



Public Health Division

Best Practices for Building Relationships & KOHA Awareness

Project Director's Meeting: February 7th, 2024

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County of Santa Cruz

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Chief Dental Officer/ VP of Operations

Dientes Community Dental

The OHA Journey



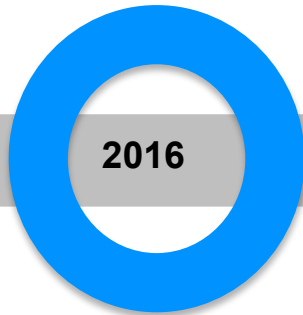
Oral Health Access
SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

Dientes grant-funded 1st Oral Health (OH) Needs Assessment



2015

County receives LOHP \$1M grant to facilitate OHASCC



2016

OHASCC founded; launched with 1st OH Summit and roadshow



2017



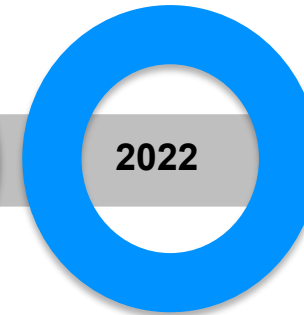
2018

1st OH Report Card



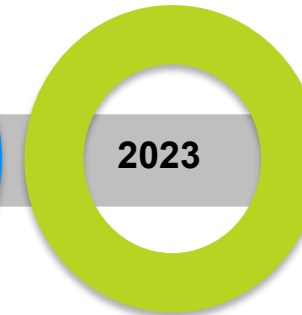
2021

2nd OH Summit; 2nd OH Report Card



2022

Dientes funds 2nd OH Needs Assessment; County receives 2nd LOHP \$1M grant for OHASCC



2023

New OHASCC Strategic Plan



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Salud Para La Gente
Working Together for a Healthy Community



