



CENTER FOR ORAL HEALTH'S EARLY SMILES SACRAMENTO PROGRAM



THE VALUE OF COLLABORATION

The partnership, collaboration, and support of the Center for Oral Health, the Department of Health Care Services, LIBERTY Dental Plan, HealthNet, Access Dental Plan, Oral Health Solutions, and the public school health services staff across Sacramento County make the work of Early Smiles possible. Early Smiles saves money and smiles with an estimated \$47 million in annual savings to Sacramento County families, public schools, and government.



IMPROVING THE ORAL HEALTH OF SACRAMENTO COUNTY CHILDREN THROUGH PREVENTION



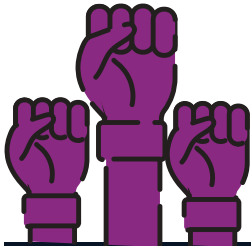
Early Smiles Sacramento prevents overuse of emergency rooms for preventable oral health concerns, like abscesses, oral health infections and overgrowth of harmful bacteria, by providing school-age children oral health education, oral health screenings, and connection to dental care. Our work saves an estimated \$13 million in health care costs annually. (Sources: National Oral Health Survey, USCA, and the CA Oral Health Technical Assistance Center)

KEEPING STUDENTS HEALTHY AND READY TO LEARN

Missed school days affect the academic performance of students and lead to significant costs for public schools in lost average daily attendance dollars. Frequent absences are common for children dealing with the pain of untreated cavities. Early Smiles Sacramento interventions keep kids in schools, saving Sacramento County public schools an estimated \$25 Million annually. (Sources: National Oral Health Survey, Early Smiles annual screening stats)



MAKING A BIG IMPACT WITH EVERY DOLLAR



\$1 donated equals \$107 worth of oral health services delivered to public school students. With the efficient use of resources and strong public-school partnerships, the Early Smiles Sacramento program can deliver more than 100 times worth of oral health education, screenings, fluoride varnish applications and dental referrals.

KEEPING MONEY IN THE POCKETS OF FAMILIES

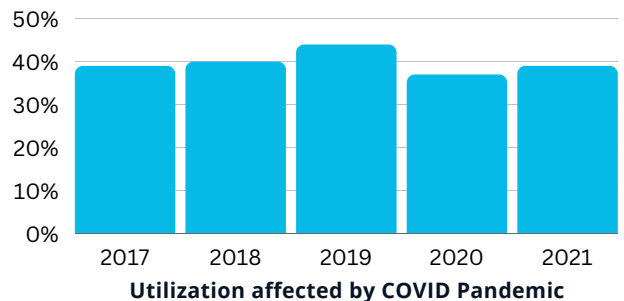
Early Smiles Sacramento interventions saves Sacramento families up to 33% or \$3.2 million annually by preventing the need for costly in-office procedures. (Sources: California Department of Healthcare Services and CDC Division of Health)



EARLY SMILES SACRAMENTO ANNUAL STATISTICS

- 15 School Districts and 300+ Schools Served
- 45,000 Students educated on Oral Health Hygiene
- 22,000 Average Screenings
- 21,000+ Average Fluoride Varnish Applications
- 50+ Community Events Held to Reach Families
- 12,000 Children & Families served during the Pandemic
- 5% reduction in untreated decay among returning students

ANNUAL DENTAL VISITS GMC UTILIZATION



**VIEW MAPS OF OUR COVERAGE AREAS HERE:
[HTTPS://WWW.CENTERFORORALHEALTH.ORG/WHERE-WE-REACH/](https://www.centerfororalhealth.org/where-we-reach/)**

EARLY SMILES SACRAMENTO SCREENING & REFERRAL SYSTEM

● Student Screening

Early Smiles provides in-depth oral health screening for signs of untreated tooth decay.

● Care Coordination

Early Smiles provides follow-up, communication with schools, parents and providers. Also offers supports (e.g., transportation and navigation).

● Referrals

Early Smiles utilizes Oral Health Solutions' Medical Dental Referral and Navigation System (MDRAN) to refer students insured by Medi-Cal to a dental home. Students who are uninsured or have private, commercial insurance are navigated elsewhere by Early Smiles staff, who ensure the dental office is conveniently located within 15-20 miles of their homes.

