



## Public Health Sauk County

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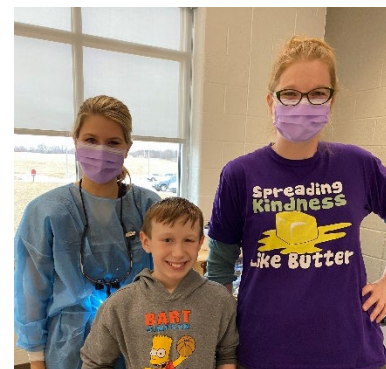
### **Sauk County's Seal-A-Smile Dental Program Wins Four Awards at Annual Conference**

**Sauk County, Wis.** — The Sauk County Seal-A-Smile mobile dental team attended the Children's Health Alliance of Wisconsin annual kickoff meeting September 6 and 7 in Marshfield, Wisconsin.

The two-day event allowed Seal-A-Smile grantees of the 2023-24 Wisconsin Seal-A-Smile program to come together to learn, network, and celebrate the impact they have on their communities before heading back to provide high quality dental prevention services in nearly 1,000 Wisconsin schools.

During the event, the Sauk County program received four awards based on data compiled by the Wisconsin Department of Health Services. They were one of only two programs in the state to receive the Seal-of-Excellence Award for 100% of students screened, 100% of schools served, and a participation rate of over 50%.

Sauk County's Seal-A-Smile program serves over 2,500 students in grades 4K to 12 at 17 different school sites. The program provides free oral health education, preventative care, and referral connections in English and Spanish to all families: those with BadgerCare or private insurance and families with no active dental insurance coverage.



*Pictured left to right are 2023-2024 Seal-A-Smile team members Valerie Braun, RDH, and program coordinator Jody Berndt with Seal-A-Smile participant Henry Bowen. Not pictured are the program's public health technician Katie Homar and Jaycie Gee, RDH.*

The goal of Sauk County's Seal-A-Smile program is to provide easily accessible education and preventative care designed to build strong daily oral health habits. The program encourages

students to maintain routine annual dental care with a dentist for lifelong oral health success. If students do not already see a dentist, the program can help families find a dental provider that meets their individual needs.

“It was a great motivator to receive these awards at the conference,” noted program coordinator, Jody Berndt. “It reminds us of just how much good work is being done right here in Sauk County.”

For more information about the Sauk County Seal-A-Smile Program, please visit <https://www.co.sauk.wi.us/publichealth/seal-smile-dental-program> or contact Jody Berndt at (608)-355-3290 or [Jody.berndt@saukcountywi.gov](mailto:Jody.berndt@saukcountywi.gov).

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