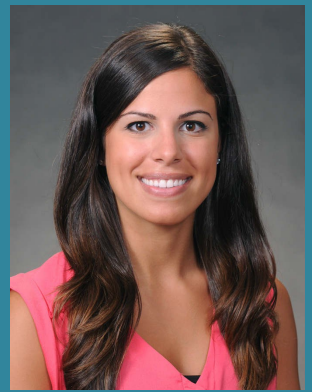




THE ALBERT
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Oral Hygiene Education and Intervention for Adults with Developmental Disabilities

2014-15 NC Albert Schweitzer Fellows
Mackenzie Hatfield and Eleni Boukas



PROJECT GOALS

The Fellows aimed to improve the oral health of adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities by establishing protocols and providing education to the residents and caregivers at Residential Services Inc. (RSI) which provides care in a group residential home setting.

SERVICES OFFERED

- Led four two-hour visits for each home including oral hygiene education to residents and caregivers.
- Created individualized protocols for each resident.
- Provided oral hygiene training for residents and caregivers.

Visits

1. Observed current oral hygiene practices and provided an anonymous survey to the caregivers about their knowledge and attitudes towards oral hygiene.
2. Provided an oral hygiene training to caregivers about the importance of oral health and proper care techniques.
3. Trained and observed caregivers and residents on oral hygiene practices. Administered same survey.
4. Conducted a 3 month follow up visit to ensure continuation of good oral hygiene practices.

RESULTS



Visited a total of 5 homes each with 6 full time residents.

- 30 residents served
- 20 caregivers served
- Served as a bridge between community site and UNC SOD Disabilities Clinic where residents receive care.

- 30 individualized oral health protocols were developed and incorporated into the patients' daily care plan.
- A policy change occurred at the UNC Disabilities Clinic where staff are required to complete a newly created form which includes a plaque score, gingival index, caries index and behavior score to help track oral health status.
- Timers were installed in all the bathrooms in the homes to reinforce proper brushing time.
- Patients' teeth are brushed for the full two minute recommended time and flossed daily.
- 83% of residents have a plaque score of good and excellent after our intervention.
- Training webinar was created to educate employees.
- RSI staff at all 16 homes received in person training.

SUSTAINABILITY

- The Fellows integrated their project into the Dental Hygiene students' curriculum as part of their Community Rotations course. UNC SOD Dental Hygiene students visit all 16 RSI group home once a year for caregiver oral hygiene training.
- A webinar was created to train RSI staff hired in the interim period between in-person training sessions.

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