Dr. Ruchi Grover was born in India and pursued her educational goals in the United States. In the process of earning a Masters Degree in neuro-science from the University of Hartford, Dr. Grover decided to pursue a degree in dentistry and continued her studies at the New York University School of Dentistry. After practicing briefly in Leominster, Massachusetts, she moved to northern Vermont to practice at the Highland Dental Center in Newport, a small town in northern Orleans County near the Canadian border. Dr. Grover is the only female dentist in Orleans County.

Dr. Grover especially enjoys working with young patients and making her patients feel comfortable. She encourages new Medicaid patients to use her services as part of her commitment to reach out to a largely underserved, rural population who need dental care in this part of northern Vermont. Dr. Grover plans to eventually purchase the practice.

Delta Dental Plan of Vermont recently awarded a community match grant to three Vermont dentists: Jeri Bullock, DDS; David Jette, DDS; and Ruchi Grover, DDS, for the 2013-2014 year. Delta Dental Plan of Vermont, Delta Dental Plan of Maine, and Delta Dental Plan of New Hampshire, jointly do business as Northeast Delta Dental. For four years, Delta Dental Plan of Vermont has contributed to the success of the Vermont Educational Loan Repayment Program for Dentists by awarding three matching grants. The University of Vermont College of Medicine Area Health Education Center (AHEC) administers the program on behalf of the State of Vermont.

Through recruitment and retention, the goal of the program is to ensure a stable and adequate supply of dentists to meet the oral health care needs of Vermont citizens and especially to increase access for the Medicaid population. It provides loan repayment for dentists serving in designated shortage areas or in documented special need areas in the state. Recipients must sign a one-year service agreement and practice a minimum of 20 hours per week at designated sites.

This is the second year that Dr. Grover has received a loan repayment award. Dr. Jette and Dr. Bullock are new to the program.

Dr. Ruchi Grover was born in India and pursued her educational goals in the United States. In the process of earning a Masters Degree in neuro-science from the University of Hartford, Dr. Grover decided to pursue a degree in dentistry and continued her studies at the New York University School of Dentistry. After practicing briefly in Leominster, Massachusetts, she moved to northern Vermont to practice at the Highland Dental Center in Newport, a small town in northern Orleans County near the Canadian border. Dr. Grover is the only female dentist in Orleans County.

Dr. Grover especially enjoys working with young patients and making her patients feel comfortable. She encourages new Medicaid patients to use her services as part of her commitment to reach out to a largely underserved, rural population who need dental care in this part of northern Vermont. Dr. Grover plans to eventually purchase the practice.

A native of southern California, Dr. Jeri Bullock completed her education in California, her undergraduate degree at Dominican University of California and her graduate studies at the Loma Linda University School of Dentistry. After reaching her educational goals, Dr. Bullock and her husband searched nationally for a place to live and work, and they fell in love with Vermont during a visit to New England.

Located in Rutland, her practice, Community Dental, is part of the Community Health Centers of the Rutland Region (CHCRR), a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC). A FQHC is a designation from the Bureau of Primary Health Care of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (to learn more about FQHCs, visit www.hrsa.gov). She is one of two dentists in the practice, which is currently searching for a third. She practices general family dentistry, many of her patients are Medicaid recipients, and her special areas of concern are pediatric oral health and preventive care.

Returning to his native Vermont after his professional training was important to Dr. David Jette. He earned his undergraduate degree at Clarkson University in Potsdam, New York, and completed his graduate studies at the State University of New York (SUNY) at Buffalo School of Dental Medicine. Dr. Jette’s wife is also a practicing Vermont dentist.

Dr. Jette practices family dentistry with Richford Health Center, doing business as Northern Tier Center for Health (NOTCH) in two dental offices in Richford and Swanton. NOTCH is a Federally Qualified Health Center. The Swanton office is currently expanding, and the staff expects four additional dental chairs by early 2014. Dr. Jette is committed to providing oral health services in a rural setting; his work requires travel in the Northeast Kingdom and throughout Franklin and Grand Isle counties, and he is happy to be back in Vermont.

For more information about the Vermont Educational Loan Repayment Program for Dentists, visit www.vtahec.org.