

What's New!

May 2014

May Feature Story

Keeping Our Community Smiling

by Max Rusek



"Nationally, dental disease affects nearly half of children ages 6-15, which includes decayed or missing teeth. According to the American Journal of Public Health, children with dental disease are more likely to miss time at school and are four times more likely to have a GPA below the national median of 2.8. Oral health is an integral part of overall health and dental issues can affect a child's nutrition, self-esteem, or exacerbate other medical conditions. . ."

View the full article here.

Featured Indicator Dentist Rate



Mendocino County has 68 dentists per 100,000 population. With tooth disease impacting more than a quarter of children ages 2 to 5, access to dental care is particularly important. Even though Mendocino County has more dentists per 100,000 population than other U.S. counties, access to pediatric dental surgery is less common. Thankfully the Pediatric Dental Initiative Surgery Center is located right in Sonoma County, making treatment for kids experiencing severe dental disease that much more accessible. More information on PDI can be found here and you can learn more about the importance of this indicator here.

Seven New Indicators



The new indicators just keep rolling in! Healthy Communities Institute added 7 new indicators from the County Healthy Rankings in April. Healthy Mendocino now has 126 indicators! Here's what's new:

- Access to Exercise Opportunities
- Alcohol-Impaired Driving Deaths
- Death Rate due to Drug Poisoning
- Food Environment Index
- Non-Physician Primary Care Provider Rate
- Severe Housing Problems
- Solo Drivers with a Long Commute

In addition to the new indicators, existing indicators that use County Health Rankings data have also been updated. Check out the community dashboard to find the updated indicators. Just look for the 'new' icon next to the indicator.

Cheers to Me



Contact Us



For more information about Healthy Mendocino, or to schedule a presentation for your information, please contact the site administrator, Michelle Rich, at research@mendochildren.org.

This May expecting to be pregnant and pregnant women may receive one FREE non-alcoholic beverage with the purchase of a meal at the participating restaurants. Visit Healthy Mendocino to find a list of participating restaurants and learn more about the impact of prenatal alcohol use.

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