

Public Health Update March 2024

A Safe and Healthy Community:

Public Health – Nursing:

As of February, 188 foster children and youth are currently being served by Health Care Program for Children in Foster Care (HCPCFC).

Preparing for Child Health and Disability Program (CHDP) sunseting in June 2024 and HCPCFC becoming a “stand alone” program.

In February, Public Health California Children’s Services (CCS) served 402 children and youth. Annual medical reviews are up-to-date.

Public Health – Maternal Child Adolescent Health (MCAH):

In February, our 5 dedicated Home Visitors with the Healthy Families Mendocino County (HFMC) program completed over 50 visits with families, including 2 new families signed on within the last month. Home Visitors provide 3-5 years of holistic support that assesses, addresses, and promotes healthy and stable parent-child relationships in order to foster protective factors and prevent Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs). According to the Let’s Get Healthy California Campaign, over 50% of children in Mendocino County are reportedly exposed to 1 or more ACEs, well above the State average. ACEs can have lasting negative impacts on children into their adulthood.

The MCAH Program is working to revamp the sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS)/Sudden Unexpected Infant Death (SUID) Grief and Bereavement Services program. This is an essential program that provides emotional support to families that have experienced the loss of an infant child. We are partnering with a well-established SIDS/SUID program in Madera County to refine and implement best practices.