

Nancy K. Starr, RDH, MPH



Nancy Starr, RDH, received her associates degree in dental hygiene in 2004 from Southwestern College in San Diego, California. Her career in public health began when she pursued her Master's degree in Public Health in 1997 from San Diego State University. She has worked as a dental health educator for over ten years and this is what lead her to becoming a hygienist. Nancy works for the Dental Health Initiative/Share the Care, a dental education program for San Diego County. Her responsibilities have included educating parents and children, training health professionals on the importance of dental health, and coordinating sealant clinics for low income families. Nancy also works as a clinical hygienist and teaches Community Dental Health and Clinic at Southwestern College Dental Hygiene Program.

“Being a hygienist allows one to play many different roles in the evolving field of Public Health dentistry.”

Education

Associates degree in Dental Hygiene: Southwestern College
Master in Public Health:
San Diego State University
Bachelor degree in Psychology:
San Diego State University

Personal Awards and Recognitions

ADHA and ADA have recognized Share the Care for community based sealant clinics for which I serve as coordinator.

Primary function in public health position

I work as an educator as well as the coordinator of county-wide sealant and fluoride varnish clinics. Between times I maintain the oral health web-site and develop newsletters for school nurses and our volunteers.

What experiences prepared you for your work in public health?

I began working in Dental Public Health as an intern in grad school. I enjoyed being an educator and became passionate about dental health. I realized I wanted to further pursue my career in dental public health and became a hygienist.

What is the most enjoyable aspect of dental public health?

Sharing knowledge with families about the importance of dental health as a part of total health.

Proudest public health accomplishment

Helping to bring preventive services to children throughout San Diego County with not dental resources and sharing my knowledge and experience with dental hygiene students.

Public Health employer/branch/department and official job title

County of San Diego Health and Human Service Agency's Maternal, Child and Family Health Services Branch's Dental Health Initiative – Share the Care

Contact Information

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