Oral Health Access (OHA) Partners

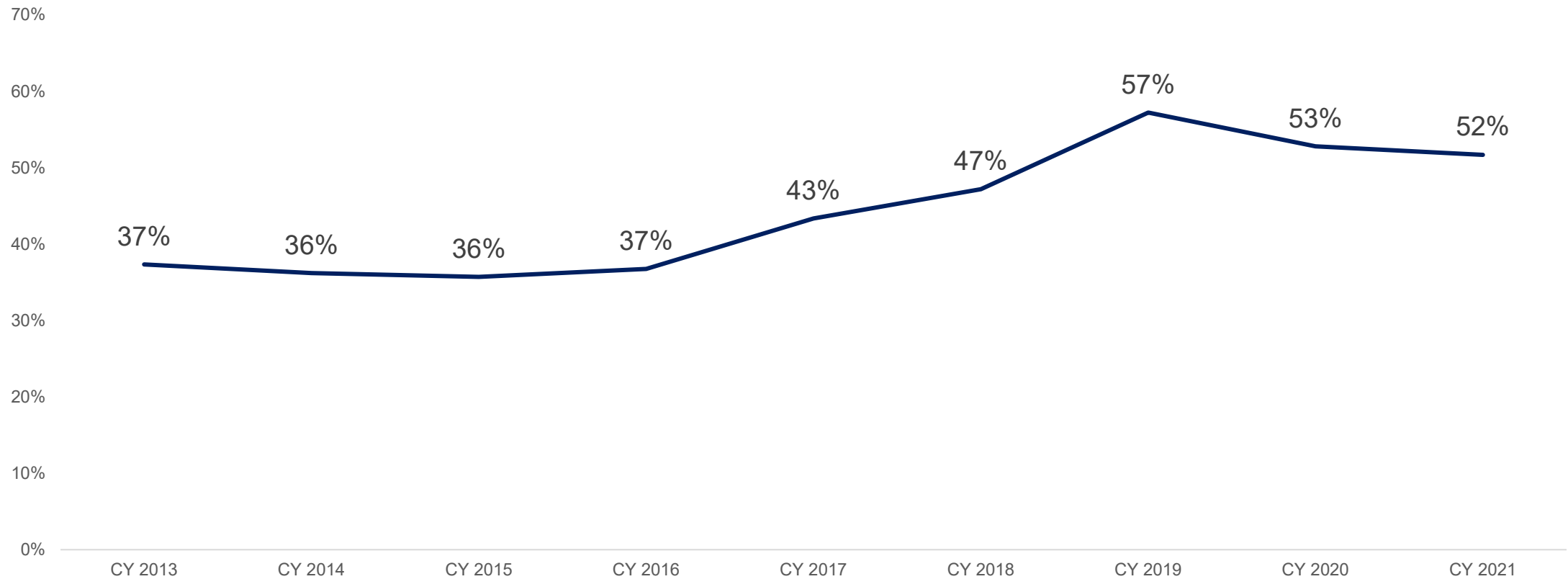
2016-2022 Goals

- First Tooth First Birthday
- Kindergarten Oral Health Screenings
- Increasing Capacity
- Prenatal Oral Healthcare

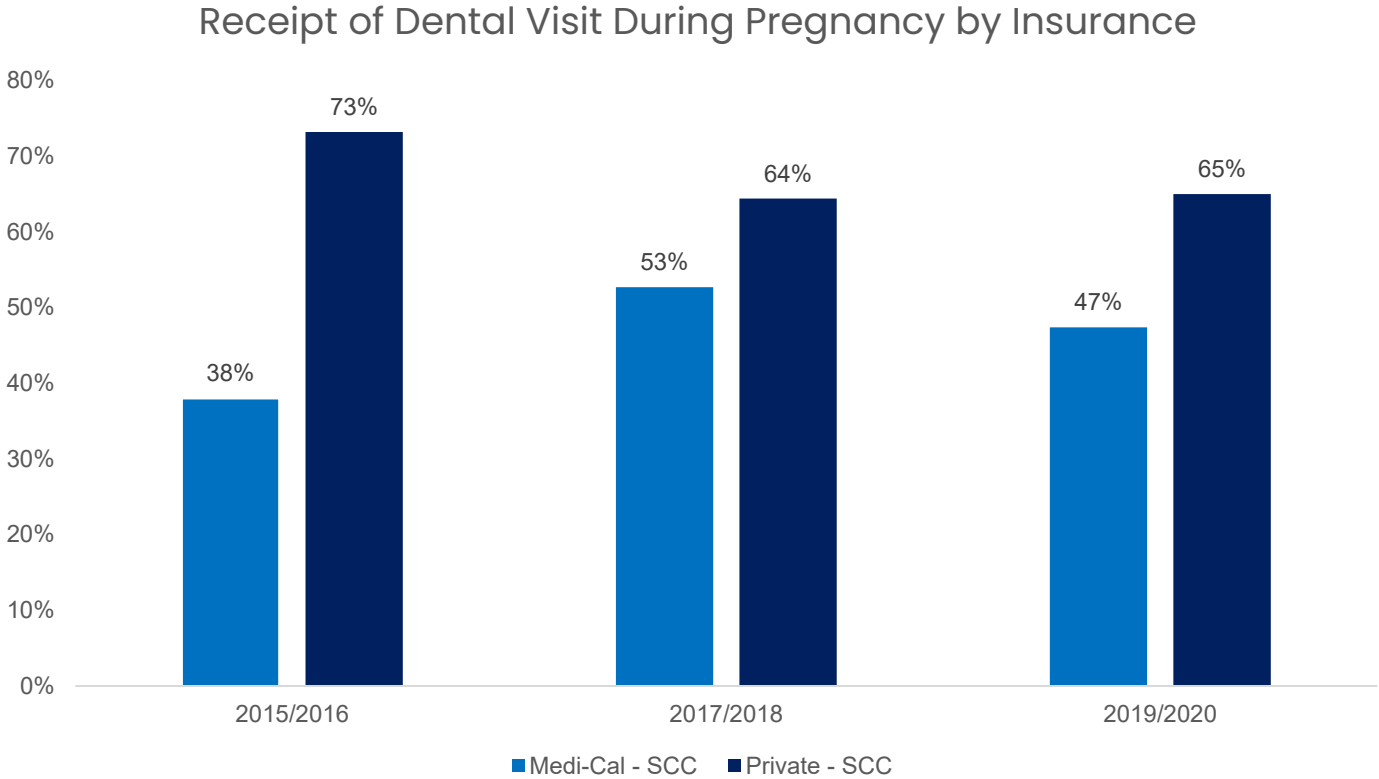


First Tooth / First Birthday

Utilization Ages 1-2



Prenatal Oral Healthcare



Building Relationships



Contact potential partners directly; leverage hierarchy



Use data to explain how oral health impacts their organization and the population they serve



