

Creighton's Healthy Smiles program is making a **BIG IMPACT**

BY THE NUMBERS

332

toothaches prevented annually
by the Healthy Smiles program

60%

of participating children with
urgent dental needs had/are having
their needs addressed through
a dental home

2,500

dental visits provided annually
in elementary schools by the
Healthy Smiles program
(approximate number)

\$44

saved (on average) by families
for each sealant their child receives



Dental sealants prevent tooth decay, improve learning and save money.

According to the Nebraska Open Mouth Survey of school children, approximately 70 percent of minority children and 57 percent of Caucasian children have experienced dental cavities by third grade. To address these oral health disparities, the Healthy Smiles program began in January 2014 and currently serves 10 Omaha public schools and two private schools.

The Healthy Smiles program provides dental sealants,* fluoride varnish, dental screenings and oral health education for approximately 2,500 children annually at no cost to families.

For children with urgent dental needs, the Creighton Care Coordinator assists families in securing care and a dental home.

For more information about the Healthy Smiles program, please contact Ashley Aubry, RDH, MA, at ashleyaubry@creighton.edu

**Dental sealants are plastic coatings that are brushed onto children's teeth. These coatings dry quickly and create a shield that protects the enamel of teeth. Experts recommend sealants to prevent cavities.*

Creighton
UNIVERSITY

School of Dentistry