



Children's Oral

Health Initiative (COHI)

A community-based program that focuses on preventing dental disease in children from an early age using a culturally safe and trauma informed approach. A Registered Dental Hygienist & COHI Assistant work together with community partners to provide the program.

WHO THE PROGRAM IS FOR:

- Children from birth until they graduate grade 8.
- Parents, caregivers and pregnant women are provided health teachings.

SERVICES PROVIDED

- Dental screening (check-up)
- Fluoride varnish
- Silver Diamine Fluoride
- Sealants
- Interim Stabilization Therapy (temporary fillings)
- Referrals for treatment
- Help to navigate government dental programs
- Health teachings using a blend of Indigenous and western ways of knowing

HOW COHI MAKES A DIFFERENCE

- Improves access to dental care.
- Improves oral health and quality of life for children.
- Helps prevent and manage the severity of cavities.
- Raises awareness about how oral health is integral to overall health.



SCREENING

A visual inspection of the teeth and gums.



FLUORIDE VARNISH

A protective coating that helps prevent cavities.



SEALANTS

A plastic coating that is put on the grooves of molars to help prevent cavities.



SILVER DIAMINE FLUORIDE & TEMPORARY FILLINGS

Non-invasive dental procedures that can be done to stabilize teeth that have small cavities.

WHERE ARE THE SERVICES PROVIDED?

- At the school, learning center and Biigtigong Mno-zhi-yaawgamig dental clinic.

ORAL HEALTH PROMOTION

- Health teachings.
- Pregnant women receive a “welcome baby bag” that includes cultural books and oral health supplies.
- We collaborate with others on health promotion activities including Baby Food Workshops.