Be specific about your ask



Embed oral health into partners' existing workflows



Make it as easy as possible on partners!



Have orientation for new partners



Keep the momentum going!

Establish LOHP Identity

*Strengthen Coordination, Collaboration, and
oversight of all partners*

The Basics: To Becoming a Mini Expert

1

Know the Law: AB 1433

Be familiar with roles & responsibilities, message as a mandate, know history of incentives & current funding allocations

2

Be in alignment with your COE

Know your County Office of Education's (COE) preference for KOHA processes & clarify roles & expectations with all participating parties

3

Know the basics of SCOHR

System for California Oral Health Reporting (SCOHR). Utilize available resources such help desk, user's manual, & trainings/videos

4

Track data & share with key stakeholders

Track Districts/Schools, be familiar with "SCOHR users" contact list

Communication Examples: School Staff

Supporting school staff, students, & families with healthy smiles countywide!

THE LOCAL ORAL HEALTH PROGRAM!

**KINDER ORAL HEALTH ASSESSMENT (KOHA) INFO
COORDINATING SCHOOL DENTAL PROGRAMS
ORAL HEALTH EDUCATION, RESOURCES, EVENTS AND MORE!**

Monica Nicholas, Project Director
monica.nicholas@santacruzcountyca.gov
831-359-8450
Local Oral Health Program
County of Santa Cruz

Attention School Staff- We need your help to promote student's healthy smiles!

Kinder Oral Health Assessments (KOHA)

What is KOHA? Why is KOHA Important? What's required of schools?

- California Law**
To ensure children are school-ready by requiring a dental check-up by May 31st in either Kinder or 1st grade, whichever is their first year in public school.
- Supports academic & overall health**
Poor oral health can affect attendance, grades, and overall health. KOHA helps ensure children have a dental home, are healthy, and ready to learn.
- Distribute KOHA Forms to Parents**
Annually provide all forms (& Oral Health Education/info like school dental schedule) to Kinder/1st grade parents.

Santa Cruz County KOHA Data 22-23 School Year
(SCOHR database)

# with proof of assessment	685	22%	# of forms NOT returned	668	43%	# with untreated decay	115	17%
out of 3,049 kinder enrollments						out of 685 screened		

