

# Dental Screening Visits For WIC Patients



## **WHO** should consider these screenings?

Any child 18 years or younger that doesn't already have an established dentist.

A child's first dental visit should happen within 6 months of the child's first tooth eruption or by the age of 1, whichever comes first.

## **WHAT** services will Bay Clinic be providing?

Your child will receive a dental screening (no x-rays will be taken) to determine the necessity of a follow-up comprehensive exam or treatment.

Your child will receive a prophylaxis (or cleaning.) We will also educate parents on strategies and techniques to care for their child's teeth at home.

Your child will receive topical fluoride treatment (OPTIONAL.) Based on the condition of your child's teeth, we will offer topical fluoride gels or topical fluoride varnishes. If you prefer that your child does not receive this treatment, please let the dentist know.

## **WHEN** will these services be provided?

These services will be provided on select Wednesdays every month.

Our goal is to allow WIC participants the opportunity to address their children's dental needs in a convenient setting while visiting the WIC office. We will see your children while you are waiting for your WIC coupons, WIC visits, or WIC applications. We can also see your children after these visits, before you leave.

## **WHERE** will these screenings be offered?

These screenings will be conducted in our mobile dental unit located in the back parking lot of the Pāhoa Family Health Center. The dental unit is conveniently located just steps from our WIC office in Pāhoa.

## **WHY** should your child address their dental needs as soon as possible?

Early childhood caries/cavities can have very serious consequences:

- Difficulty chewing resulting in poor development
- Impaired language development
- Decrease in self-esteem
- Missed school days/ lack in concentration
- Crooked bite/teeth
- Increased cavities in adult teeth