

The page has a yellow background decorated with handprints in white, blue, and orange. The handprints are arranged in a border around the central text area. There are 16 handprints in total: 4 white, 4 blue, and 8 orange. The text is centered in a white rectangular box.

A Vignette by the Children's Dental Project

On November 4, 2005, a dental conference entitled "Doctor, there's an infant in your waiting room!" was held in Chico that was sponsored by Children's Dental Project (CDP). The keynote speaker was Dr. A. Jeffrey Wood, Chair of Pediatric Dentistry at University of Pacific School of Dentistry. The target audience was dental professionals and the goal of the conference was to enhance skills so they would feel more comfortable treating children in their dental offices. A second goal was to recruit general dentists to be a part of a rotational dental system. There are many children in Butte County that need an initial dental exam and there are few dentists who feel comfortable enough to provide one. A total of 54 dental professionals attended the conference including 13 dentists/pedodontists and six of them want to participate in the rotational system. CDP staff were excited that this number of dentists were interested. CDP staff has begun meeting with them to explain how the rotational system will work.

At the December 9th Dental collaborative meeting, there were several new members who attended. One of them was a Migrant Head Start employee who works with families in Chico and Tehama County. She needed a contact in Tehama County who could refer her to a dentist. Aimee Myles referred her to Mary Jacobson who works for Tehama County Public Health and in turn Mary referred the woman to a dentist who works at Northern Valley Indian Health in Red Bluff. Migrant Head Start was able to make dental appointments in January 2006 for three children who are under two years of age. Migrant Head Start staff appreciated CDP's help and were thankful for the collaborative.