



State Innovation Model (SIM)

August 28, 2015

In This Issue

· New updates! · Sharing our success! · How are we doing so far? · Minnesota Department of Health contracts with vendor to develop a Dental Therapy Toolkit for employers interested in hiring dental therapists and advanced dental therapists. · Minnesota transforms care through coordination and integration · Minnesota awards the third, and final, round of grants to test how emerging professionals impact health care teams ·

New updates!

Visit the [Minnesota Accountable Health Model](#) website for updated information on [grants awarded to date](#) and a [map of services areas](#) throughout Minnesota.

Sharing our success!

Visit the new [success stories](#) page on the [Minnesota Accountable Health Model](#) website for exciting details about SIM funded projects.

How are we doing so far?

View an [infographic](#) sharing details about [Minnesota Accountable Health Model](#) 2016 goals, 2013 baseline data, and current 2015 progress.

Minnesota Department of Health contracts with vendor to develop a Dental Therapy Toolkit for employers interested in hiring dental therapists and advanced dental therapists.

The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) recently executed a contract for \$98,631.00 to develop a toolkit for employers interested in hiring dental therapists and advanced dental therapist.

The toolkit will serve as a "how-to" guide for employers interested in hiring a dental therapist or advanced dental therapist. The Toolkit may include information about:

- Training standards,
- scope of practice,
- supervision,
- collaborative management agreements with dentists,
- best practices for onboarding and integrating in a team-based environment,
- covered services, billing, and reimbursement,
- return on investment,
- sustainability planning,
- existing models,
- forms, templates, and protocols to be used by the emerging professional, and success stories and lessons learned.

When complete, the Toolkit will be posted online with workforce related data and other resources. Further information and updates can be found on the [Emerging Professions](#) page of the MDH website.

Halleland Habicht Consulting, LLC (HHC), a consulting firm that provided staffing and policy services to the coalition of organizations that crafted and advocated for the dental therapy (DT) legislation, was awarded the

contract. HHC will partner with the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry and Normandale Community College in developing the Dental Therapy Toolkit. Both of these partners were instrumental in the creation of the licensed dental therapist and advanced dental therapist profession in Minnesota and provide training for these professionals.

These awards were made possible through Minnesota's \$45 million State Innovation Model (SIM) testing grant. MDH and the Department of Human Services (DHS) jointly received this federal grant in 2013 and are using the funds to help implement the [Minnesota Accountable Health Model](#). The model helps providers and communities work together to reduce costs and create healthier futures for Minnesotans. It supports community and provider partnerships, team-based models of care, care coordination, Accountable Care Organizations, payment reform, and health information technology investments.

More about Dental Therapists and Advanced Dental Therapists

Dental Therapists are mid-level practitioners licensed by the Board of Dentistry, who are members of an oral health care team and provide evaluative, preventive, restorative, and minor surgical dental care within their scope of practice. Dental Therapists (DT) work under the direction of a Dentist. Advanced Dental Therapists (ADT) are certified by the Board of Dentistry and, with their advanced training and clinical practice, are able to provide all the services that a Dental Therapist provides plus additional dental services such as oral evaluation and assessment, treatment plan formulation, **non-surgical extraction of certain diseased teeth, and more.** ADT's also practice under the supervision of a dentist, but the dentist does not need to see the patient prior to receiving care or be on site during a procedure. Minnesota is the first state to authorize the licensing of Dental Therapists and certification of Advanced Dental Therapists. Dental Therapists and Advanced Dental Therapists play a key role in increasing access to dental care and preventing emergency room visits for dental related problems.

For more information about the Emerging Professions Toolkit Contract or the State Innovations Model testing grant please visit the [Office of Rural Health and Primary Care](#) (ORHPC) website or contact Kay Herzfeld, Emerging Professions Coordinator at (651) 201-3846.

