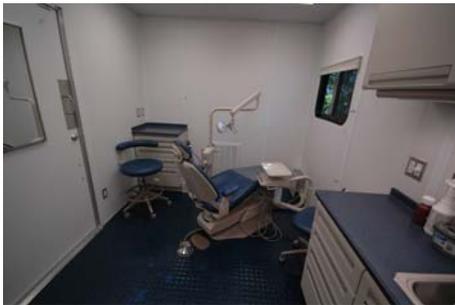


DENTAL CARE MOBILE CLINIC ON THE ROAD IN VERMONT!



BURLINGTON, VT – A large crowd gathered for the launch of Vermont's new Dental Care Mobile Clinic in Burlington, Vermont on September 24, 2009. The 40-foot, 26,000 pound mobile dental clinic will travel throughout the state to bring high quality dental care to underserved and uninsured children in Vermont who do not have access to a dentist.

Funded by a grant from Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC), the \$450,000 mobile clinic will be staffed by two dentists on a rotating basis, along with two hygienists, a dental assistant, and program manager and driver. They will provide services ranging from exams and X-rays to fillings, extractions and sealants. An estimated 2,400 medically underserved children per year will receive comprehensive dental care.



Vermont Governor Jim Douglas, RMHC Executive Director Pam Fenimore, Dr. John Matthew of The Health

Center, Dr. Debra Taylor, superintendent of Lamoille Valley, and Tom Chase, president of the RMHC Board, all spoke about the remarkable partnership between The Health Center of Plainfield; Northern Tier Center for Health; Community Health Services for Lamoille County' and Little Rivers Health Care and Ronald McDonald House Charities of Burlington, VT that made this mobile dental care program possible. RMHC will underwrite about 20 percent of the annual \$1 million operating cost. The four Community Health Centers will cover the rest of the cost through grants.

"We're the base for this operation so we hired the staff, so they'll travel out from Plainfield to three other areas of the state; to start in Alburgh, then Bradford, then the Eden, Cambridge and Waterville area," said Dr. John Matthew of the Plainfield Health Clinic.

The health centers are members of Bi-State Primary Care Association. With offices in Concord, NH, and Montpelier, VT, Bi-State Primary Care Association is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization that works with federal, state, and regional health policy organizations and policymakers, foundations, and payers to develop strategies, policies, and programs that promote and sustain community-based, primary health care services.

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