



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **1,000 Mendocino County Kids Smile for PDI**

April celebrated the treatment of the 1,000<sup>th</sup> Mendocino County patient at PDI Surgery Center.

In a release from PDI Surgery Center they said, “We are thankful for the support of our board, staff, volunteers, and community partners in Mendocino County who have helped us reach this milestone; no child should have to suffer in pain.”

These 1,000 kids have been served since 2008 when the PDI Surgery Center opened. With the goal of specialized, safe surgical dental treatment for children—regardless of their insurance status or ability to pay—PDI Surgery Center has helped a thousand Mendocino County kids smile.

“One thousand children are now pain free. Their mouths are in a healthy state ready for their adult teeth,” said Anne Molgaard, executive director of FIRST 5 Mendocino.

FIRST 5 Mendocino was one of initial financial supports of PDI Surgery Center. Planning began in 2002 by funders and dental players in Sonoma, Lake Counties. By 2008, PDI Surgery Center had constructed a two-room surgery center and now sees about 50 children a week. FIRST 5 Mendocino continues to support PDI Surgery Center with staff time and grants.

PDI Surgery Center provides specialty care: dental surgery to children with severe tooth decay. Unfortunately, this silent disease is prevalent throughout California. The good news is that it is preventable and treatable. Despite facing drastic cuts to Medi-Cal, PDI Surgery Center’s goal is to continue providing services so that children who require dental surgery under general anesthesia will receive treatment.

While PDI Surgery Center is located in Windsor, Sonoma County, PDI Surgery Center has treated children from 26 Northern California Counties, including Mendocino. “Windsor was selected as the best site for its central location and ability to attract high quality dentists.” Molgaard explained.

If you would like to donate to help make a kid smile, please click check out their website at <http://www.pedidental.org/donate.htm> or call PDI Surgery Center at 707-838-6560.



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