# KEWA HEALTH

Healthy People, Healthy Community, Healthy Lifestyles

NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2025



# Talking With Dr. Benally...

#### 1. What are some key aspects of Children's Eye Health and safety?

There are many ways to support Children's Eye Health, and for most it starts with a comprehensive eye exam. At KPHC, we utilize the latest technology and practice standards to assure timely identification and diagnosis of vision disorders and eye conditions. We also address important eye health aspects pertinent to you and your children, including the importance of wearing prescribed glasses, healthy digital screen time viewing, eye protection, and healthy eating habits.

#### 2. Why is Children's Eye Health important?

Children's Eye Health is an important component in healthy childhood development. Young children rely on their visual system (eyes and brain) to interpret and develop their view of their environment and their world. Vision disorders or eye conditions can negatively impact a child's ability to read or learn, which can make it difficulty for them to achieve their full potential.

#### 3. Are vision screenings enough?

Vision screenings can be an efficient and quick tool for identification of some vision disorders, especially within a community setting, such as school, workplace, or community event. However, vision screenings are NOT a substitute for a comprehensive eye exam. Limitations to vision screenings include detection of learning-related vision problems and most eye diseases. Any child that fails a vision screening should follow up with their eye doctor for a comprehensive eye exam.

5. How can we participate in Children's Eye Health Awareness Month?

You can participate in Children's Eye Health
Awareness Month by keeping your children up to
date with their eye examinations and being an
advocate to family members and friends.
Remember, a lot of times children are not able to
communicate vision or eye issues, so it's important
to listen, but also act, when you feel there is a
problem.





Eye Health and Your Children

It is important that we take care of our children's eyes.

Eye injuries in children are common. The most common type of injury is getting hit with an object such as a ball, an elbow, or other objects. If that happens, apply a cold compress to the eye for 15 minutes. You can use a bag of ice or a gel ice pack wrapped in a towel. This will reduce swelling and pain.

If your child gets sand or dust in their eye, it can hurt and make your child want to rub their eye. Remind your child not to do so. The best thing you can do at home is to wash the eye out with water for at least 10 minutes to flush out the sand. You would treat a chemical splash in the eye the same way.

The recommendations from the American Optometric Association for children's eye exams are:

- 1. Around 6 months of age
- 2. About 3 years old
- 3. 5-6 years old
- 4. Every 2 years after if no glasses are prescribed or eye problems noted. If the child has been prescribed glasses, then your child should have an exam every year or as instructed by the eye doctor.

It is also important to bring your child in for an exam if you notice any of the following as they can indicate a problem with his/her eyes:

- 1. Squinting or covering one eye
- 2. One or both eyes turning in or out
- 3. Holding materials consistently close to the face
- 4. Repeatedly rubbing eyes
- 5. Continued redness or tearing
- 6. Family history of vision problems
- 7. Tilting their head
- 8. Difficulty keeping their place while reading or skipping lines
- 9. Frequent headaches, watery or dry eyes
- 10. Sitting in the front of the classroom or close to the TV to be able to see better  $\,$
- 11. Behavior problems in the classroom

Another recommendation is to limit the time your child spends on an electronic device. The light and the closeness to the face may cause issues with the eyes in the future. While we don't know all of the consequences of the long term use of these devices (smartphones, tablets, etc.), we want to be proactive. Limit your child to 20 minutes for a session on these devices.

Remind your child to tell an adult if these injuries or problems happen or are happening so that they may get the appropriate care as needed.



