



Established 1858

Center Joint Unified School District

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To Whom It May Concern:

In January of 2020, Governor Newsom proposed a budget suggesting the elimination of Geographic Managed Care Plans in Sacramento County and replaced with Fee For Service no later than January of 2021. This decision puts Early Smiles Sacramento at risk. ESS is successful for many reasons; one of the critical reasons is navigation (care and coordination) to dental care. Seventy percent of the children Early Smiles Sacramento serves have GMC plans for dental. ESS works directly with GMC plans to find dental care close to the child's home, provide transportation and translation, if needed, and find a new dental provider if parents are not happy with their current provider. It takes lots of staff time, and effort for this navigation not only from Early Smiles Sacramento but from GMC plans as well. All of these services are provided at no cost to families and schools due to the support of GMC plans, First 5 Sacramento, and Sacramento County (Dental Transformation Initiative).

Early Smiles Sacramento has been providing these services to students and families in the Center Joint Unified School District for many years. Due to the low socio-economic status of our families, this is an invaluable service that will be greatly missed if it goes away. Therefore, I am writing this letter of support for Early Smiles Sacramento in hopes that a solution can be found to allow them to continue to provide this beneficial, no-cost service to our families.

Cordially,

Mike Jordan
Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Special Education
Center Joint Unified School District