The Mobile Dental Clinic (MDC) offers free dental services through the Dental Collaborative of Contra Costa, which includes Ronald McDonald House Charities, the County’s Children’s Oral Health Program, La Clínica de La Raza, Lifelong Community Health Center, and John Muir Health. Each partner provides a critical part of the service.

**Primary Goal** to increase access to preventative dental services for low-income children up to 19 years old, who reside in Contra Costa County and connect them and their families to a Dental Home.

After surviving years of family trauma, three girls ages 2 to 7 were in need of dental treatment, but did not have insurance to cover their services. Their caring stepmother, determined to find resources for them, brought them to the MDC.

The MDC has connected many underserved children like these girls to appropriate dental care helping reduce barriers to care and improving dental health by providing preventative and restorative oral health services.

Research states that children and adolescents with oral health issues are more likely to have problems at school, miss school and are less likely to do required homework. Additionally, children with oral health problems suffer from self-esteem issues.

The Dental Collaborative represents a strong partnership, where each partner plays a critical role. John Muir Health provides the vehicle driver and coordinates the maintenance and operation of the MDC and the Dental Collaborative. Contra Costa County’s Children’s Oral Health Program provides screening and triage in low income schools. La Clínica de la Raza and Lifelong Health Center provide the dental care and assistance with enrollment in programs to establish a dental home.

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- **To date, the MDC has served** 7,200 low income children for a total of 16,000 visits
- **Since 2004, 99% of children and their families have been connect to a dental home**