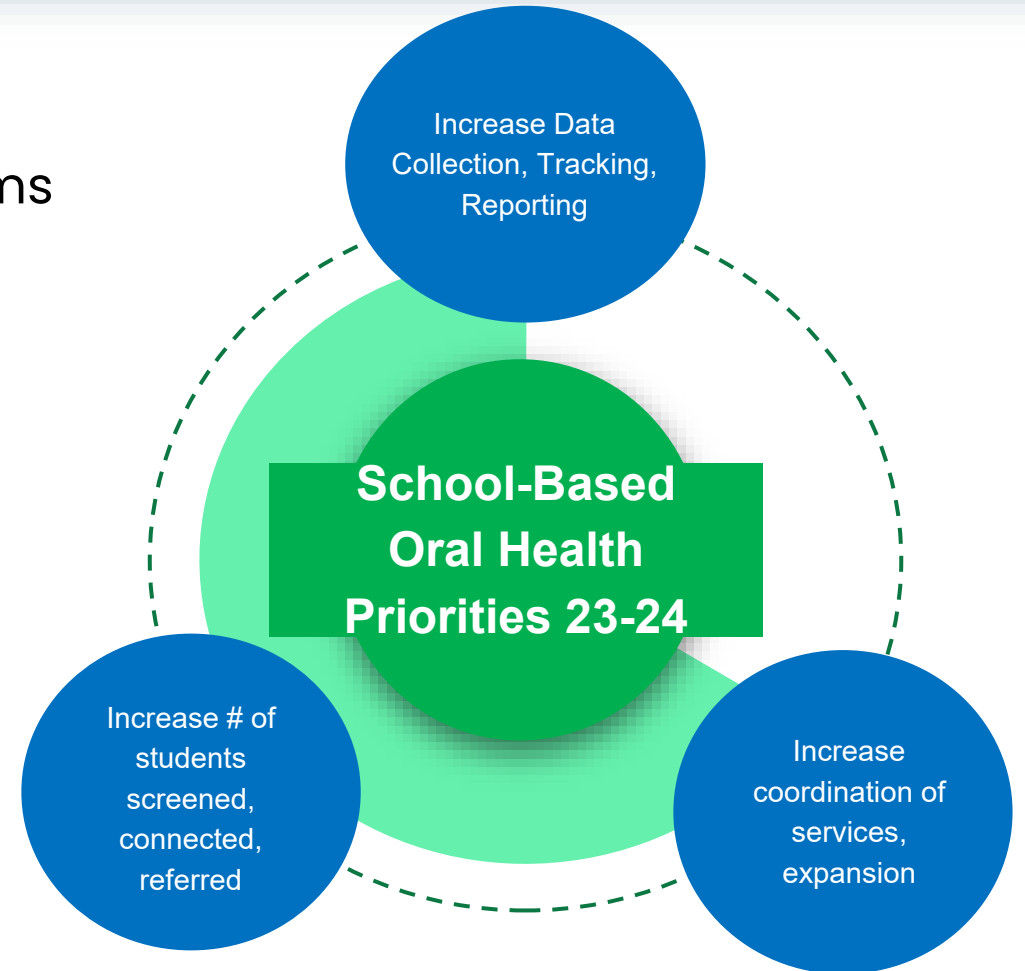
You can make a difference!

- Collect Forms by May 31**
from parents and dental providers if you have services on campus. Send reminders!
- Upload data into SCOHR by July 1**
Designate Staff to upload School's aggregated KOHA data into Statewide database annually by or before July 1.

Need Support?
Contact the Oral Health Program:
Monica.Nicholas@santacruzcountyca.gov
831-359-8450
www.santacruzhealth.org/oralhealth

Ensure your Advisory Committee is invested in KOHA

- Integrate KOHA with School-Based Dental Programs
- Create a sub workgroup with key partners
- Establish clear goals, objectives, activities



“Oral Health School-Based Service Tracker”

Ensure services/data are tracked, reported to LOHP and transparent to partners

Submitted KOHA data 22-23? (Y/N)	District	School Site	School Contact/Title	% Free/ Reduced Meal Program Eligibility Rate
Y	Pajaro Valley Unified	Alianza Charter K-8	ez (Office Manager)	79.50%
N	Pajaro Valley Unified	Amesti Elementary	os Moran /Principal	93.00%
N	Pajaro Valley Unified	Ann Soldo Elementary	va /Office Manager	89.20%
N/A	Pajaro Valley Unified	Aptos High		49.30%
N/A	Pajaro Valley Unified	Aptos Junior High		51.90%
N	Pajaro Valley Unified	Bradley Elementary	do/Admin Assistant	54.00%
Y	Pajaro Valley Unified	Calabastas Elementary	health Care Assistant	95.00%
N/A	Pajaro Valley Unified	Ceiba College Prep Academy 6-12		76.70%
N/A	Pajaro Valley Unified	Cesar E. Chavez Middle		90.40%

Enhance Coordination & Integration of KOHA & School-Based Dental Programs

- Develop referral mechanism
 - Start small such as a paperform
 - Grow to Portal/System



