Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate of the Lake Traverse Reservation

TRIBAL COMMUNITY PERSPECTIVE ON ECC-PREVENTION RESEARCH
Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate of the Lake Traverse Reservation

- Located in extreme north east South Dakota, the Lake Traverse Reservation spans into North Dakota & Minnesota
- 92 miles south of Fargo, ND
- 24 miles from the North Dakota border
- 14 miles from the Minnesota border
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User Population: 6,761

Average Age: 28 years

In 2010

10% <5 years old (775)

Half the population 25 years of age or younger
In April 2007 IHS opened a new clinic. This increased the number of dental operatories from 5 to 16, and dentist positions from 1 to 5.

We have three dentists on board now, including a pediatric dentist, Dr. Zimmer.

We are actively recruiting for 1 Chief Dental Officer and a Staff Dentist, as well as a second Dental Hygienist.

We agree with Dr. Zimmer that we will never drill and fill our way out of our problem with childhood caries.
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From Tribal Perspective ECC Prevention Research must meet 3 criteria:

- The services and activities *must be sustainable* after the study has concluded.
- The services and activities *must not depend* on having a high level of staffing of dentists or hygienists.
- The intervention strategies *must be replicable* in other American Indian communities as well as non-Indian communities in which the children experience high levels of early childhood caries.
Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate Goal:

All children will begin kindergarten cavity-free in the year 2013!

Tribal Council
Resolution No. SWO-07-080
July 11, 2007
The scenes that follow are excerpts from a longer video filmed earlier this year to document what the project and study are about.

Four 2-minute segments of film will be shown on GoodHealthTV in waiting rooms while people are waiting for medical, dental, and mental health appointments to promote the multi-modal approach Dr. Robertson will describe later in this panel.

Piece starts with Head Start children singing the Cavity-Free song to the drum, in the Sisseton-Wahpeton Dakota Oyate tradition . . . .