

CONTRA COSTA ORAL HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT 2018



COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS PROMOTING HEALTHY SMILES FOR CONTRA COSTA



Funded by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) under Contract # 17-10687.

For any questions regarding this document, please contact the CCHS
Community Oral Health Program at 925-313-6280.

ORAL HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT 2018

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

Prepared By

Lori Allio, PhD, Hatchuel, Tabernik and Associates
Lisa Diemoz, MPH, Contra Costa Health Services
Sam Fernandez, Contra Costa Health Services
Jena Fiel-Williams, BS, Contra Costa Health Services
Erika Oseguera, RDA, Contra Costa Health Services
Maria Ortiz-Padilla, MPA, Contra Costa Health Services
Harleen Sethi, DMD, Contra Costa Health Services

Edited By

Christina Boothman, MPH, Contra Costa Health Services
Karl Fischer, Contra Costa Health Services

Graphic Design By

Andi Bivens, BAS, Contra Costa Health Services
Michael Duran, BA, Contra Costa Health Services

To obtain additional copies of this report, please contact

Contra Costa Health Services
Community Oral Health Program (COHP)
925-313-6280



WE WANT TO THANK _____
CONTRA COSTA COMMUNITY PARTNERS
_____ **FOR COLLABORATING!**

~ CCHS Community Oral Health Program (COHP)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

There is a direct connection between the health of the mouth (also referred to as oral health) and a person's daily life.ⁱ Oral health affects physical and mental health and impacts health outcomes within local communities.ⁱⁱ Oral health milestones mark key points in a person's life: baby's first tooth, child's first tooth loss, adolescent braces, young adult's wisdom teeth extraction, and geriatric dentures. We often consider oral or dental health to be a marker of an individual's health, but it is also indicative of the health of a population.

In 2018, Contra Costa County Health Services—Family, Maternal, and Child Health Programs received Prop 56 funding from the California Department of Public Health to establish a local oral health program to assess local oral health needs, develop and evaluate a community health improvement plan, implement evidence-based oral health strategies, work with partners to promote and enhance local oral health infrastructure, and mobilize on strategies in alignment with the State oral health objectives.

This report highlights Contra Costa's oral health needs and opportunities as identified by a seven-month oral health needs assessment and community health improvement planning process driven by Contra Costa community stakeholders. Contra Costa community stakeholders noted that, despite high quality of care, too few providers accept Medi-Cal to meet the community's need and are not accessible to residents of all regions within the County. While preventive safety-net oral health services are robust and wide-spread within the Contra Costa community and schools, continued coordination is imperative to ensure students are receiving appropriate preventive and dental treatment. Oral health is not present in most policies, although there are opportunities for policy integration amongst several local sectors. Although there is an abundance of available oral health information, consistent oral health promotion and information sharing was lacking. It was also recognized that local oral health data is limited, which prevents a true depiction of the oral health status of the Contra Costa community. Lastly, Contra Costa partners called out the importance of ensuring intentional oral health efforts and special considerations for children and adolescents with special health care needs.

SEVEN ORAL HEALTH PRIORITY AREAS

Throughout the needs assessment process, Contra Costa’s Community Oral Health Program (COHP) examined qualitative and quantitative data derived from key informant interviews, community partner input, and oral health population-level data. This analysis resulted in the identification of seven oral health priorities for the County. These seven priorities will guide local action to ensure that children and youth, including those with special healthcare needs, and pregnant women in Contra Costa County will have optimal oral health.