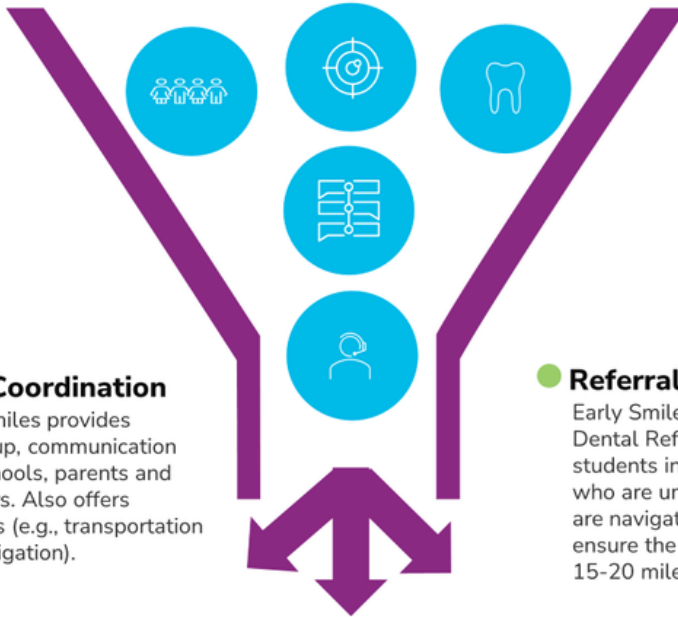
● Oral Health Assessment

Each student is assigned one of three Urgency Level Ratings, based on the screening outcomes:

Urgency Level 1 – Routine dental care (i.e., cleaning, x-rays, and exam) needed in 6 months.

Urgency Level 2 – Previous dental treatment (e.g., fillings sealants, space maintainers, ortho). Possible decay. Sealants recommended.

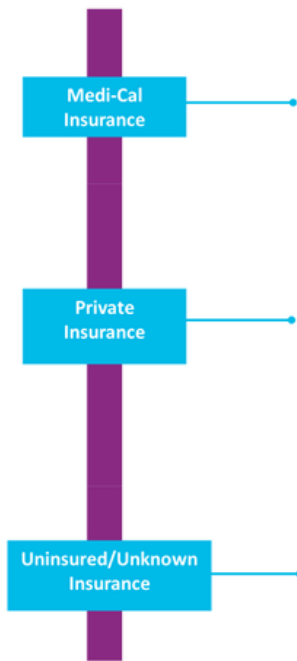
Urgency Level 3 – Urgent need observed (e.g., abscess, exposed pulp, pain, severe decay, swelling).



Urgency level 1- Will be contacted by Dental Plan within 30 days after screening

Urgency level 2- Will be contacted by Dental Plan within 14 days after screening

Urgency level 3- Will be contacted by Dental Plan within 24-48 hours after screening



The Early Smiles team uses the HIPPA compliant system, MDRAN, to navigate students with Medi-Cal coverage to their dental home

No need for referral but Early Smiles team contacts parents or guardians to ensure all Urgency Level 3's get a dental appointment scheduled within 24-48 hours

Early Smiles team works closely with Sacramento Covered (<https://www.sacramentocovered.org/>) and uses Unite US' shared technology platform (<https://california.uniteus.com/>) to navigate students to a dental home and track outcomes to ensure appropriate care is received on a timely basis

Working with Sacramento Covered will help Early Smiles significantly increase access to Medi-Cal benefits and overall Medi-Cal Utilization Rates in the coming year!

"I WOULD SAY 50-60% OF PARENTS CANNOT RESPOND TO THEIR CHILDREN'S DENTAL CONCERNS. THERE MIGHT BE MANY OBSTACLES...LIKE A LACK OF AWARENESS, NO INSURANCE, INABILITY TO TAKE OFF WORK FOR APPOINTMENTS...EARLY SMILES TAKES THE PAIN OUT OF THAT PROCESS FOR OUR KIDS." **SACRAMENTO SCHOOL DISTRICT LEADER**

