

THE MONMOUTH-OCEAN COUNTY DENTAL SOCIETY

1268 Boxelder Road • Toms River, New Jersey 08753

www.M-OCDS.org

January 11, 2021

Dear Community Leaders,

The **Monmouth-Ocean County Dental Society (MOCDS)** is promoting the importance of optimal oral health throughout the month of February as part of Children's Dental Health Month. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, we will not be having our annual events in both the Monmouth County and Ocean County Malls to promote Children's Dental Health Month. However, we still want to make the month of February a chance to promote dental health and well-being for all of the children in our respective communities and we need YOUR HELP!

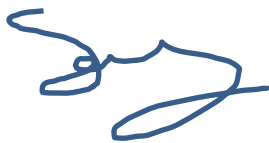
This year's theme is **"Water: Nature's Drink."** One of the primary causes of tooth decay in children is diets high in carbohydrates. This year's theme is geared toward making a conscientious effort to decrease the consumption of sugary beverages to reduce the risk for tooth decay and to optimize our children's overall health.

We are counting on you and all of the members of our communities to help spread the word! Please disseminate the packet of information attached to this email. In the packet you will find some great educational materials for children and their parents, and some fun activities for the kids! We hope you can share some of the completed coloring pages on the Facebook Page or Instagram Account (@mocdsnj) of the Monmouth-Ocean County Dental Society and use the hashtag #cheerstowater and make sure to tag MOCDS!

We can all make a difference by educating our communities on the importance of Children's Dental Health. Children's teeth are meant to last a lifetime, and a healthy smile is important to a child's self-esteem. With proper care, a balanced diet, and regular dental visits, their teeth can remain healthy and strong!

As part of Children's Dental Health Month, members throughout NJ will be participating in the annual **Give Kids A Smile® (GKAS) program**. Throughout the month of February, dentists and their team members volunteer at GKAS events to provide free oral health education, screenings, preventive and restorative treatment for children. Attached you will find a list of local providers participating in GKAS to ensure access to quality oral healthcare for our underserved children.

Thank you for your help in sharing this information...keep smiling!



Matthew Sones, DMD and Jocelyn Jeffries-Bruno, DDS
Co-Chairs, MOCDS Children's Dental Health Month Committee