

Dignity Health operates two dental clinic locations for low income families in the East Valley

- **Chandler Children's Dental Clinic** and the newer **Gilbert Children's Dental Clinic**. The Chandler Children's Dental Clinic is a collaborative effort between Dignity Health, Chandler CARE Center and the Chandler Unified School District, providing preventive and restorative dental services to children and families. The Gilbert Children's Dental Clinic is a collaborative effort between Dignity Health, Town of Gilbert, and AZCEND, providing preventive dental services and support to children and families in Gilbert.



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PROGRAM SUPPORTERS AND SPONSORS



For More Information, Please Contact the
Dignity Health Foundation East Valley

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Please consider a tax-deductible gift or pledge to support this program to allow for the continuation of preventive and restorative dental care and support to low-income children and families of the East Valley throughout the year.

East Valley Community Dental Clinics



The Children's Dental Clinics provide direct access to care using the Affiliated Practice (AP) Dental Hygienist Model. The AP Model was established in Arizona in 2004 and provides expanded access to preventive dental care by removing many of the barriers faced by low-income and underserved patients. AP Dental Hygienists are able to provide preventive care prior to an exam by a dentist.

This direct access to care model increases access to preventive dental care for low-income and underserved children.



Education is a critical component of the Children's Dental Clinics.

Extended appointment times allow children and family members to understand the causes of poor oral health and learn what they can do at home to maintain good oral health. In order to formalize and measure the efficacy of the education being provided, an oral health promotora works with families to complete oral health assessments, set goals and track progress. The promotora is the direct liaison between the dentist, the Children's Dental Clinics and the family. This connecting relationship with families helps to reduce no-shows and encourage completion of treatment plans.

Program Statistics

- With four operatories and full-time staff, the Chandler Children's Dental Clinic serves more than 700 children annually
- The Gilbert clinic recently opened with two operatories, utilizing staff from the Chandler clinic to provide services one day per week to approximately 150 children annually
- Looking forward, full-time staff will be hired and two additional operatories will be built out for the Gilbert clinic, allowing for approximately 700 children to be served annually.

Free Services Provided by the Clinic

- Dental assessments and x-rays
- Professional dental cleaning
- Fluoride therapy
- Dental sealants
- Dental hygiene education
- Care Coordination for restorative dentistry

Eligibility Requirements

Ages 0 - 18 and are one of the following:

- Enrolled in a state, federal, or local program (WIC, SNAP, AHCCCS), or
- Participating in a free or reduced school lunch program, or
- Income under 200% of federal poverty level

Community Oral Health Classes

The Children's Dental Clinic provides free classes on basic and advanced oral health for adults and children of all ages.

- Education includes nutrition and healthy eating habits, good dental health habits, establishing a dental home, and oral disease and prevention.
- Free dental supplies for everyone who attends class.

