



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MEDIA ADVISORY

COUNTY, INDIAN CLINIC OFFER HEALTH SERVICES TO RURAL COMMUNITY

Kids Without Health Coverage To Get Free Dental Sealants, Exams and Immunizations

- WHO:** Bill Horn, District 5, San Diego County Board of Supervisors
Deven Parlikar, CEO, Indian Health Council, Inc.
Peggy Yamagata, Program Manager, HHS Dental Health Initiative
250 children (ages 1-18), with their families, receiving free dental sealants or fluoride varnish, well-child check-ups, and immunizations
30-40 volunteers, including dentists and hygienists
- WHAT:** In a unique partnership between the San Diego County Health and Human Services Agency (HHS) and the Indian Health Council (representing nine local tribes), the council will open its medical and dental clinic doors to the public to serve about 250 children with limited or no medical or dental resources. Indian Health Council clinic staff will provide "back to school" well-child medical examinations and immunizations to eligible children, and volunteer dentists and hygienists will apply sealants and fluoride to children's teeth. Community organizations will entertain and educate children and their parents on various health and dental topics and make referrals to local resources.
- This event is a collaborative effort of HHS North Regions, Dental Health Initiative/Share the Care Program, Indian Board of North County, Indian Health Council, North County Dental Task Force, San Diego Dental Health Foundation, San Diego County Dental Hygienists' Society, San Diego County Dental Society, San Diego County SMILES Program, and Southwestern College's Dental Hygiene Program.
- WHEN:** 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Saturday, July 16, 2005
- WHERE:** Indian Health Council, Inc. Medical and Dental Clinic
50100 Golsh Road, Valley Center, 92082
- WHY:** Many children do not receive routine medical and dental care services, due to lack of insurance. In San Diego County, more than 53,000 children ages zero to 18 do not have medical insurance. Adding to this problem is the shortage of dental and medical professionals in some areas of northern San Diego County, particularly in rural communities. Well-child medical exams and immunizations help ensure that children meet school entry requirements, and, together with preventive dental measures, help keep kids healthy and ready to learn.

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