Health Care Program for Children in Foster Care (HCPCFC)

County of San Diego
Health and Human Services Agency
Public Health Services

Children in Foster Care

About 437,000 children are in foster care in the United States. California has around 60,000. Foster children can range from babies to teens from all races and backgrounds.

Did You Know?

40-60% of foster children have chronic medical conditions, like:

- Asthma
- Developmental delays
- Visual and hearing problems
- Dental decay
- Poor nutrition

Profile of HCPCFC

In 1999, the HCPCFC was started to help address gaps in health care. The program provides Public Health Nursing services to make sure foster youth get the medical, dental, and developmental care they need.

Public Health Nurses (PHNs) work with social workers and Juvenile Probation Officers to help children get:

- Regular checkups
- Treatment for health problems
- Support and carry out health care plans

The HCPCFC is part of a team effort that includes Child and Family Well-Being, Public Health Services, and Juvenile Probation.

PHNs

- Advocate for children's health care needs
- Help foster children access health care services
- Follow up on children placed out-of-county to ensure they get services
- Arrange referrals to providers, dentists, and community programs
- Interpret medical reports to maintain the Health and Education Passport (HEP)
- Provide education about foster children's health care needs

Contact a foster care nurse in your area:

South Region Mitzi De Los Reyes: (619) 753-5242
North Coastal Region Samantha Hicke: (760) 803-6452 Jessica Hernandez: (760) 637-1069
North Inland Region Jon Bonner: (619) 904-2154 Chris Ward: (760) 690-7842
North Central Region Rachel Diaz: (619) 961-8555 Idalia Flores: (619) 490-3265 Jennifer Palivanich: (619) 994-3440 Arlene Pfaff: (619) 695-6752
East Region Nicole Shy: (619) 403-2013 Andrea Penera: (619) 629-3345
Central Region Kathrine Cunanan: (619) 643-0126 Caroline Valladares: (619) 630-6505
Residential Kimberly Ayala: (619) 932-0194
Probation Danielle Lehr: (619) 510-0678

To learn more about HCPCFC:

- Email: HCPCFC@sdcounty.ca.gov
- E-fax: (619) 399-3759
- Visit: tinyurl.com/hcpcfcsandiego

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