Santa Cruz County has seen a gratifying increase in the percentage of children with medical insurance, however gaps in health coverage still remain. One commonly occurring gap occurs when the newborn leaves the hospital and coverage under mother’s Medi-Cal (MC) runs out.

**The Baby Gateway Newborn Enrollment Program aims to close this gap.** Newborn Enrollment Coordinators are on site at local Prenatal Units (Dominican, Sutter and Watsonville Hospitals) five days per week to help enroll eligible infants into Medi-Cal.

The Newborn Enrollment Coordinator (NEC) assists with:
- Enrolling a MC covered mother’s newborn into MC
- Adding the newborn to family’s existing CalFresh case
- Connecting the newborn to a Primary Care Physician
- Helping new moms make their baby’s first well-visit appointment

The Newborn Enrollment Coordinator provides mom with:
- *Baby’s First Appointment* card to confirm that MC paperwork was completed at the hospital
- First5 *Kit for New Parents*

For questions regarding an enrollment completed at:
- **Watsonville Community Hospital**: Call Laura Sotelo (NEC) at (831) 761-5670
- **Dominican Hospital and Sutter Maternity and Surgery Center**: Call Alicia Zenteno (NEC) at (831) 465-2210
- **All other questions**: Call Alicia Fernandez (Health Outreach and Enrollment Supervisor) at (831) 465-2209 or email afernandez@first5scc.org

**When School Is Out, Summer Meals Are In!**

With summer right around the corner, it’s time to think about keeping children healthy while school is out. The Summer Meals Program makes sure all children can eat healthy food during the summer months.

During summer vacation, many food-insecure children lose access to free or reduced priced meals, but this valuable program provides no cost and convenient access to meals for kids in need. Free lunches will be provided to ALL children, without eligibility documentation, who are 18 years of age and younger. Some programs may require registration for participants.

For more information, text FOOD (for English) or COMIDA (para Español) to 877-877 or call 211 for a location near you.
This is not just WIC’s motto, it is backed by research. Recent studies highlight how participation in the WIC Program is associated with healthier outcomes and cost savings$^{1,2}$.

The 2009 changes to the WIC Food Package, which added more fruits and vegetables and whole grains and tailored infant formula amounts based on age and need, have resulted in healthier growth trajectories and are associated with improved childhood obesity outcomes at age 4. These findings were consistent in two recent studies, one of over 180,000 children served by WIC in Los Angeles$^2$ and the other comparing childhood obesity rates nationwide$^1$. Not surprisingly, the beneficial health effects were greatest among children who enrolled in WIC at birth.

In addition, a recent study demonstrated that prenatal participation in WIC reduces the risk of adverse health outcomes, including prematurity, and results in health care savings$^3$. The study found that every $1 spent on WIC resulted in a mean saving of $2.48 in medical, educational and productivity costs. A 10% increase in prenatal WIC enrollment would prevent 141 preterm births and achieve additional cost-savings of $6.5 million nationwide. Further savings could be achieved if all eligible women were enrolled in WIC.

WIC offers nutrition education, breastfeeding counseling and support, and nutritious foods to prenatal and post-partum women, infants, and children up to age 5. Families earning up to 185% of the Federal Poverty Level meet WIC income eligibility and those receiving Medi-Cal, TANF and/or Cal-Fresh automatically qualify. WIC education is offered over-the-phone, individually, on-line and in groups, with flexible scheduling to meet the needs of every client. For information about WIC and WIC services: 831-722-7121 or https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CFH/DWICSN/Pages/AboutWIC.aspx.

Join the Community Bridges WIC Program, Friday, August 23rd from 3 pm–6 pm at the Watsonville City Plaza for our 13th annual Breastfeeding Health Fair and Walk. Learn more about WIC services and help support our mission to provide every eligible family with the healthiest start in life.

See this year’s flyers on the next page!

Footnotes


13ª feria de salud y caminata anual de la lactancia
viernes 23 de agosto 3:00-6:00
Caminata de celebración para apoyar la lactancia en la calle Main a las 5:00
La Plazita de Watsonville

www.communitybridges.org/wic
www.facebook.com/CBWIC
WIC es un proveedor de Igualdad de oportunidades

Fun Activities for the whole family
Face painting
Live DJ
Community Resources
Healthy Snacks
Free T-shirts
Raffles
& More!

13th Annual Breastfeeding Health Fair & Walk Friday August 23rd 3:00-6:00pm
Join us to walk down Main St. and celebrate breastfeeding at 5pm
Watsonville Plaza

www.communitybridges.org/wic
www.facebook.com/CBWIC
WIC is an equal opportunity provider
Mark Your Calendars: 2019 CHDP Training Dates
Santa Cruz County CHDP has been piloting a NEW method of delivering training this year. The following topics have been developed:

1. **Anthropometric Measurements/BMI**: Designated personnel are required to complete CHDP training in anthropometric measurements, including obtaining BMI percentile.
2. **Oral Health/Fluoride Varnish Application**: Due to the pressing need for preventative oral health care in our community, fluoride varnish application at Wellness Exams is becoming standard.
3. **Play Audiometry/Hearing Screening**: Designated personnel are required to complete CHDP training in audiometric screening and must be renewed every four years.
4. **Vision Screening**: Designated personnel are required to complete CHDP training in vision screening and must be renewed every four years.

Remaining scheduled testing dates for 2019 are listed below. Contact our office with questions.

**Tuesday, August 27**  
**Tuesday, November 26**

1430 Freedom Bl, Suite A—Atrium  
Watsonville

CHDP Welcomes New Office Support Staff
We are very happy to introduce our new Office Assistant, Lucero Cosio-Santos. Lucero recently transferred to the CHDP program in March 2019 after working with the CARe Team, a Public Health case management program, for the last 13 years. Lucero brings to us her commitment and passion for working in a culturally diverse community and her established relationships with local community agencies. Lucero has worked with many communities, including monolingual populations and those with mental and health care challenges. Lucero has lived and worked in Santa Cruz County all her life. She enjoys spending time with her family, going on walks, volunteering at her son’s school, and watching good movies.

CHDP TEAM

*CHDP Staff visited the Watsonville Nature Center*

Santa Cruz County Health Officer/CHDP Medical Director  
**Currently Unavailable**

Children’s Medical Services Program Manager
Dave Kramer-Urner, PT  
831-763-8292  
Dave.Kramer-Urner@santacruzcounty.us

CHDP Deputy Director
Karen S Jones, MSN, PHNIII  
831-763-8099  
Karen.Jones@santacruzcounty.us

CHDP Care Coordinator/Provider Relations
Judy Thompson, BSN, PHNII  
831-763-8101  
Judy.Thompson@santacruzcounty.us

CHDP Health Care Program for Children in Foster Care
Susan Irby, MSN, PHN  
831-763-8645  
Susan.Irby@santacruzcounty.us

CHDP Office Support
Lucero Cosio-Santos, OAIII  
831-763-8412  
Lucero.Cosio-Santos@santacruzcounty.us

Medi-Cal Subscription Service (MCSS)
The Medi-Cal Subscription Service (MCSS) is a **free** service that keeps you up-to-date on the latest Medi-Cal news. Subscribers receive subject-specific emails for urgent announcements and other updates shortly after they post to the Medi-Cal website.

Subscribing is simple and free: [http://files.medi-cal.ca.gov/pubsdoco/mcss/mcss.asp](http://files.medi-cal.ca.gov/pubsdoco/mcss/mcss.asp)

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