


Filling the Gap: Providing access to free health care and case management to America's uninsured children

Debra Wood, M.S., program director and Olimata K. Faal, B.A., intern, Project K.I.N.D

Project K.I.N.D.

Kids In Need of Doctors



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Overview

- Project K.I.N.D.
- Our Mission
- Statement of Need
- History
- How Project K.I.N.D. Works
- Dental Clinics
- How to Replicate our Model
- Conclusion




Before we begin...

- Please think of two questions that you would like to have answered during this presentation.



Project K.I.N.D.

- Project K.I.N.D. (Kids in Need of Doctors) was established in April of 1994 under the Riverside County Medical Association (RCMA)



- Non-profit organization
- Provides FREE medical, dental, optical and mental health services to children who:
 - Reside in Riverside County and attend school in one of seven school districts we currently partner with
 - Ages 5 to 17 years (school age)
 - Have no private insurance
 - Do not qualify for Medi-Cal or other State Assistance

Our Mission

- It is the right of every child to have access to quality health care
- The community will make a substantial difference in the lives of its children through volunteering their expertise and services
- Our mission will best be accomplished through collaboration with other community institutions
- It is our responsibility to advocate for children's health care needs



Statement of Need

- 44,000 families in Riverside County uninsured
- In the current economy more and more children will be uninsured



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Volunteers

- Project K.I.N.D. has over 150 volunteers
- Volunteers include: Health care providers, Interns, and others. They are all integral to the success of Project K.I.N.D.



History

- Project K.I.N.D. (Kids in Need of Doctors) founded in 1994
- A small group of members of the Child Adolescent Maternal Health Committee formed a sub-committee
- Started in two districts with one doctor, one dentist, a hospital and an optometrist
- Currently, serving seven school districts and approximately 700 children a year

How Project K.I.N.D. Works

- School nurse accesses the child and determines that they are uninsured and in need of a dentist.
- School nurse has family complete our intake form and faxes it to Project K.I.N.D. (P.K.)
- School nurse calls and discusses situation with P.K. staff
- Parent is called and screened through P.K.
- Appointment is set with appropriate provider.
- Provider gives P.K. a report on child's condition and appropriate referrals are made.
- Provider refers child to pharmacy which P.K. pays for prescriptions, so parent has no out of pocket expense.
- Urgent appointments usually same or next day.

Intake Form

Dental Clinics



- Preparation- Press releases, Solicitation of Sponsorships, donations, ordering supplies
- Coordination- coordinating with school nurses, health care providers and sponsors, coordination of care at the clinics
- Organization- planning and scheduling clinics



Services Provided

- Medical- urgent care and some emergent care. Referrals to specialists when needed.
- Dental- Two ways care is administered: 1. Ongoing referrals for urgent care visit where the presenting issue is treated. 2. Dental Clinics- Half or full day clinic where patients are scheduled either as a new patient or return patient.
- Vision- eye exam and glasses



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Dental Clinics


January – May 2010
 Held 15 dental clinics in Beaumont, Corona, Menifee, Norco and Riverside
 Served 205 children
 Provided 1,942 services
 At an estimated cost equivalent of \$135,520



Case Management after Clinics


- Patient's charts are brought back to the Project K.I.N.D. office.
- Patient's treatment is then coordinated through our network of providers.
- Treatment plans and x-rays are mailed to the provider who is completing treatment.

Where to Start?



- Start talking about the idea.
- Identify key constituents in your area.
- Identify any other programs that are already providing similar services.
- Form an advisory committee.
- Develop a program plan and a strategic plan.

Where to Start?



- Identify funding sources
- Build relationships with schools and local providers
- Develop clear and measurable objectives

"Children are the world's most valuable resource and its best hope for the future"

-John Fitzgerald



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