Welcome aboard! In this program, you will work as part of a team of dental students and/or dental hygiene students along with a faculty instructor and two dental assistants. The mobile dental unit (MDU) travels into the community to serve an under-accessed dental population. Locations of this clinic are the Twin Cities metropolitan area and out-state Minnesota. The target populations seen by this clinic are Minnesota Health Care Program (MCHP) enrollees, with an emphasis on UCare’s public program enrollees. Like many other outreach educational experiences, this program provides you with an opportunity to work with underserved residents of urban and rural areas in Minnesota.

While working in the MDU, you will provide preventive services to pediatric and adult populations. Restorative services may be provided. Patients will be referred to a community dentist for comprehensive dental care after their visits on the MDU. You will gain an understanding of the necessity for, and process of referral outside of the dental school setting. The emphasis is on quality, proficient diagnostic exams, including patient histories, radiographs, prophylaxis, oral charting (child and adult), diet, oral hygiene instructions and blood pressure checks, and; on the efficient use of time in order to provide the greatest positive impact on your patient’s health, oral hygiene awareness and instruction in a limited time.

In addition to enhancing your general clinical skills you will become familiar with Statim sterilization and digital radiography.

When seeing patients locally, the staff and students of the MDU meet at 7:45am at Java City on the 2/nd floor of Moos Tower. Transportation to and from the MDU is provided, as well as disposable gowns, gloves and safety glasses. When providing services on over-night trips, a per diem for food is provided, as well as accommodations.

The staff of the mobile dental unit looks forward to meeting and working with each of you!

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