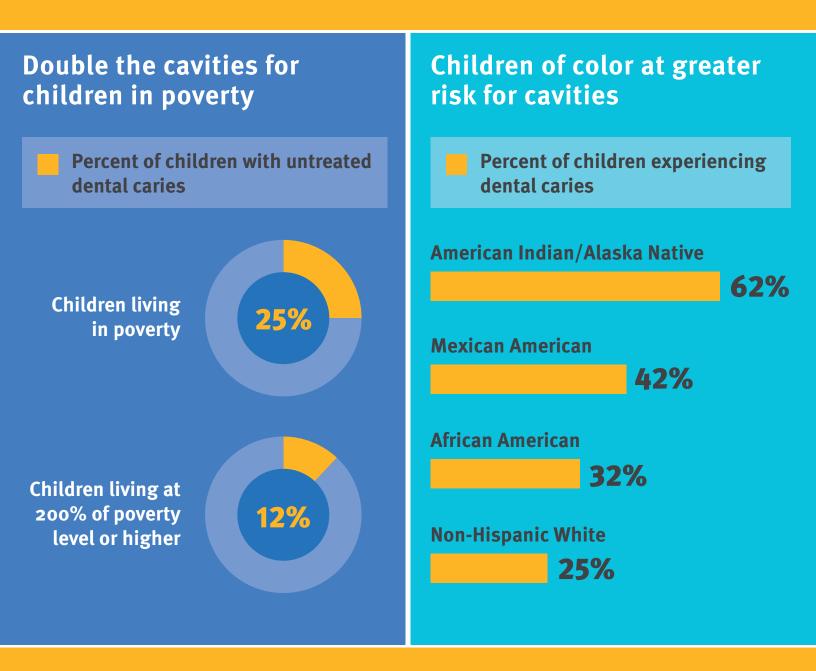In Gallup, New Mexico, a
15-year-old Native American
boy fell into a permanent coma
after a preventable dental
emergency went wrong.

In Washington state, an
8-year-old girl suffered in pain
from an abscessed tooth for
three weeks while her mother
searched for a dentist to accept
her Medicaid insurance and
pull the little girl's tooth.

In Maryland, a young boy
with a bright smile died
from an infection caused
by untreated tooth decay.

These stories are not uncommon.

Dental disease is the number one chronic illness among children in America. Poor children and children of color are disproportionately affected.

Double the cavities for children in poverty

■ Percent of children with untreated dental caries

Children living in poverty
25%

Children living at 200% of poverty level or higher
12%

Children of color at greater risk for cavities

■ Percent of children experiencing dental caries

American Indian/Alaska Native
62%

Mexican American
42%

African American
32%

Non-Hispanic White
25%

Learn more about how community-led efforts across the country are leading the way for improving oral health for our nation's vulnerable children. **Visit www.wkkf.org.**

Follow us on Twitter at @DentalHealthNow

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