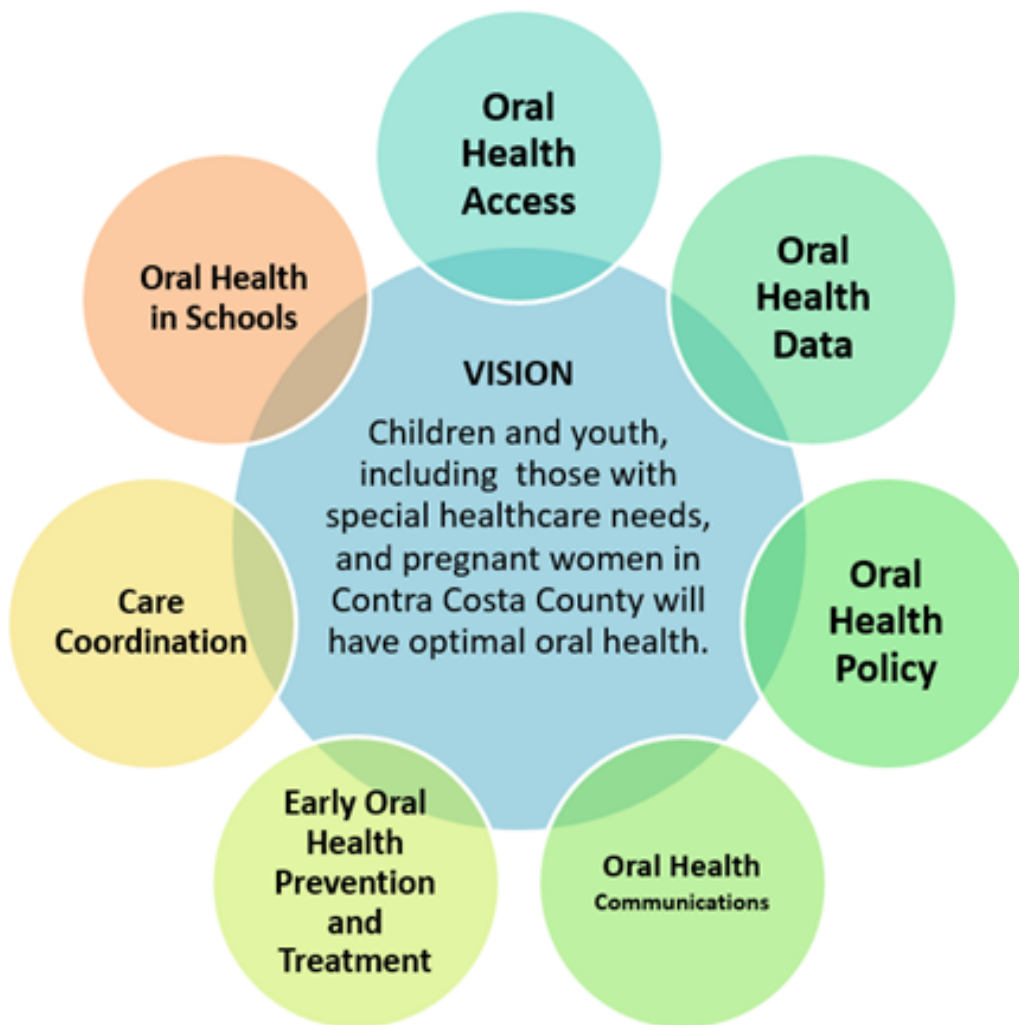


FIGURE 1:
SEVEN ORAL HEALTH PRIORITY AREAS

SUMMARY

OF KEY FINDINGS

- In 2017, 105,495 people in Contra Costa (9.3% of population) lived in households below the federal poverty level and among that number 30,777 or 29% of them were children.ⁱⁱⁱ
- In 2017–18, Contra Costa County’s Children’s Oral Health Program (COHP), reported that of the 3,898 children assessed, 59% had dental caries experience and 24% had untreated caries.^{iv}
- In 2017–2018, La Clinica’s Oral Health Initiative (OHI) program screened 433 children, of whom 130 were considered “urgent cases.”^v
- In 2017, there were 80,587 Medi-Cal eligible children ages 0–17^{vi} and only 31 general dentists within the County accepting new Medi-Cal dental patients as of April 2018.^{vii}
- An estimated 9,125 children and adolescents ages 0–17 were Medi-Cal eligible annually from 2012–2016 in East Contra Costa^{viii} and only 1 general dentist was accepting new Medi-Cal patients as of April 2018.^{vii}
- In 2016, only 37% of Medi-Cal eligible residents ages 0–20 visited a dentist.^{ix}
- In 2016, only 14.4% of Medi-Cal eligible children ages 12–24 months had an annual dental visit.^{ix}
- In 2014, 763 emergency room visits for youth under 20 years of age in Contra Costa were due to a non-traumatic dental condition.^x
- In 2017, of 14,617 Contra Costa County kindergarteners, 7,198 (49%) returned a completed kindergarten oral health assessment.^{xi, xii}
- In 2012, 49.0% of Contra Costa women with a live birth reported having a dental visit during pregnancy compared to 42.1% across California.^{xiii}

NEXT STEPS

FOR CONTRA COSTA

In order to address gaps within the identified seven oral health priority areas, Contra Costa has identified the following next steps toward developing an oral health community health improvement plan in alignment with the State oral health objectives.