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Pediatric Dental Referral

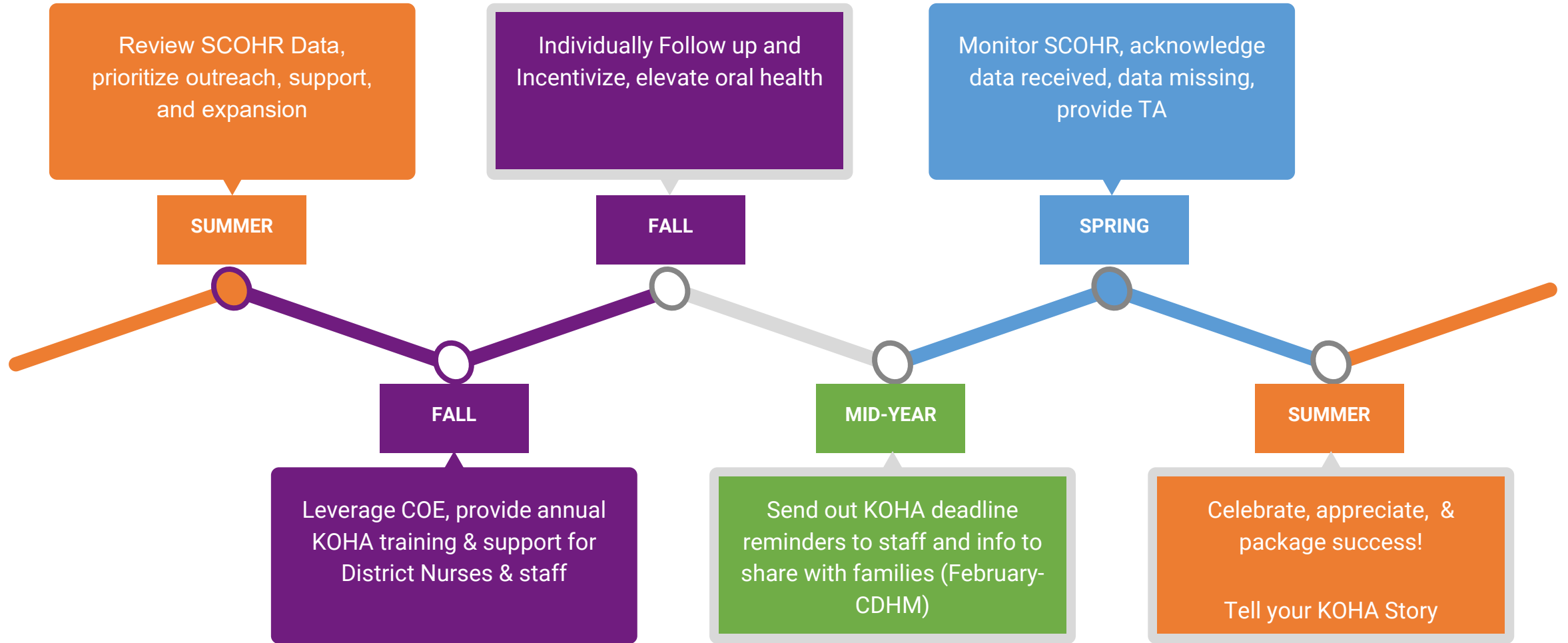
Patient Information			
Child's Name		DOB	
Parent/Guardian Name		Parent/Guardian Phone Number	
Medi-Cal ID # (if available)			
Any medical conditions:			
Any medications			
Any known allergies			
General Information			
Referring school/staff			
Reason for Referral (please comment if child is in pain)			
Additional Comments			

