

Good afternoon,

The Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS) Oral Health Program is finalizing logistics for the 2020/2021 Basic Screening Survey of the Montana Head Start population. We want to extend our gratitude to you for volunteering your time to screen the Head Start classroom(s) in your community that were randomly selected for the sample. The information gathered from this surveillance is instrumental in developing successful dental public health initiatives in Montana.

During these unprecedented times with a global pandemic, please stay safe. Keep up-to-date with the latest [Guidance for Dental Settings \[cdc.gov\]](https://www.cdc.gov/dentalsettings/guidance-for-dental-settings.html) from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Montana DPHHS recommends that dental providers consider delaying oral health screenings in Head Start facilities that have had an active case of COVID-19 within the previous three weeks. The MT DPHHS Oral Health Program distributed a parental consent form for the Basic Screening Survey to sample Head Start programs in early August. As we understand that many of you are established providers for these facilities, it is important to acknowledge you will need to obtain consent for any additional services provided.

Once again, we thank you for your dedication to the oral health of Montanans. If you have any questions of concerns, please let me know.



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