DATA MAKES ME SMILE
CLARK COUNTY DENTAL
HEALTH INITIATIVE

Program History
- Began in January 2008
- 5 year project
- Population based primary prevention
- Clark County Schools
- Rankin Skinner - lead dentist
- Clark County Community Foundation - Will Hodgkin
- Clark County Health Department - Fiscal Agent
- Partnership between private sector, philanthropy, and public sector

Tooth Decay
- Most common disease during childhood
- Impacts
  - Quality of life
  - Illness
  - Chronic disease
  - Nutrition status
Kentucky
- Ranked last in the nation for dental health of its children
- 50% of Clark County Children had tooth decay in 2008

Goals and Objectives
- Apply ACP Fluoride Varnish on preschool through fifth grade students’ teeth twice annually
- Provide students a new toothbrush and toothpaste annually
- Perform oral exams annually and provide assessment to parents
- Conduct Decay, Missing, Filled, Sealants survey on all sixth graders annually
- Provide oral health education in the schools

5 years of dedicated service
**Outcomes**

- Decay rate at start of program
  - 50%
- Decay rate at the completion of year 5
  - 11.2%

**State Recognition**

- KY Public Health Association Group Award – 2012
- Governor Beshear secured ARC grant to replicate program in Eastern KY.
National Recognition

Benefits

- Healthier children
- Fewer missed days of school
- Children learn better
- Cost Savings to health care system
- Lifetime patterns of good oral health established

Phase II

- Public Health Dental Hygienist and a Dental Assistant
  - Program Coordination
  - Application of ACP Fluoride Varnish twice annually
  - Oral Health Education
  - Cleanings
  - Sealants
  - Collect Data