

RESOLUTION
THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MARIN COUNTY

PROCLAIMING
"CHILDREN'S DENTAL HEALTH MONTH"
FEBRUARY 2021

WHEREAS, oral health is a key component of overall health and well-being at all stages of life; and

WHEREAS, dental caries is the most common chronic disease among children; and

WHEREAS, poor oral health and mouth pain are associated with school absenteeism, physical and social development, and a child's ability to smile, chew, and engage in social interactions; and

WHEREAS, the rate of childhood untreated tooth decay in kindergarten students from 2019 in Marin ranged from 2% to 28% with less resourced schools experiencing higher rates of dental decay; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted children's access to dental care leading to a decrease in kindergarten dental screenings; and

WHEREAS, Department of Health and Human Services' Oral Health program is implementing the Oral Health Strategic Plan to improve the oral health of all in Marin through prevention, education, and community engagement; and

WHEREAS, oral health diseases are preventable with proper prevention measures, including adequate dental hygiene, drinking fluoridated water, fluoride varnish treatments, dental sealants, and regular dental visits; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has caused in-person oral health interventions to be halted, the Oral Health program has refocused on promoting primary prevention virtually to improve community health; and

WHEREAS, the Oral Health program has focused on training community members in primary prevention through hosting education webinars and expanding communication through social media.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Main County Board of Supervisors hereby proclaims the month of February 2021 as "Children's Dental Health Month" and encourages residents to learn about and seek appropriate oral health prevention and treatment.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Marin held this 9th day of February 2021.

DENNIS RODONI – SUPERVISOR, DISTRICT 4 – PRESIDENT

KATIE RICE – SUPERVISOR, DISTRICT 2

