

Public Health Division, Staff Report

Maternal Child Adolescent Health (MCAH) Advisory Board

Advisory to the County of Sonoma Board of Supervisors

Feb 6, 2025

Dental/Oral Health	 The Dental Health Network will meet again on February 13th. Contact <u>Nicole.Bonkrude@sonoma-county.org</u> for more information. February is National Children's Dental Health Month. Medi-Cal Dental has new member materials and free promotion kits available. Community organizations can order these free education materials and toothbrushes to promote oral health in February. Request a kit <u>link</u>. Please share Sonoma CAN Give Kids a Smile event, which will offer free dental exams and treatment to children 0-18 years old* and will take place at dental clinics throughout Sonoma County on February 7, 2025. Preregistration is required by calling 707-483-2852 M-F from 9 am -4:30 pm. *This event is for low-income/uninsured children who do not have a regular dentist or dental clinic. (Flyer included with update.)





• AB 2630 updated the Education Code and added children in TK to the Kindergarten Oral Health Assessment (KOHA). New KOHA forms have been translated into 6 languages. The Oral Health program is promoting the new forms among Sonoma County school districts.



Healthy Eating, Active Living (HEAL)	 The HEAL Team subcontracts with the Sonoma County Safe Routes to School program to organize walk audits at schools located in underresourced neighborhoods. Two of the six planned walk audits for this school year have been completed and the results will be used by the schools and city/county staff to plan and prioritize safety improvements. The Healthy Apple Program recruited 18 daycare providers since September and every training so far has "sold out." New providers from 14 sites attended a physical activity training to learn how to lead children in structured activities to build motor skills.
Home Visiting	 Over the holiday season, Home Visiting was able to distribute approximately 500 holiday gifts to our clients and families, thanks to the generous partnerships with the Center for Volunteer & Non-profit Leadership (CVNL), the Santa Rosa Soroptomists, and the Santa Tim program. The Trauma-Informed Approach to Public Health Nursing (TIA) and Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP) programs are wrapping up recruitment for two new Public Health Nurses (PHNs). There was an incredibly robust candidate pool and Home Visiting is excited to expand the team and bring on 2 new experienced and highly skilled home visitors. New PHNs will begin as early as late February. After being awarded over \$1.2 million in funding from the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to launch an infant and early child mental health consultation program embedded within Home Visiting, Home Visiting will seek Board of Supervisor approval at the end of February to accept the funds and bring on 3 new staff to implement and deliver mental health consultation services. Recruitment and hiring for these positions will begin immediately following Board approval. The Nurse Home Visiting Community Advisory Board (HV CAB) has expanded to new members in 2025 with new community leaders and partners joining to provide leadership, community voice, and guidance to inform DHS' Home Visiting programs and services. The HV CAB meets quarterly, and in 2025 will focus on topics including supporting immigrant clients and community members, supporting CPS-involved clients, and perinatal mental health.



Impact Sonoma (Tobacco & Nicotine Prevention)

- On behalf of the Tobacco-Free Sonoma County Community Coalition (TFSCCC): The Coalition is seeking support for their primary campaigns to pass Tobacco Retail License (TRL) ordinances in the cities of Rohnert Park and Cotati, and to keep cannabis dispensaries from opening smoking lounges/cafes. They are looking for interested individual and organizations to get involved. Please reach out to either tobaccofreesonoma@gmail.com or emily.gonzalezdemont@sonomacounty.org for more information! Nicole is supporting the cannabis smoking lounge campaign: nicole.bonkrude@sonoma-county.org
- Santa Rosa recently passed a Tobacco Retail Licensing ordinance in effect as of January 1, 2025. We ran two ads you may have seen in December and earlier in January to make the public aware and to promote quit resources at Kick It CA.





	• The Impact Sonoma team encourages our community to help be our eyes and ears in an effort to stop the sale of illegal tobacco products. Despite the Ca flavored tobacco product ban being in place for over 2 years, retailers are still carrying and selling these products, often in a discreet/hidden fashion. The public can report any issues to our team so we can investigate. Email Impact.Sonoma@sonoma-county.org or call 707.565.6680. You can also send questions or report concerns via our web-based tool.
MCAH Planning & Coordination	 In January, our Perinatal Services Coordinator collaborated with a local doula to host a quarterly training to assist doulas to become certified to bill Medi-Cal and Partnership. Seven doulas attended this training and are taking steps to be able to serve the Medi-Cal community. The PSC also hosted a potluck gathering for doulas to meet with each other, network and collaborate; this was attended by 8 doulas who all agreed that having this meeting space was important and should be a regularly occurring event. MCAH is continuing to work on updating the For Teen Eyes Only Teen Resource Pamphlet and plans to review the updates at the February Teen Health Advocacy Coalition meeting.
Women, Infants & Children (WIC)	 Starting in January, WIC's Spanish Breastfeeding Support Group will be meeting twice a month (2nd & 4th Wednesday) instead of only once a month to offer more support to post-partum Spanish speaking families.
Shared Risk & Protective Factors	DHS public health division will be deploying 3 public health vending machines in Spring 2025! They will be branded as "Heath to Go" machines, stocked with FREE health and wellness supplies. Anyone in Sonoma County will be able to access them. The machines will be placed at community-based organizations within the lowest resourced and/or high opioid overdose death areas of the county. If your organization might be interested in hosting a machine and/or helping to spread the word about this exciting initiative, please reach out to alyssa.hamilton@sonoma-county.org.



Contact Information

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