

A LOOK INSIDE Northern Counties Health Care, Inc.

Dear Valued Partner,

One of the current efforts in health care reform is raising awareness of dental care as an essential component of primary care. We are pleased to highlight one of our members this month who has succeeded in addressing an acute need for dental care in a rural area of Vermont.

Looking back to where it all began – in 2015, a community needs assessment identified access to dental care as one of the biggest challenges facing people living in Orleans County. In 2016, Shawn Tester, CEO of Northern Counties Health Care, stated, “Our goal is to expand access to affordable high-quality oral health services for people living in the Barton/Orleans area in order to improve their quality of life.” With innovative collaboration, they have reached this goal. Their new dental center employs two dentists, a hygienist, two dental assistants, a receptionist, and an office supervisor. They had hoped to serve at least 500 new patients within the first year of operations. They’ve served over 550 new patients within the first seven months.



MISSION STATEMENT

To enhance the quality of life of individuals and families by providing compassionate, accessible and affordable patient-centered health services.

More information at www.nchcv.org.

NOTEWORTHY

Northern Counties Health Care, Inc. was the first health center in Vermont to become a Federally Qualified Health Center. The organization has grown to include five community health centers, three dental centers, and a certified Home Health Care & Hospice division. The home office is located in St. Johnsbury, Vermont.

THE COMMUNITY NEED

DENTAL SERVICES IN ORLEANS COUNTY

In 2014, fewer than one in four Medicaid-eligible Vermonters in the Newport area aged 19-64 received preventive dental services. In Orleans County, 10% of adult residents have lost all permanent teeth due to decay or disease.

THE SOLUTION

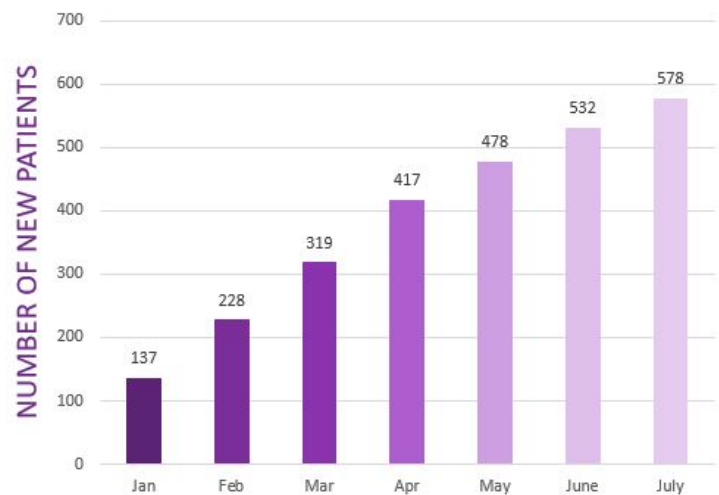
THE ORLEANS DENTAL CENTER

Northern Counties opened their new dental center on January 3, 2017! This project was born out of a partnership. Collaborators included:

- North Country Hospital
- The Village of Orleans
- Northern Counties Health Care, Inc.

Northern Counties Health Care applied for grant funding with the support of North Country Hospital and the Village of Orleans gifted the site as a part of the solution. This project was also supported financially in part by the Health Resources and Services Administration.

GROWTH SINCE GRAND OPENING



BI-STATE PRIMARY CARE ASSOCIATION



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