



For Immediate Release:

National Children's Oral Health Foundation

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The National Children's Oral Health Foundation Announces \$529,000 in Grant Awards for Critical Oral Healthcare Initiatives for Economically Disadvantaged Children

Charlotte, NC July 13, 2007. The National Children's Oral Health Foundation (NCOHF) recently awarded grants totaling \$529,000 to 14 not-for-profit community, university, and hospital-based dental programs nationwide. These facilities are members of NCOHF's national oral health Affiliate Network and are dedicated to delivering comprehensive oral health treatment and preventive educational services to millions of children and their families.

Fern Ingber, President and Chief Executive Officer of the NCOHF, expressed her enthusiasm about the projects, and gratitude to NCOHF's supporters, stating, "These grants bring with them the expectation that we will continue to break-down barriers regarding access to oral health services, and provide critical care and preventive education to young children. We are grateful to be able to support so many of our affiliates who embraced this challenge and came forth with innovative ideas and proposals. This would not be possible without the generosity of our donors who share our passion to eliminate painful debilitating pediatric oral disease."

One third of U.S. children suffer from serious oral health problems that negatively impact their ability to eat, sleep, and learn, and affects their appearance. Discolored, decayed and abscessed teeth are painfully debilitating, and result in severe psychological, social, and economic consequences. A recently released study by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found that 28% of children ages 2 to 5 have tooth decay, up from 24% in an earlier report. Bruce Dye, the lead author of "Trends in Oral Health Status: United States, 1998-1994 and 1999-2004," also states in the report: Poor kids ages 6 to 11 are three times more likely to have untreated tooth decay than children whose families are above the poverty line.

"At this time, when the numbers of economically disadvantaged children are increasing, new and innovative ways to deliver vital prevention oriented oral health services must be developed. We applaud our affiliates for their commitment to provide creative, practical solutions and look forward to celebrating their accomplishments", says Ms. Ingber. "Thanks to generous support from our corporate underwriters, 100% of all general contributions are allocated directly to children's oral health services. These extraordinary underwriters include: **Sybron Dental Specialties, Discus Dental, 3M ESPE, Patterson Dental Supplies, Nobel Biocare, Ultradent Products Inc., Heraeus and Dentsply.**"

The National Children's Oral Health Foundation is focused exclusively on providing aggressive solutions for economically disadvantaged children who desperately need comprehensive, preventive care. Founded in 2006, the NCOHF's mission is to eliminate pediatric oral disease

and promote overall health and well-being for millions of economically disadvantaged children. The Foundation was created in response to the national growing need to provide access to community based programs for under-served children that deliver the best approaches to eliminate dental disease, optimize oral health, enhance self-esteem, effectively reduce student absenteeism, and significantly enhance quality of life and family productivity.

For more information on the National Children's Oral Health Foundation, visit their website www.ncohf.org.

List of grant awards:

Catholic Healthcare West

Chandler, AZ

Grant Award: \$ 50,000

Community Care Health Centers

Huntington Beach, CA

Grant Award: \$ 47,480

Community Oral Health Services

Salinas, CA

Grant Award: \$ 50,000

El Centro del Barrio

San Antonio, TX

Grant Award: \$ 46,160

Family First Health

York, PA

Grant Award: \$ 5,000

Friends of Children

La Habra, CA

Grant Award: \$ 40,588

Indiana University School of Dentistry

Indianapolis, IN

Grant Award: \$ 35,000

Medical College of Georgia

Augusta, GA

Grant Award: \$ 50,000

St. Joseph's Hospital

Puente a la Salud

Orange, CA

Grant Award: \$ 50,000

San Gabriel Valley FDN for Dental Health

La Puente, CA

Grant Award: \$ 35,000

Maurice H. Kornberg School of Dentistry, Temple University

Philadelphia, PA

Grant Award: \$ 5,000

The Gary Center

La Habra, CA

Grant Award: \$ 30,000

University of North Carolina School of Dentistry

Chapel Hill, NC

Grant Award: \$ 35,000

Washington State Smile Partners

Bainbridge Island, WA

Grant Award: \$ 50,000

END