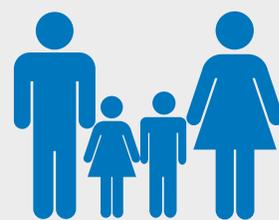


# Dental Therapists Are A Smart Investment

Dental therapists are increasing access to oral health care especially for those who need it most: low-income families, people of color, people living in rural areas, and those on Medicaid.



**45 MILLION PEOPLE** live in areas where they can't get dental care—millions more can't afford it.<sup>1</sup>



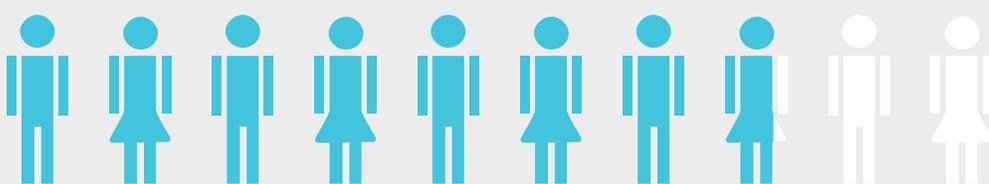
**51% OF CHILDREN** on Medicaid did not receive any dental care in 2011.<sup>2</sup>



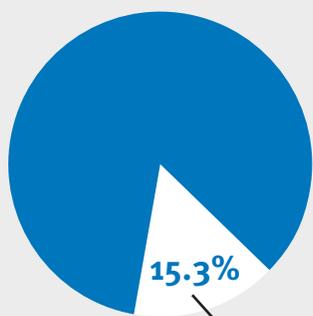
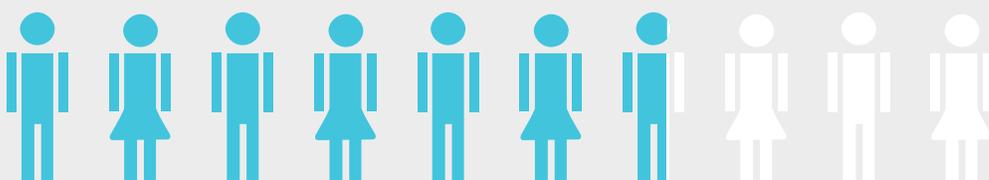
**IN ALASKA**, dental therapists have been able to expand care to **40,000** people who didn't have access before, including rural and tribal populations.

**IN MINNESOTA**, dental therapists have been able to expand access to care to those most in need.

**78%** of patients were publicly insured.



**67%** of patients were under 21.



Other procedures in Dental Therapist scope of practice

**84.7%** of the care dental therapists provide is **PREVENTIVE** and **ROUTINE**.

**Investment in oral health = investment in better overall health**

#### SOURCES

1. Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). (n.d.). Oral Health Workforce. In Health Resources and Services Administration. Retrieved May 10, 2013, from <http://www.hrsa.gov/publichealth/clinical/oralhealth/workforce.html>.

2. United States. Dept. of Health and Human Services. & Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. (2012). Annual EPSDT Participation Report, Form CMS-416 (State) Fiscal Year: 2011, April, 2012.

