

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Local Oral Health was established in San Bernardino County to improve the oral health of county residents. The program is funded by the California Department of Public Health, through funds generated from passage of the **California Healthcare Research Tobacco Act of 2016** (Proposition 56).

WHY IS ORAL HEALTH IMPORTANT?

Our teeth help us **chew, digest food, speak clearly and give shape to our face**. When we do not take care of our teeth, we increase our risk of disease such as gum disease which can lead to heart disease and diabetes.



WHO WE ASSIST

- Children, pregnant women and older adults
- Individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities
- Homeless individuals and families
- Rural communities
- Schools and community organizations
- And many more!



RESOURCES



Find a Medi-Cal Dentist
www.smilecalifornia.org



Find a Low-Cost Dentist
www.tcds.org



Resources for Kids
www.mouthhealthy.org



Resources for Parents
www.themightymouth.org



Find Dental and Other Services
www.connectie.org



Oral Health for Older Adults
www.nidcr.nih.gov



Resources for Pregnant Women
www.mchoralhealth.org

For more information, please contact:
Local Oral Health
909-387-6584
OralHealth@dph.sbcounty.gov
www.sbcounty.gov/dph



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Local Oral Health

Program Guide for Schools



Public Health

DID YOU KNOW?

Children cannot learn when they are **distracted or in pain** from dental problems.



Tooth decay is preventable and yet it is the **most common chronic disease** for children and teens.

The **Kindergarten Oral Health Assessment** helps to keep children healthy and ready to learn.



3 in 10 kindergarteners assessed in San Bernardino County suffer from untreated tooth decay.

Students' absences due to dental problems cost California school districts about **\$30 million annually**.



www.sbcounty.gov/dph

Focus Areas



Access to Oral Health Care

Increase the availability, accessibility and utilization of oral health services across the county

- Support **school-based** and/or school-linked **dental programs** for K-12 students
- Facilitate improvement of dental **referral system** to improve access for children
- Assist with improving **Kindergarten Oral Health Assessment** completion rate to ensure every child is connected with a dentist

Oral Health Education



Empower individuals and communities with information to take action to improve their oral health

- Support **oral health education** for K-12 students
- Develop and disseminate **standardized educational resources**
- Develop a countywide **public awareness campaign**



FOCUS AREAS CONTINUED



Oral Health Workforce

Expand and strengthen the workforce to meet the varied oral health care needs of San Bernardino County

Integration of Services



Empower service providers to improve the overall health of individuals through integrated approaches to care



Coordination of Countywide Efforts

Promote partnerships and collective efforts to optimize resources and achieve sustained improvements for oral health

Measurement and Evaluation



Implement a data collection, analysis and reporting system to support countywide oral health efforts