January 17, 2024

WHEREAS, February 2024, the American Dental Association (ADA) sponsors National Children's Dental Health Month (NCDHM) to raise awareness about the importance of oral health. NCDHM messages and materials have reached millions of people in communities across the country; and

WHEREAS, this month-long national health observance brings together thousands of dedicated professionals, healthcare providers, and educators to promote the benefits of good oral health to children, their caregivers, teachers and many others; and

WHEREAS, this year the NCDHM campaign slogan, "Healthy Habits for Healthy Smiles," with smile tips such as; Brush your teeth twice a day with a fluoride toothpaste; Clean between your teeth daily; Eat a healthy diet that limits sugary beverages and snacks; See your dentist regularly for prevention and treatment of oral disease; and

WHEREAS, developing good habits at an early age and scheduling regular dental visits helps children to get a good start on a lifetime of healthy teeth and gums. The NCDHM support parents taking their children to the dentist by their first birthday. The goal is to promote a healthy oral care routine in order to maintain an excellent quality of life; and

WHEREAS, despite the fact that it's almost entirely preventable, tooth decay is the most common chronic disease in children. Good oral hygiene practices such as thorough brushing with fluoride toothpaste can help keep children from getting cavities; and

WHEREAS, the Ocean County Health Department continues to work with the two Federally Qualified Health Centers in Ocean County to help those without insurance and those with emergent issues in addition to providing dental education programs to schools, day care centers and summer camps, and community groups.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the OCEAN COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, proclaims February 2024 as **NATIONAL CHILDREN'S DENTAL HEALTH MONTH** and encourages all residents and communities to join in this observance.

Name	Bacchione	Gupta	Hill	Kubiel	Laureigh	Mancini	Scaturro	Singer	Mallon
Ayes		V/		V					
Abstain	12.	M.							
Nays									
Absent						1/	_/		

Assistant Secretary/Treasurer