

Staff Report

Maternal Child Adolescent Health (MCAH) Advisory Board

Advisory to the County of Sonoma Board of Supervisors

March 6, 2025

Dental/Oral Health	 The Dental Health Network will meet again on April 17th. Contact Nicole.Bonkrude@sonoma-county.org for more information. Recently, CA legislation was passed that updated the Education Code to add children in TK to the Kindergarten Oral Health Assessment (KOHA) requirement. In addition, 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 Healthy Apple Program conducted a playground stencil painting workshop and a yoga workshop for daycare providers to help them increase the amount and quality of physical activity for children 0-5 years. The HEAL Team continues to lead the Healthy School Meals Coalition. Contact Laurel.Chambers@sonoma-county.org for more information.
Home Visiting	 In recent weeks, Home Visiting program staff have been engaging in meaningful collaboration and engagement with our community partners who focus on serving and protecting our immigrant communities in Sonoma County, so that home visitors are equipped with resources to support our clients during this time when so many of our clients are experiencing fear and uncertainty due to immigration status. We are grateful for the collaboration, resources, and training provided by community partners including but not limited to: Líderes del Futuro, Legal Aid of Sonoma County, and VIDAS Legal. We are thrilled to welcome two new Public Health Nurses (PHNs) to Home Visiting. All PHN vacancies are now filled; one PHN began with Trauma-Informed Approach to Public Health Nursing (TIA PHN) in mid-February, and another PHN will be starting with Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP) in the first week of March. Home Visiting gained approval from the Board of Supervisors at the end of February to accept \$1.2 million in funding from the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to launch an Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation (IECMHC) program and hire 3 new staff to implement and deliver



mental health consultation services. Recruitment and hiring for these positions, which include 2 behavioral health clinicians and 1 program planning & evaluation analyst, is now underway.

Impact Sonoma (Tobacco & Nicotine Prevention)

- The Tobacco-Free Sonoma County Community Coalition (TFSCCC) has launched their new campaigns to pass Tobacco Retail License (TRL) ordinances in the cities of Rohnert Park and Cotati, the last two cities in Sonoma County that lack a protective local policy. Public comment was provided at these cities' goal setting meetings by the coalition chair and SSU nursing students. Written comment was also provided by supporting organizations and coalitions. To lend your support, please contact the Coalition (see below).
- TFSCCC continues its policy efforts to prevent exposure to secondhand smoke and is focused in on cannabis dispensaries where recent CA legislation has further cleared the path for the operation of adjacently located smoking lounges/cafes (a lounge recently opened within Mercy dispensary in the City of Cotati). The County of Sonoma is revising their cannabis ordinance, so this topic will be addressed. Interested in learning more? The TFSCCC welcomes you to contact them at tobaccofreesonoma@gmail.com.
- DHS staff will begin making tobacco retailer compliance visits in March for the City of Santa Rosa—the newest jurisdiction to adopt a TRL policy. As always, the community is encouraged to report tobacco-related issues. All cities have a complaint portal. Contact us to navigate making a complaint, to ask questions about tobacco products, or to discuss a concern about illegal sales: email lmpact.Sonoma@sonoma-county.org or call 707.565.6680. You can send questions or report concerns via the web-based tool.

MCAH Planning & Coordination

- MCAH has continued work around increasing access to doula services through meeting with community partners and outside agencies. The Perinatal Services Coordinator will present this work to West County Health Centers' *Project 100* meeting on March 14.
- MCAH is continuing work in updating the For Teen Eyes Only teen resource pamphlet and will also be updating the For Teen Eyes Only website to provide more detailed information about resources and how to access them.
- MCAH will be meeting with the Behavioral Health Prevention team to discuss opportunities for collaboration around training and education on fentanyl, Narcan and test strips.



 MCAH provided Safe Sleep education and training to residents at Women's Recover Services in February and will provide this information to DAAC Perinatal in April.

Women, Infants & Children (WIC)

 WIC gained approval to add a new full time Community Health Worker Specialist position. This will help with the increase in caseload over the past few years.
 Recruitment is now underway.

Shared Risk & Protective Factors

The Public Health Division will be deploying 3 public health vending machines in early April! 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@sonomacounty.org.





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