Next steps for Contra Costa include:

1. Refine the draft goals recommended by community partners (See pg. 8).
2. Prioritize 2019 oral health implementation objectives within the seven oral health priorities areas.
3. Build capacity and engage stakeholders by organizing a regular oral health meeting for Contra Costa community partners/stakeholders to move the oral health priorities to action.
4. Facilitate care coordination discussions between Contra Costa oral health providers.
5. Continue to solicit and obtain primary oral health data from Contra Costa community partners.
6. Identify additional data collection opportunities in order to paint a clear landscape of the caries risk and prevalence of children, adolescents, and pregnant women i.e., through kindergarten oral health assessments, prenatal visits, etc.
7. Advocate for the implementation of evidence-based oral health programs, including school-based sealant programs, local water fluoridation, and collection of the Kindergarten Oral Health Assessments.
8. Work with community agencies to understand electronic medical/dental record systems and opportunities for dental integration/information sharing.
9. Improve consistent messaging around oral health across by eliminating jargon and technical language, presenting critical oral health information in engaging and compelling ways.
10. Incorporate oral health into existing successful Contra Costa public health policies following the model of Contra Costa Tobacco Prevention.

NEXT STEPS

REFINE DRAFT GOALS

Goal 01

Improve oral health access for Contra Costa County's diverse population of Medi-Cal eligible pregnant women, children, and adolescents through education, prevention and treatment.

Goal 02

Improve Countywide data collection on oral health data and indicators.

Goal 03

Contra Costa County oral health policies will support systems and services for children and youth, including those with special health care needs and pregnant women.

Goal 04

Contra Costa residents will be informed on the importance of oral health to overall health.

Goal 05

All Medi-Cal eligible pregnant women will have a dental exam and oral health education at least once during pregnancy.

Goal 06

Medi-Cal eligible parents, caregivers, and legal guardians will understand the importance of oral health practices for children age 0–5 years.

Goal 07

All Medi-Cal eligible children will be seen by a dentist by their first birthday or first tooth.

Goal 08

Pregnant women and youth age 0–20 years are linked to a dental home that provides access to preventive, routine, and specialty dental care.

Goal 09

Develop an integrated information system to facilitate patients' overall oral health care and maintained relationship with a dental home.

Goal 10

Develop and build collaboration and coordination around oral health across Contra Costa County.

Goal 11

Increase school-based and school-linked oral health prevention and treatment programs for children and youth who lack Medi-Cal dental providers.

Goal 12

Elementary school site staff and parents, caregivers, and legal guardians of school-age children will understand the importance of oral health practices.

ENDNOTES

FOR EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- i American Pain Society. 2017. *“Activity pattern profiles: Relationship with affect, daily functioning, impairment, and variables related to life goals.”*
- ii US Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service, Office of the Surgeon General. Oral health in America: A report of the Surgeon General. Rockville, MD: National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research; 2000, p. 155–88.
- iii U.S. Census Bureau, 2017 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Poverty Status in last 12 months S1701.
- iv Contra Costa Department of Public Health, Family, Maternal and Child Health, Children’s Oral Health Program Internal Program Data.
- v LaClinica Oral Health Initiative (2018).
- vi U.S. Census Bureau, 2017 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Medicaid/Means Tested Coverage B27007.
- vii Department of Health Care Services, Medi-Cal Dental, Denti-Cal Provider Directory, www.denti-cal.ca.gov Accessed 4/21/18.
- viii U.S. Census Bureau, 2012–2016 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Medicaid/Means Tested Coverage C27007.
- ix California Department of Health Care Services, Service Utilization, Dental Data Reports.
- x California’s Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development, Emergency Department Patient Discharge Data 2014.
- xi California Department of Education, Dataquest, Enrollment by Grade.
- xii California Dental Association, AB1433 Reported Data.
- xiii Maternal and Infant Health Assessment, California Department of Public Health, 2012 County Report.

CONTRA COSTA HEALTH SERVICES

COMMUNITY ORAL HEALTH PROGRAM

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CCHS Community Oral Health Program at 925-313-6162



Community Oral Health Program