DentalFirst

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We believe preventative care at an early age makes things fair.
Values

• Find the right path for each family
• Level the playing field
• Be proactive through prevention
• Drive smart solutions
• Stand up for children
When kids have healthy teeth they avoid developing long lasting dental issues.

DentalFirst:

• Screens children for undetected dental issues
• Provides follow-up case management
• 6 Screeners
• 15 Contracted dentists
• 150+ Sites per year
• 20,000 Screened per year
Prioritize sites where 50% of kids are eligible for the Free and Reduced Lunch Program.
In 2018-19, 32% of children screened received a referral.
Urgent VS. Emergency Referral

Early childhood caries in 2 year old
Screening Result:

- Visual
- Includes list of clinics that accept Medi-Cal
Case Management:

- 10 Case Managers, bilingual and bicultural
- Ensure the child is enrolled into health insurance program
  - Assist with application, if needed
  - Continue to follow-up until treatment is completed
To Date:

67,000+ children dental screened since 2014

30% identified with some type of dental issue (cumulative referral rate)

56% of those referred visited a dentist

www.hkidsf.org
At Screening:
- Child info including state and student ID
- Screening result
- Parent contact
- Demographic info

At Follow-Up:
- Insurance status
- Care history
- Upcoming appointments
- Case outcomes (treatment type)
The program builds families’ awareness of:

1. Insurance services they are entitled to and how to access them
2. How dental care impacts a child’s educational outcomes
3. The importance of health habits for all children
How long since last dental visit?

- **18**: 6% (More than 3 years)
- **5**: 2% (More than 1 year, < 3 years)

Total: 307

Record Count: 284 (93%)
2019 Program Evaluation

Reason for dental visit?

- 258: 84% (Treatment for condition found at earlier appointment)
- 9: 3%
- 19: 6%
- 19: 6% 2: 1%
When asked whether there was a time during the past 12 months when their child needed dental care but could not get it, **only 10% reported they could not access services.**

- 22% Insurance did not cover recommended procedure
- 19% Could not afford the cost
- 19% Afraid or don’t like the dentist
- 19% Unable to take time off work
- 9% Dental office not open at convenient times
- 9% Didn’t think anything was wrong or the issue would go away
- 3% Dental office was too far away
Impact:

- Successful launching of ongoing connections to dental providers
- Once parents are aware of their child’s dental needs and are connected to care, they continue to access preventative care, even after supportive services from Healthier Kids Foundation have ended