Send referrals to our office via email or fax

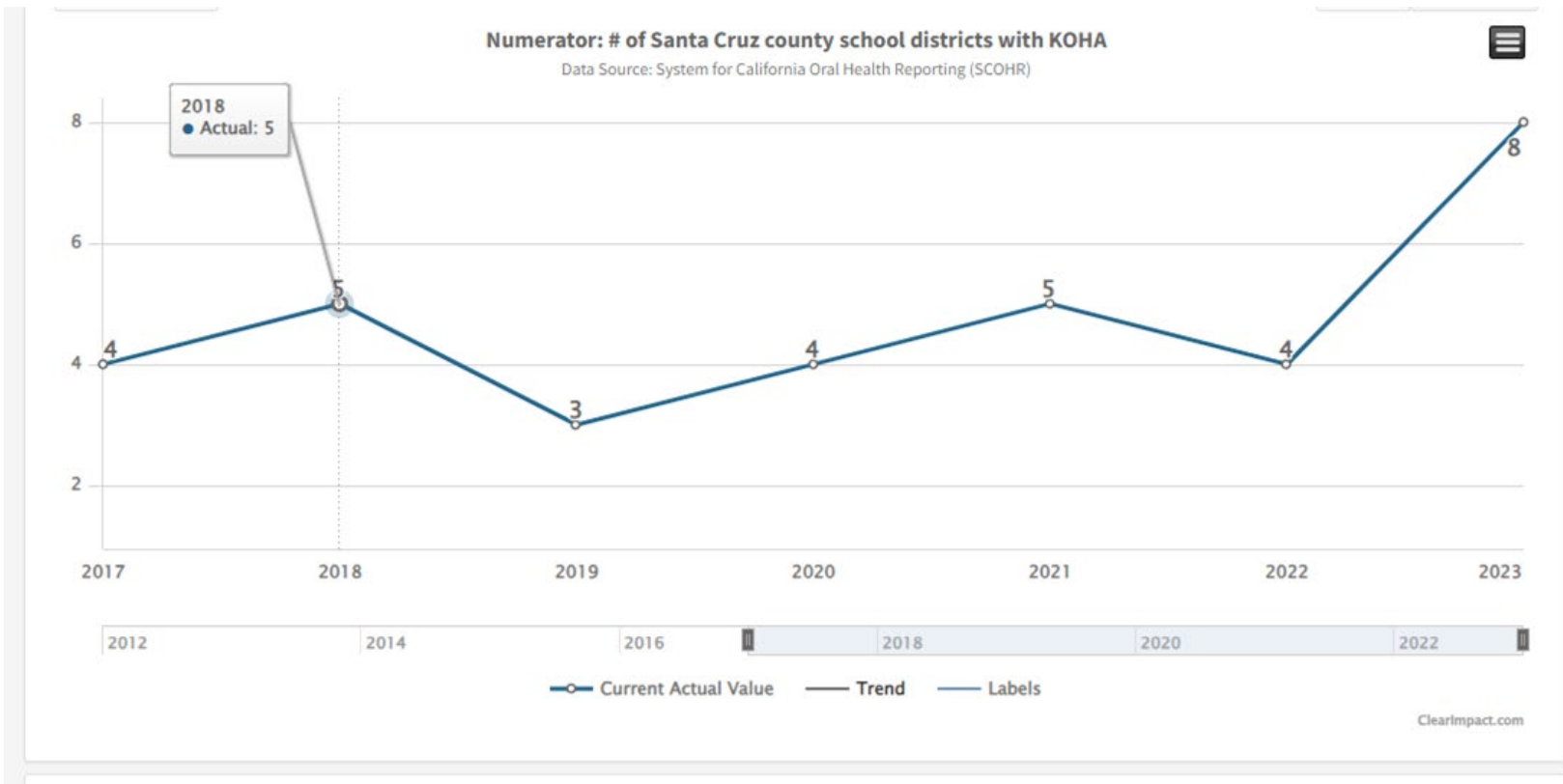
Email: crxrays@dientes.org

Fax: 831-276-7014

School Dental Program and KOHA Timeline Example



Keep the momentum going!



Successes:

- 100% baseline change in # of school districts reporting from 21-22 to 22-23 school year
- No schools reporting in priority district to 6 in 22-23
- Serving 6/10 Districts with comprehensive School-Based Dental Programs (26 Elementary, 10 MS/HS)
- Migrant Screening Program for all PVUSD
- Kinder Roundup Screenings

Share Success!

- Host a local event
 - Collaborate with local leaders
 - Leverage existing relationships
 - Provide partner acknowledgements
 - Invite new partners
- Invite the Media
 - Develop Press Release & Media Advisory
 - Provide facility tours
 - Schedule interviews



Thank you!

Please direct all questions and comments to:

Monica.Nicholas@SantaCruzCountyCa.Gov

