



University of Southern California - Union Rescue Mission Dental Clinic Los Angeles, California

Program Overview

The Herman Ostrow School of Dentistry at the University of Southern California (USC) partnered with Union Rescue Mission (URM), a nonprofit shelter for the homeless in downtown Los Angeles, to open the USC-URM Dental Clinic. The clinic is dedicated solely to restoring the oral health and smiles of residents of Skid Row, an area in Downtown Los Angeles with one of the largest populations of homeless individuals in the United States.

Program History and Development



In 2000, USC and URM opened the downtown dental clinic, which was the first comprehensive dental service clinic on Skid Row. The clinic now has eight dental chairs. Dental students and dental hygiene students from USC provide care under the supervision of trained faculty. Referrals for

dental care come from nearly 30 different homeless shelters, social service agencies, and community clinics, as well as from substance abuse recovery and job training programs. All clients at the USC-URM Dental Clinic are homeless and indigent (at the bottom of 100% poverty level). While the clinic is the only one in the area that treats children, over 90% of clients are adults, and about two-thirds are male.

Program Sustainability

- In 2015, the USC-URM Dental Clinic received funding from: Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Health Care for the Homeless Grant, California Wellness Foundation, Parsons Foundation, Good Hope Foundation, and LA Care.
- The majority of the program's funding comes from a federal Health Care for the Homeless grant from HRSA and the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness.
- The USC-URM Dental Clinic partners with about 30 agencies for referrals and hosting community health fair events.
- The annual budget of the program is approximately \$740,000.
- With the re-instatement of DentiCal benefits for adults (Dental Medicaid in California), the clinic was approved as a provider and will assist clients to enroll in the program, thus providing a new source of clinic revenue.

Program Impact

- The USC-URM Dental Clinic provides dental procedures to about 1,300 individuals each year.
- In the last 15 years, the clinic has provided community education and oral health care kits to nearly 400,000 individuals, as well as direct treatment to more than 17,500 individuals through 90,000 client encounters.
- The program has trained 2,250 dental and dental hygiene students in a unique community-based experience of service-learning and inter-professionalism.
- The USC-URM Dental Clinic has received the Award of Excellence from the Department of Health and Human Services' National Health Services Corps and was profiled as an Innovation Project by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.

"They [USC-URM Dental Clinic] gave me a nice haircut and new suit, and a resume. But without my new smile, I didn't feel like going to a job interview. I am very grateful for your amazing help."

- USC-URM Dental Clinic client

Program Contact Information

Program Website: <http://dentistry.usc.edu/community-programs/clinics/>



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Program Features

Note: A checked box below indicates an existing program feature.

Age	Service Delivery Model	Dental and Oral Health Services
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 0-17 (Children and Youth) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18-60 (Adult) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 60+ (Older Adult)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dental clinic model (e.g. permanent setting) <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile-portable model <input type="checkbox"/> Eligibility and enrollment model (e.g. referrals, care coordination) <input type="checkbox"/> Virtual model (e.g. telehealth) <input type="checkbox"/> Event-based model <input type="checkbox"/> Outreach and education model	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Emergency services <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basic services <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Screenings <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cleanings <input type="checkbox"/> Fluoride varnish <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sealants <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X-rays <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Comprehensive services <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fillings <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scaling/root planing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Extractions <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oral surgery <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Root canals <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dentures, partials, relines, repairs <input type="checkbox"/> Crowns <input type="checkbox"/> Bridges <input type="checkbox"/> Orthodontics
Specific Populations	Staffing	Other Program Services
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Homeless individuals <input type="checkbox"/> Individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities <input type="checkbox"/> Individuals with physical disabilities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Individuals with specific or complex medical conditions <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Individuals with low income <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Individuals with no dental insurance <input type="checkbox"/> Individuals with Medicaid <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Veterans <input type="checkbox"/> Refugees/immigrants	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dentist <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dental hygienist <input type="checkbox"/> Dental therapist <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dental assistant <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dental/dental hygiene students <input type="checkbox"/> Nursing staff <input type="checkbox"/> Community health workers <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-dental clinical staff <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-clinical staff	<input type="checkbox"/> Referrals to dental and oral health services <input type="checkbox"/> Care coordination/care management <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patient education <input type="checkbox"/> Caregiver education <input type="checkbox"/> Provider education <input type="checkbox"/> Advocacy/coalition
Geography	Payment for Care	Integration with Services
<input type="checkbox"/> Rural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Urban	<input type="checkbox"/> Medicaid <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No charge to client <input type="checkbox"/> Sliding fee scale <input type="checkbox"/> Out of pocket <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial dental insurance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medical services <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Behavioral health services <input type="checkbox"/> Vision services <input type="checkbox"/> Pharmacy services <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation services <input type="checkbox"/> Translation services <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nutrition services
Service Delivery Setting	Program Funding	
<input type="checkbox"/> Hospital <input type="checkbox"/> Dental school <input type="checkbox"/> Community/safety net clinic <input type="checkbox"/> Private dental office <input type="checkbox"/> Long-term care facility <input type="checkbox"/> Senior center/community center <input type="checkbox"/> Private residence <input type="checkbox"/> Fairgrounds/stadium/parking lot <input type="checkbox"/> Church <input type="checkbox"/> School <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Homeless shelter <input type="checkbox"/> Public housing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Foundation/organization grant <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public funding (e.g. local, state, federal) <input type="checkbox"/> Private donations (e.g. individuals, businesses)	

This profile was prepared using publicly available information. Date of last update: March 2016