

Victorian Action Plan to Prevent Oral Disease

Annual progress update 2023-24

PRIORITY AREA 1 | Improve the oral health of school children

38 agencies provided Smile Squad services



- Visited **508** schools
- Examined **60,213** students
- Distributed **191,000+** oral health packs



Specialist hubs in Bendigo and Barwon launched
578 students received specialist care

PRIORITY AREA 2 | Promote healthy environments



Partnered with **34** community organisations to implement in **775** early childhood services across **55** LGAs reaching **60,657** children

44% of services achieved or maintained their Smiles 4 Miles award

Dental Health Services Victoria (DHSV) and the Victorian Department of Health developed a **local government action guide** and **water fluoridation factsheet** to support local councils, water boards and agencies to promote healthy environments



DHSV commenced **vaping research and health promotion projects** in collaboration with the University of Melbourne



Supported **1,108** education and community organisations

Reached **216,681** young people

Achievement Program

960 schools and early childhood services implementing the program

501 achieved recognition for successfully making changes

Healthy Eating Advisory Services

Supported all **81** Victorian public health services across **493** sites to implement the *Healthy choices: policy directive*

INfant Feeding, Active play and NuTrition

45 out of 79 local government areas have embedded INfant group sessions in their existing service delivery to support new parents in establishing healthy feeding and active play for their baby



Local Public Health Units



Gippsland PHU is focusing on the Victorian Action Plan to Prevent Oral Disease 2020-30 through their healthy eating priority

Western PHU has summarised key oral health data in their needs analysis and plans to collaborate with DHSV and other stakeholders to amplify collaboration



PRIORITY AREA 3 | Improve oral health literacy

healthy families & healthy smiles



- Distributed oral health resources to **117,263** Victorian children and families
- Provided training to **1,606+** professionals

genU Oral Health Champions Program

DHSV partnered with genU to deliver training sessions to **33** disability support workers



Oral Cancer Screening and Prevention Program



193 oral health professionals } completed oral
190+ general practitioners } cancer trainings

DHSV 'Ask the Dentist' campaign

- Reached over **29,000** people
- Engaged with **19,500** social media users



Royal Children's Hospital provided training to dental students on paediatric dentistry and delivering oral health care to children with special healthcare needs



PRIORITY AREA 4 | Improve oral health promotion, screening, early detection and prevention services



10,159 children screened



Of these children received fluoride varnish application



Of these children referred to local dental clinic for follow-up care

Aboriginal Health Practitioner Fluoride Varnish Program

67 Aboriginal children received fluoride varnish application



6 Aboriginal Health Practitioners commenced round 2 of the training program



Community Dental Agencies

Barwon Health and Colac Area Health increased activity and reach of **Wide Smile Program**



Barwon Health



Link Health and Community increased activity and reach of **Keeping Kids Smiling** outreach program

Sunbury and Cobaw Community Health provided comprehensive outreach visits in **early child learning centres** and **primary schools**



Rumbalara Aboriginal Co-operative ran a **New Beginnings Program** for Indigenous children at 0-5 years