students do not have adequate access to fluoridated water or dental care in their home communities.

## Greene Access Program

- The Greene Access Program was started by Greene County Health Care (GCHC) in 2013 to provide on-site dental exams/referrals, dental prophylaxis treatment, dental sealants, and oral health lessons to at-risk students within Greene County public schools.
- In 2014-15, volunteers including previous ECU Schweitzer fellows taught oral health lessons (including lessons in Spanish) to over a thousand K-5 students and recruited hundreds into the GAP program where many received a variety of oral health services.
- The following year, efforts were made by GCHC to expand the GAP program. In the Spring of 2017, this project, led by Fellows Trevor Staton and Kevin Holley, facilitated the collaboration with the GAP program and Pitt County schools.

## Sustainability

- This project will be sustained by continued collaborations with several ECU School of Dental Medicine student organizations including the ECU DMD organization, the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, and the Hispanic Student Dental Association, all of which are dedicated to the health and education of the people of eastern North Carolina.

## Acknowledgements

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## Project Results

- Fellows taught combined oral hygiene and nutritional lessons to four Pitt County public schools, effectively reaching out to over 1,200 students.
- All students were given manual toothbrushes and toothpaste after the lessons to promote continued oral hygiene practices.
- Fellows assisted with the recruitment of 177 total students into the school-based treatment program (GAP) where a total of 506 dental sealants were placed and over \$50,000 of services were provided by GCHC.

For more information on the Schweitzer fellowship, please contact:  
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