CHDP Highlights

November 2015

Ventura County Public Health  Child Health and Disability Prevention Program

SAVE THE DATE!
CHDP Noontime In-service Training
Wednesday, November 18, 2015
What Community Services are Available to You?
Presented by:
Ventura County Community Health Nursing

CHDP launches new website
Introducing the new Ventura County CHDP website!!
Learn more about CHDP, Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program, Oral Health and Dental Care Program, and Health Care Program for Children in Foster Care
Medical provider offices may easily find:
- Forms and documents
- Educational materials and tools
- Resources
- Newsletters
- Training calendar and registration

Community visitors will have the opportunity to learn more about CHDP and other children's health programs and find educational materials on child health topics.


GATEWAY eligibility now limited to twice per year

The purpose of the CHDP Gateway is to streamline access to healthcare coverage for eligible clients that are not on Medi-Cal. It provides a bridge to Medi-Cal enrollments for children not currently enrolled. Unfortunately, not all complete the process, and in the past, many of those simply used the Gateway to obtain their well child exams and immunizations. With the limit to two exams per year, this is no longer an option. Providers need to encourage Medi-Cal eligible clients to complete their enrollment.

Low income children who are not currently eligible for full-scope Medi-Cal, may be enrolled into ACE for Kids, a discount health program, and be enrolled in Emergency Medi-Cal. For more information, visit: www.vchca.org/public-health/health-care-for-kids-ace.

Thanks to the new state law, SB 4, all children currently not eligible for Medi-Cal due to immigration status, will be able to enroll in full scope Medi-Cal beginning May 2016. If a child is already enrolled in ACE for Kids and Emergency Medi-Cal, he or she will automatically be change to full scope Medi-Cal at that time without needing to reapply.

Please direct all families with children not currently enrolled in Medi-Cal to apply immediately!!

Call Health Care for All & ACE for Kids at 866-481-7674 or 805-981-5212.

Provider TIPS
Perform a Medically Necessary Interperiodic Health Assessment (MNIHA) for:
- Sports or camp physicals
- Foster care placement within 30 days of initial placement and every year
- School or preschool entrance exam
- Providing additional anticipatory guidance
- History of perinatal problems
- Significant developmental disability

Include an explanation in the PM 160 Comments.

Ventura County CHDP/Laura Crisostomo
Begin early to prevent obesity

An American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) update presents evidence-based strategies for health care providers and families to incorporate healthy habits into daily life, including a well-balanced diet, increased physical activity and reduced sedentary pursuits.

Parents and families can make small changes to eat healthier by simply changing the types of food brought into the home and how food is stored and served. The AAP recommends:

- Buy fewer sugar-sweetened beverages, high-calorie snacks and sweets.
- Display healthy foods and beverages (water, fruits, vegetables and other low-calorie snacks) on the counter or kitchen table, making them visible and accessible to the child.
- Put high-calorie foods in back of the refrigerator or in a high cupboard. Wrap these items in foil or put them in opaque containers instead of in clear wrap or containers.
- Offer children 5 or more servings of vegetables and fruits every day.

The AAP also recommends more physical activity and less time spent in sedentary activities:

- Remove TV sets and other media from bedroom and kitchen.
- Encourage family meals at the table with no distractions such as radio, smartphones or TV.
- Help families discover opportunities for physical activity that will suit the child and/or the family together.

Read the full report, The Role of the Pediatrician in Primary Prevention of Obesity, at http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/136/1/e275.full.

The Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program provides:

Registered Nurse/Public Health Nurse (PHN) consulting and case management

- Current California medical management and assessment guidelines
- Orientation of new providers on local resources for lead exposed clients
- Training to do lead testing by finger stick – 1 CEU
- Community referrals and resources for lead screening
- Assisting providers improve performance in lead screening rates

Community outreach and education in English/Spanish

- Community Health Worker/PHN presentations and health fairs to the public, health care providers and community organizations
- Local data on known exposures and testing in Ventura County
- Sources of lead, nutrition and blood lead testing recommendations

Information and resources for lead poisoning prevention

- Flyer: Nutrition Tips to Help Protect Your Child from Lead Poisoning (English/Spanish)
- Mini-Poster: Prevent childhood lead poisoning: Learn where lead can be (English)
- Mini-poster: Prevent childhood lead poisoning: Learn where lead can be (Spanish)

To learn more about the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program or to request services for your staff, community organization, or public event, please call 805-981-5291 or visit http://vcchdp.org/our-programs/childhood-lead-poisoning-prevention-program.
Improving care coordination for Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSHCN)

Close to 20% of the pediatric population have or are at increased risk for a chronic physical, developmental, behavioral, or emotional conditions. Of these children, 65% experience complex service needs requiring extensive services. A national survey revealed that nearly half of California’s CSHCN did not receive effective care coordination, ranking our state 46th in the nation. An initiative to address health care needs of CSHCN in North Carolina resulted in decreasing the length of hospital stays, the frequency of re-hospitalizations and the number of ER visits, saving the state $6 million over a three-year period.

In January 2015, Ventura County Public Health received a grant from Lucile Packard Foundation for Children’s Health, thereby establishing Ventura County Pact or “VC-Pact,” as part of a national initiative supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) and the Federal Maternal Child Health Bureau (MCHB). The California Community Care Coordination Collaborative (5Cs) allows VCPH to convene multiple agencies, community based organizations, health care providers and payers of health care to improve the quality health care for CSHCN in Ventura County.

The VC-Pact coalition works on system gaps in services for these children by doing individual case reviews submitted by members. The coalition particularly addresses family strengths using the Five Protective Factors framework, identifies unmet needs and looks for possible solutions. By evaluating the unmet needs of individuals, the coalition agencies work to improve communication and delivery systems. The VC-Pact coalition meets the fourth Tuesday of each month from 10 am to 12 noon. Anyone interested in joining the coalition or presenting a case, please email the coordinator, Myra Medina, at vc-pact@ventura.org.

Where can I send parents for information to help them decide about immunizations?

- i choose
  http://www.whyichoose.org/
- Vacunas y Mi Salud
  http://www.vacunasymisalud.org/
- Vaccines are your best shot!
  http://www.mybestshot.org/