



TOOTH TALK

El Dorado Smiles - Local Oral Health Program



Newsletter February '24

CELEBRATING CHILDREN'S DENTAL HEALTH MONTH

FEBRUARY - NATIONAL CHILDREN'S DENTAL HEALTH MONTH

In 1941, National Children's Dental Health Month (NCDHM) began as a one-day event in Ohio. The American Dental Association (ADA) started observing Children's Dental Health Day in 1949, which later expanded from a single day to a week in 1955. By 1981, it turned into a whole month known as National Children's Dental Health Month. Since then, it has grown from two cities to a nationwide program. NCDHM messages reach many people in communities all over the United States.

Every February, the American Dental Association sponsors NCDHM to make people aware of the importance of oral health. Millions of people in communities across the country have received NCDHM messages and materials.

Poor oral health can affect a child's attendance, grades, and overall performance in school. It is crucial for kids to build good habits early, like brushing and seeing the dentist every 6 months. This helps them have healthy teeth and gums throughout their lives.

If you schedule your child's first dentist appointment in February, their next check-up will conveniently align with the start of the school year in August. This ensures a pain-free learning experience and sets your child up for a successful start of the new school year.

For more information or resources on oral health from the ADA please visit



[ADA - National Children's Dental Health Month](#)

Oral Health Advisory Committee

PLEASE JOIN US VIA TEAMS ON FEBRUARY 16TH, 2024 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM

To be added to our meeting list please contact eldoradosmiles@edcgov.us



Community Spotlight



On a personal note...

Angela has been married for 15 years. In her free time she enjoys hiking, kayaking and playing with her fur babies.



ANGELA DELFINO

REGISTERED DENTAL HYGIENIST ALTERNATIVE PRACTICE

Angela is originally from El Dorado County. She is a graduate of Allegany College of Maryland and has been a Registered Dental Hygienist since 2005.

Angela expanded her expertise through advanced training at the University of the Pacific in San Francisco allowing her to pursue her passion, providing dental services to those with limited access to traditional dental care settings.

Angela has worked in the Bay Area providing dental treatment to residents in Skilled Nursing Facilities and Hospitals. She is excited to bring her knowledge and experience to the elementary schools of El Dorado County.

Coming Soon

**KINDERGARTEN ORAL HEALTH ASSESSMENT (KOHA)
IN-SCHOOL - SCREENINGS**



Oral Health Highlights

ONLINE DENTAL VAN APPLICATIONS - NOW LIVE!

DENTAL VAN APPLICATION

ENGLISH

ESPAÑOL

Breaking down access barriers for families, we've introduced an online version of the dental van application process. Now, signing up is more convenient than ever – families can easily complete and submit forms using their phones, computers, or tablets. Please share the links with anybody interested in signing up for the dental van. For a list of schools please see the dental van calendar on the next page.

KINDERGARTEN ORAL HEALTH ASSESSMENTS (KOHA)

As part of our state objectives, we are focused on enhancing school-based services and boosting assessment participation by introducing KOHA screenings in schools. Last year, only 32% of kindergarteners in El Dorado County submitted their KOHA forms, a low figure considering it is a state law for those entering public school for the first time. Exciting news from the El Dorado Smiles program – we are thrilled to announce the launch of in-class KOHA screenings starting in February. By partnering with an RDH/AP to conduct these screenings, we aim to increase student participation and provide families with convenient access to preventive services.

LET'S KEEP SPREADING SMILES! 😊

CHECK OUT OUR SOCIAL MEDIA!



WELL DORADO



ORAL HEALTH



LOCAL ORAL HEALTH PROGRAM NEWS

STAFFING

We are excited to announce that Catalina Reinhart joined our Health Promotion Team as the new Health Program Specialist.



DENTAL VAN SCHEDULE FEB / MARCH 2024

February 2024							February
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	
				1	2	3	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Sierra Elementary
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	EDCOE/Indian Creek Elementary
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	Gold Oak Elementary
25	26	27	28	29			TBD

March 2024							March
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	
					1	2	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	TBD
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	Sierra Ridge Middle School
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	Pioneer Elementary/Mountain Creek Middle
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	Spring break
31							

Our new oral health banner for National Children’s Dental Health Month will be hanging over Main Street in Placerville the week of January 29th - February 5th.



First Tooth - 1st Birthday & Pregnant and Postpartum Campaign.

1. Families that will take their child to see a dentist before the age of one, will receive a Gift card for \$25.
1. Women that see a dentist while pregnant or in their first 12 months postpartum, will receive a gift card for \$25.

(In order to receive a gift card, families must qualify and provide proof of dental services received to the local oral health program or an affiliated community program like WIC or Head Start)



Upcoming EVENTS

FEBRUARY 16TH
OHAC MEETING (VIRTUAL)
9:30 AM - 11:00 AM