



Glendale Healthy Kids

Fact Sheet

Overview

In 1993, the Glendale Memorial Hospital Foundation formed a committee to determine the health needs of underprovided children in the community. A needs assessment revealed that uninsured children of the working poor were particularly limited in their ability to receive preventative care. Local emergency rooms and school nurses were providing primary care to the children who had no other access to physicians, dentists or specialists. As a result, Glendale Memorial Hospital and Health Center, Verdugo Hills Hospital, Glendale Adventist Medical Center, Glendale Unified School District, and the City of Glendale joined together and formed Glendale Healthy Kids.

Today, Glendale Healthy Kids works in collaboration with volunteer healthcare professionals, community members and organizations to provide children of low-income, underinsured families with access to healthcare and to provide preventative health education to the community.

In 2006-2007, Glendale Healthy Kids . . .

- Provided over 600 referrals to health care professionals, including medical, optical, physical therapy, mental health, and dental.
- Provided over \$1,000 in co-payments for children's pharmaceutical prescriptions.
- Treated 120 children in Give Kids A Smile Day; a 50% increase over 2005-2006.
- Reached over 1900 first grade students in a three-part Dental Education Program.
- Piloted "Tots 'n Teeth" dental education program for pre-school children.
- Arranged three outpatient surgeries at Glendale Adventist Medical Center and Glendale Memorial Hospital.
- Conducted 34 sessions of asthma education reaching 377 parents and childcare professionals.
- Conducted 18 training sessions on nutrition education reaching 339 parents and childcare professionals.

Programs

Referrals – Glendale Healthy Kids facilitates referrals for low income or underinsured children to qualified providers for chronic and emergency medical, mental health, dental, and eye care services. Requests for referrals may be made by school and parish nurses, other medical personnel, community agency staff or a child's parent or caregiver.

Give Kids A Smile Day – In partnership with the American Dental Association and Crest, Glendale Healthy Kids participates in a nationwide effort each year to improve access to dental care for disadvantaged children. Local dental providers open their offices in February and March to provide examinations, cleanings, and fluoride treatments to eligible children.

Mobile Dental Clinic – In collaboration with the USC School of Dentistry, Glendale Healthy Kids hosts a comprehensive dental care clinic each July, which treats approximately 120 children. Children receive cleanings, x-rays, fillings, extractions, and sealants during the weeklong clinic.



Programs Continued

Orthodontic Evaluation Program – This evaluation program was developed to meet the large number of referrals to Glendale Healthy Kids for children in need of orthodontia. An evaluation team consisting of orthodontists and general dentists meets regularly to review all of the referrals and to determine the child's eligibility for treatment on a treatment index scale. The children are then prioritized and begin treatment as space is available in the participating orthodontists' offices.

Sight for Students – In collaboration with the Glendale Family YMCA, Glendale Healthy Kids participates in the Vision Service Plan program which provides vision testing and eye glass prescriptions to eligible children. Glendale Healthy Kids also hosts an annual visit by the Lion's Club Mobile, which provides vision screening for all ages.

Sports Physical Examination Program – This program provides low-cost physical examinations, which are required for student athletes participating in Glendale Unified School District sports programs. Participating Glendale Healthy Kids physicians provide examinations on a regularly scheduled timeline for \$25.00.

Health Education

Asthma Awareness – This program for parents and childcare professionals focuses on recognizing asthma symptoms, reducing exposure to asthma triggers, exercise-induced asthma, medications, and child safety during asthma attacks.

First Grade Dental Education – Glendale Healthy Kids volunteers teach first graders in the Glendale Unified School District the importance of dental health and encourage them to take good care of their teeth by regular brushing, flossing, and regular visits to the dentist.

Nutrition – This program provides education for parents and childcare professionals and covers topics such as the health consequences of obesity, food guide pyramid, food groups and serving sizes, portion control, reading nutrition facts labels, breakfast and snacks, and healthful cooking methods.

Tots 'n Teeth – This is a special preschool dental education program to introduce the importance of dental care to toddlers and young children.

Annual Fundraising Events

Guess Who's Coming To Dinner – Each September 350 guests enjoy themed evenings featuring gourmet cuisines as eight local residents open their homes to host this special event in support of Glendale Healthy Kids.

Incredible Duck Splash – Each October, Glendale Healthy Kids participates in the Glendale Kiwanis Club's Incredible Duck Splash. Several thousand yellow rubber ducks are purchased to "race" to a finish line to earn automobiles, travel packages, and other great prizes for their "adoptive" owners with a portion of the purchase price going to the participating nonprofit designated by the purchaser.

A Taste of Downtown Glendale – Each May, over 1,000 people stroll the streets of downtown Glendale to enjoy tasty treats from over 25 participating restaurants as part of this fundraiser that supports Glendale Healthy Kids. Participants are also treated to performances by some of Glendale's top musical groups throughout the downtown area.

Contact Information

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