



**County of Mendocino**  
**Department of**  
**Child Support Services**

The Mendocino County Department of Child Support Services strives to “Help Parents Invest in their Children.”

Our mission is to serve children and their families by establishing parentage and enforcing support orders in a fair and equitable manner.

**I. Effective County Government Organization**

August is Child Support Awareness Month, recognized in California and nationwide. This year, it's important to acknowledge the positive changes and modernization from the local level to across the country. In the last five years there has been more legislative action improving the child support program than in the past five decades. The calculations to determine child support amounts have been revised for the first time in 60 years, creating more reasonable orders that parents can pay. More money than ever before is being passed through to parents formerly on cash aid, and outdated enforcement actions have been updated or revoked. The goal is to help Californians co-parenting their children to thrive and avoid the expense that can incur during the court process. For those who have considered high-priced alternatives, now is the time to enroll in child support services, get or change your court order for child support free of charge. With new laws and a new approach, it's your best deal.

**II. A Safe and Healthy County**

**III. A Thriving Economy**

The Department of Child Support Services collected 64.7% of current support due and 57% due on arrears for a total of \$440,151.95 in court-ordered child support payments. Of this amount, \$45,506.18 was passed on to families rather than being recouped for State and Federal debt. A total of 788 children currently have medical coverage.

**IV. A Prepared and Resilient County**

**V. Other/Additional Information**