



CONTACT: Claudia Contreras
PHONE: 749-4877
E: ccontreras@co.yuba.ca.us
DATE: March 2, 2007

FIRST 5 YUBA FUNDS DENTAL CARE FOR YOUNG CHILDREN

At its monthly meeting last Friday, the First 5 Yuba Commission decided on its new programs for the next 18 months.

The Commission funded three new programs to reduce tooth decay among young children. It is a three-pronged approach; finding kids in need, treating dental caries and ultimately preventing new caries.

Tooth decay, or dental caries, is considered by the Dental Health Foundation to be an epidemic. California has among the highest decay rates and the lowest treatment rates. Poor children are more likely to have tooth decay and to suffer without treatment.

First 5 Yuba funded Del Norte Clinics to conduct health and dental screening clinics to find children in need of treatment. The Marysville Joint Unified School District will buy a customized van to bring dental treatment right to the children. The Camptonville Community Partnership will create a pilot prevention project based on First 5 California's program, First Smiles.

First 5 California spent ten million dollars in 2004 to educate dental professionals on the latest best practices in preventing dental disease. The Butte-Sierra District Dental Society will present a training on Friday March 30th at the One Stop Building located at 1114 Yuba Street (upstairs in the Beckwourth Room).

Dentists, M.D.'s nurses, educators and interested persons should contact the Butte-Sierra Dental Association or First 5.

The First 5 Yuba Commission meets in the Yuba County Board of Supervisors chambers. The seven-member Commission oversees the distribution of tobacco tax receipts for enhancing early childhood health and development. For more information about First 5 Yuba, see: <http://www.first5yuba.org/>

<http://www.butesierradds.org>