Patient Centered Dental Care: Screening for Social Determinants of Health at Bernstein Dental Clinic

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2022 Distinction Day – Service-Learning Distinction Track

PROJECT GOALS

Greenville, NC currently has a 32.1% poverty rate and 21% of the population (82,560 individuals) reports food insecurity. By adapting a medical care management program to the James D. Bernstein Dental Clinic, our project worked to take advantage of every healthcare interaction to offer patients the opportunity to link to community resources and ensure better overall health outcomes for the underserved populations in our community.

Project Goals:

• Screen patients for most common Social Determinants of Health
• Connect patients who screen positive to local resources
• Continue following up with patients to ensure health goals are met

RESULTS

Provided 218 hours of Community Service

• Screened 489 patients at the Bernstein Dental Clinic
• Connected 40 patients to local resources
• 11 patients reported meeting their set health goal
• Trained 18 staff members at the Bernstein Dental Clinic

Resource Breakdown

Language breakdown: English (49.12%) Spanish (50.88%)

Screen Breakdown:

Positive Screens (50.44%)
Negative Screens (49.56%)

SUSTAINABILITY

Our sustainability plan has focused on:

• Training Bernstein staff (especially dental assistants and receptionists) by holding “lunch and learns” to teach them about our project
• Engage community partners to understand the goal of our project and stay connected with our site. We also hope to incorporate ideas from other fellows and possibly connect projects to ensure a stable patient population.
• Continue to encourage Bernstein Case Managers involved with the Dental clinic and working with patients to meet health goals

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to thank the Albert Schweitzer Fellowship and BCBSNC Foundation as well as:

Dr. Ji Lim (Site Mentor)
James D. Bernstein Dental Clinic

Dr. Tom Irons (Academic Mentor)
ECU Brody School of Medicine

Dr. Alison Yeung (Academic Mentor)
ECU School of Dental Medicine

Dr. Thomas Tempel (Academic Mentor)
ECU School of Dental Medicine

Barbara Heffner (Director)
NC Albert Schweitzer Fellowship

All the wonderful staff members at the Bernstein Dental Clinics!