

Health Ministry Provides Oral Health Screenings

In addition to worship, church is often the focal point for socialization and fellowship in many communities. A new member of the Health Care Ministry at Zion Hill Missionary Baptist Church, EIOH Urgent Care Dental Assistant Vera Graham was excited to integrate dental health into the regularly sponsored educational events and screenings focusing on both healing and health.



Under the leadership of Rev. Dr. Richard Douglass, Graham's church has a long history of serving as a place where health professionals and lay people work together to keep people well, to empower and educate, to advocate for health and to care for people in need.

Graham recently asked EIOH Social Worker Lenora A. Colaruotolo to help organize a dental screening at her church during Children's Dental Health Month. Graham also recruited Urgent Care's James Burk, DDS, a General Practice Residency Program resident, Derval Clarke, DDS, Lead Dental Assistant Christie Washington-Rodriguez, Dental Assistant Manager Carletta Carter, along with Rachelle Smith, RDG at Unity, to complete oral health screens and provide dental health education and guidance for church members.

Eastman Dental was pleased to contribute hygiene items and brochures.

Graham reports the oral health screening event was well received. Many children had dental exams and were given a Dental Health Certificate; some adults participated as well.

"We are looking forward to planning another event during the coming months," said Graham, who emphasized the important connection between dental and general health.