



California Department of Public Health
OFFICE OF ORAL HEALTH

ORAL HEALTH BYTES

A Newsletter For Local Oral Health Programs

Kindergarten Oral Health Assessment (KOHA)

Whether it's technical assistance requests or questions posed in the chat during webinars and lunch and learns, KOHA remains one of the most consistently asked about topics. This edition focuses on resources – webinars, handbooks, presentations – to address the various components related to this topic.

KOHA in Sister Counties

While the workplan activity is the same for every LHJ, each navigates the attributes and resources specific to its area (urban traffic, mountainous terrain). Here are some tools from sister counties that may be helpful with the KOHA process.

- [San Diego](#)
- [San Francisco](#)
- [Santa Clara](#)
- [Sonoma – School-based Sealants](#)
- [Ventura – Dental Care Coordination Flowchart](#)



KOHA Lunch and Learns

In 2021, the OOH partnered with COHTAC to host a three-part series of lunch and learns, facilitated by Dr. Bahar Amanzadeh, on Planning and Implementing School-based or School-linked Programs. If you attended the sessions, this is a refresher. If you are new to the oral health program, or missed the live presentations, this is another resource for your toolkit.



SCHOOL LINKED SERVICES

- [Part 1](#) (PPT)
- [Part 2](#) (PPT)
- [Part 3](#) (YouTube recording)

Additional KOHA materials

- [KOHA Implementation and Improvement Strategies](#) (YouTube recording)
- [MOU template](#)
- [Active consent template](#)
- [Passive consent template](#)

The System for California Oral Health Reporting (SCOHR)

The team at SCOHR has been hosting live trainings on a regular basis. Titled SCOHR – Overview of the Oral Health Reporting System, the training teaches attendees the following items:

- How to navigate SCOHR
- The status summary and the methods to upload data, fix data input, and finalize data input

Live trainings are held twice monthly, run 45 minutes, and are limited to 100 participants. Notification of trainings are sent out through the Dental Director



mailbox. For registration questions, you can contact the SCOHR help desk at (866) 762-9170 or by email at scohr@sjcoe.net.

Other links of interest:
[new KOHA form on SCOHR](#) (Scroll down on the landing page to see the form link.)



Here is What's Coming Next:

- Back-Tooth-School Webinar – October 12, 2022; (10:30 – 11:30am)
Presented by *Smile, California* and The California Department of Education; [Register Here](#)
- Lunch and learn – October 20, 2022; (12 – 1:30pm)
Using the First 5 CA Parent Kit in your LOHP
- Lunch and learn – November 17, 2022; (12 – 1:30pm)
Website development (LA County LOHP)
- Q1 Invoice – November 30, 2022
- Progress Report – January 31, 2023
- Data Form – January 31, 2023 (for July 1 - Dec 1, 2022)
- Children's Dental Health Month – February 2023

Children attending public school in California are required to get a dental check-up by May 31, 2023.

Smile, California KOHA Material

Smile, California has an array of resources to help you promote and educate families in your community about what the [KOHA](#) is, why it's important and how to complete the assessment. Visit the [KOHA](#) page on [SmileCalifornia.org](#) to download free flyers, videos, and social media images in English and Spanish.

In addition to the KOHA materials linked below, the [Partners & Providers](#) page on [SmileCalifornia.org](#) features an array of materials and resources made especially for you to assist members of your community with questions regarding their Medi-Cal dental benefits. We encourage you to bookmark the page to stay up to date as new resources are available.

- [KOHA flyer \(English\)](#)
- [KOHA flyer \(Spanish\)](#)
- [KOHA poster \(English\)](#)
- [KOHA poster \(Spanish\)](#)
- [KOHA Video](#)

To download images and captions such as the KOHA ones below, visit the [Smile, California Social Media Gallery](#) on [SmileCalifornia.org](#). A variety of images and captions are available for download in English in Spanish so you can easily share them with community members on your Facebook or Instagram accounts.







OOH Staff Spotlight: Tiffany Ta

Tiffany is the surveillance lead in OOH's surveillance and evaluation team. She previously was an epidemiologist for CDPH's California Tobacco Control Program. In prior roles, Tiffany served as an STD epidemiologist for the Washington State Department of Health and a Tribal epidemiologist for the California Rural Indian Health Board. Outside of the office, she is planning her wedding, spending time outside (hiking, skiing, gardening), reading, cross stitching, and most of all, spending as much time with her family, friends, and two indoor bunnies (Luke and Furby).



LOHP Spotlight: San Mateo County

San Mateo County is part of the San Francisco Bay Area, which is comprised of the nine counties that border the San Francisco Bay. San Mateo County sits between San Francisco County (to the north) and Santa Clara County (to the south). The Santa Cruz Mountains run the entire length of San Mateo County.

During 2022, LOHP staff have focused heavily on the KOHA process. They first met with LOHP staff in Sacramento, San Diego, and Santa Clara Counties to learn about their KOHA processes and tools. Step two was distributing a survey to school staff to better understand current school practices on KOHA. Third, staff partnered with the County Office of Education and SCOHR to create trainings, instructions, and a clear system for school staff on how to collect and report KOHA data into the SCOHR database. Lastly, to better communicate and coordinate efforts, staff held regular meetings with all organizations providing school-based oral health services in the county.

As a result of these efforts, the number of schools reporting KOHA data in SCOHR for the 2021-22 school year (82 schools, 77%) more than tripled from the previous four years' average of 24 schools, and all 33 priority schools reported. The number of completed KOHA screenings reported in SCOHR also more than tripled (2,339, 34% of all enrolled kindergartners) compared to the previous four years' average (695 completed screenings reported).



Some of the tools that San Mateo County LOHP created are available on the County Office of Education's "Nurses' Corner" webpage. (Please note, since this information was developed prior to July 1, 2022, the information relates to the old KOHA form. The new KOHA form can be found on SCOHR, under the "Reporting" tab.)

