

Medi-Cal Dental Advisory Committee

Pursuant to W&I Code §14089.08, Sacramento County was authorized to establish the Sacramento County Medi-Cal Dental Advisory Committee (MCDAC), comprised of providers, dental plans, researchers, advocates, and beneficiaries. MCDAC's purpose is to provide input on the delivery of oral health and dental care services, including, but not limited to, prevention and education services, as well as collaborate and examine new approaches to beneficiary care and maximize dental health for children and adults by recommending improvements to DHCS. MCDAC holds bimonthly meetings to discuss findings and potential improvements to DMC and FFS in Sacramento County and may submit written input for consideration to DHCS regarding policies that improve the delivery of oral health services under Medi-Cal. The following represents achievements of MCDAC in 2022 and goals for 2023.

MCDAC 2023 Efforts and Accomplishments:

- Published the updated Sacramento County Oral Health Needs Assessment, "Teeth for a Lifetime, 2022".
- Established the MCDAC Work Plan Workgroup to engage in implementation planning for the seventeen recommendations in the Sacramento County Oral Health Needs Assessment, "Teeth for a Lifetime? 2022".
- Established the Comparison County/Medi-Cal Dental Fact Sheet Workgroup to determine a suitable comparison county for MCDAC Sacramento County Data Fact Sheets.
- Revised the MCDAC Committee Charter to include space for community-level representation, adding two (2) Member-a-large seats. The additional interest and ability to expand membership has alleviated quorum issues, which MCDAC has experienced in the past.
- Provided a coordinated response to express concerns for beneficiaries as a result of Plan Parity action taken by DHCS in November 2023.
- Established a Provider Network Adequacy Committee to track beneficiary access issues resulting from the Plan Parity action taken by DHCS.
- Supported projects and policies to improve utilization and access issues, such as the Medical Dental Referral and Navigation system and Early Smiles Sacramento.
- Monitored access to General Anesthesia/Intravenous Sedation to reduce barriers for beneficiaries needing anesthesia services.
- Maintained a meaningful partnership with DHCS to accomplish the State's oral health goals for children and adults.
- Provided regional stakeholders the opportunity to bring dental issues for discussion, problem solving and action.

MCDAC 2024 Goals:

- Continue implementation of the seventeen recommendations from the Sacramento County Oral Health Needs Assessment, “Teeth for a Lifetime? 2022”.
- Work closely with Dental Managed Care plans to stay up to date on parity and other all plan issues.
- Work closely with DHCS to improve access and utilization of Medi-Cal dental services for children and adult beneficiaries.
- Continue to monitor the impact of an increasing number of adult and child Medi-Cal beneficiaries to ensure timely access and utilization of dental services.
- Provide regional stakeholders the opportunity to bring dental issues for discussion, problem solving and action.
- Work with legislative leaders in 2024 to facilitate improvements in accessing care in Medi-Cal Managed Care Dental and Fee-for-Service Dental for beneficiaries.