Minnesota transforms care through coordination and integration

The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) awarded \$ 299,877 to twelve primary care, behavioral health and social service organizations committed to practice transformation and the integration of care. The nine month Practice Transformation grants range from \$ 12,597 to \$ 26,400. The grant opportunity will support a variety of providers to allow team members to participate in practice transformation activities such as:

- establishment of health care home certification through implementation and enhancement of health care home standards
- redesign of clinical systems
- development of new data collection or management tools
- implementation of new work flows
- enhance quality improvement systems
- use facilitators to build team involvement

Organizations and clinical practices will learn to provide care within an interdisciplinary, team based and coordinated care environment. This will support providers in achieving the goals of the Triple Aim:

- Improving patient experience of care (including quality and satisfaction)
- Improving the health of populations
- Reducing the per capita cost of health care

The selected organizations serve a large geographic area, including the Twin Cities metro area, surrounding suburbs and rural/outstate settings. Following is a list of organizations funded through the [Practice Transformation grants](#):

1. First Light Health Center (Mora) \$ 26,400
2. Fraser (Minneapolis) \$26,342
3. Lac qui Parle Clinic (Madison) \$26,400
4. Lutheran Social Services (St. Paul) \$ 24,670
5. Mankato Clinic (Mankato) \$26,400
6. North Metro Pediatrics (Coon Rapids) \$12,597
7. Open Door Health Center (Mankato) \$26,250
8. South Lake Pediatrics (Minnetonka) \$26,382
9. Southdale Pediatric Associates (Edina) \$25,342
10. Touchstone Mental Health (Minneapolis) \$26,400
11. Univ. of MN-CUHCC (Minneapolis) \$26,400
12. Zumbro Valley Health Center (Rochester) \$26,294

Minnesota's \$45 million State Innovation Model (SIM) grant makes these Practice Transformation grants possible. MDH and Department of Human Services (DHS) jointly received the federal grant in 2013 and are using funds to implement the [Minnesota Accountable Health Model](#). Practice Transformation projects must support the broad goal of the Minnesota Accountable Health Model to help its providers and communities work together to create healthier futures for Minnesotans. This is the second of three rounds of practice transformation grants from **Minnesota's SIM initiative**.

Minnesota awards the third, and final, round of grants to test how emerging professionals impact health care teams

The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) awarded five \$30,000 grants to test the potential for emerging professionals to strengthen health care teams and improve access to care. This is the third, and final, round of grant funding awarded for the **Emerging Professions Integration Grant Program through Minnesota's \$45 million State Innovation Model (SIM) testing grant**. The first round of grants was awarded to five organizations in June 2014 and the second round was awarded to four organizations in October 2014. MDH and the Department of Human Services (DHS) jointly received the federal SIM grant in 2013 and are using the funds to help implement the [Minnesota Accountable Health Model](#). The model helps providers and communities work together to reduce costs by supporting community and provider partnerships, team-based models of care, care coordination, Accountable Care Organizations, payment reform, and health information technology investments.

The Minnesota Accountable Health Model also seeks to improve care by supporting a team approach. In this context, SIM Minnesota is testing the effectiveness of community health workers, community paramedics, and **dental therapist/advanced dental therapists in helping organizations achieve Minnesota's goals related to health system transformation**. The initiative chose to focus on these providers because they have the potential to increase access for low income and underserved populations and to help fill current gaps in primary health care and dental care.

As part of the SIM grant, MDH and DHS will evaluate how integrating emerging professions into a team **environment changes the team's overall capacity and the patient's outcomes**. For example, does bringing on a dental therapist to the dental team free up time for the dentist to work on more complicated dental issues (e.g. root canals) or does a community paramedic help to prevent hospital readmissions with the hospital discharge follow-up services they provide.

The following organizations were awarded 12 months of start-up funding for round three. Each organization is also contributing funds toward the emerging professional they plan to hire.

- Community Dental Care, Maplewood (serving Robbinsdale Clinic) - Advanced Dental Therapist
- Hennepin County Public Health Department, Minneapolis - Community Health Worker
- North Memorial Health Care, Golden Valley (serving Crow Wing County) - Community Paramedic
- Northwest Indian Opportunity Industrial Center, Bemidji - Community Health Worker
- Open Door Health Center, Mankato (serving Marshall, Gaylord, Dodge Center, and Worthington) - Community Health Worker

Federal funds of \$148,060.82 accounted for about 60 percent of this \$244,568.64 project. Non-governmental sources accounted for 39 percent of the project.

For more information about the Emerging Professions Integration Grant Program and the State Innovations Model testing grant please visit the [Office of Rural Health and Primary Care \(ORHPC\)](#) website at: or contact Kay Herzfeld, Emerging Professions Coordinator in the Office of Rural Health and Primary Care, at (651) 201-3846.



Disclaimer: You will receive system-generated emails with links to the information you signed up for when you subscribed. This service is provided to you at no charge by the Minnesota Department of Human Services. [Privacy Policy](#)