### SANTO DOMINGO HEALTH CENTER COMING EVENTS

DOMINGO HEALTH CENTER 8AM - 5PM

ANTO DOMINGO COMMUNITY CENTER 3PM - 6PM



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#### **KPHC Diabetes Classes Fall 2025**

9:00 - 10:00AM All sessions offered in WIC Kitchen

SEPTEMBER

#### INTRODUCTION:

What is Diabetes? Ways to take care of Diabetes. Feelings about having Diabetes Setting self-management goals

9 SEPTEMBER

#### **HEALTHY EATING PART 1:**

Reading food lab Meal planning

16 SEPTEMBER

#### **TAKING MEDICATION:**

Different types of diabetes medications How diabetes medications affect blood sugars

### BEING ACTIVE:

30 SEPTEMBER

#### MONITORING/PROBLEM SOLVING

Managing high and low blood sugars Sick day management

#### REDUCING RISKS/HEALTHY COPING

Foot care Coping with stress Community resources





Call Giselle at 505-470-9222



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**DON'T WAIT!** SCHEDULE YOUR CHILD'S CHOOL & SPORTS PHYSICAL If your child is not going to play sports, it is still encouraged to get their

Teen check-up and

vaccinations Pediatric Providers available Dr. Strickland: Tuesday - Friday Johannah Yazzie, PNP: Monday-Thursday To make an appointment

please call: 505 465 3060



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#### **Help Your Child's School Prevent the Spread of Infections**

You can play an important role in helping your child have a healthy place to learn. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) developed guidance for schools to help students, families, and school staff keep kids healthy and learning. Here are some ways you can help your child's school stop the spread of germs:



- 1. Encourage your child to practice healthy habits, like washing their hands often and covering their mouth and nose when coughing and sneezing.
- 2. Make sure your child goes for their yearly check-ups and gets the recommended routine vaccines they need. This helps keep your child healthy and in school by reducing the spread of germs in school and making sickness shorter and milder
- 3. Know when your child is well enough to go to school and when they should stay home because of their symptoms. Some reasons to have your child stay home include fever, vomiting, diarrhea, and respiratory symptoms that are getting worse or not improving. Guidance on staying home when sick can also help you decide whether your child needs to stay home. Ask your child's school if they have specific policies for returning after being sick.



- 4. Help make decisions about how your child's school is preventing illness, by taking steps for cleaner air, for example. You can join a school or district committee such as a school health advisory committee (SHAC), wellness committee, or parent teacher association (PTA). These committees help set the policies for health and wellness, work to include language about infections in school policies and practices and inform emergency operations and recovery plans.
- 5. Volunteer for school or community activities that support a healthy education environment. You can also attend, or support meetings and training events offered by your child's school or district to learn more about how schools can help prevent the spread of infections.





# WELCOME OUR NEW STAFF MEMBERS

Robert Montoya, Director of QAQI

#### EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH JULY 2025

Soren Uhl

Registered Nurse Clinical Team

# Jazmin Arquero PRC Account Specialist Administrative



#### **Current Openings:**

Compliance Specialist
ECL Center - Nurse
General Dentist
Medical Records Technician
Patient Benefits Coordinator
Patient Registration
Pharmacy Technician I/II
PRN - Dentist
Registered Nurse I/II/III
Safety Manager
Telephone Operator



**SCAN TO APPLY** 



#### **FONEMED**

**After-Hours Nurse Triage Line** 

Santo Domingo Health Center has contracted with FoneMed. An Nurse Triage Service to provide our patients with medical advice when the clinic is closed. After-Hours, you will get a recording message, option 1 will be if you want to schedule an appointment but our clinic is closed. You can leave a message and we will call you back once we open again.

Option 9 will transfer the calls to our After-Hours Triage Nurse Line to speak with a live nurse.



## **NAVEX**

#### Santo Domingo Health Clinic Ethics Reporting Hotline Is Now Available!

We are listening! If for some reason there is an issue when you come to our facility and our staff is not able to resolve your matter to your satisfaction, please let us know. EthicsPoint is a comprehensive and confidential reporting tool created by NAVEX.



Santo Domingo Health Center POB 340 | 85 West Highway 22 Santo Domingo, NM 87052 505-465-3060 WWW.KP-HC.ORG

#### **Hours of Operation:**

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM Wednesday 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Ensuring health and wellness through excellence in health care with respect for culture