

## NEWS RELEASE

### For Immediate Release

Delta Dental of Iowa  
9000 Northpark Drive  
Johnston, IA 50131  
Phone: 515-261-5500

**Contact:**  
Jill Hamilton  
Corporate Communications Manager  
Phone: 515-261-5526  
[jhamilton@deltadentalia.com](mailto:jhamilton@deltadentalia.com)

### DELTA DENTAL OF IOWA FOUNDATION MAJOR SPONSOR FOR IOWA MISSION OF MERCY EVENT



Left to Right: Suzanne Heckenlaible, Executive Director, Delta Dental of Iowa Foundation; Dr. Robert Russell, Director, Delta Dental of Iowa Foundation Board; Donn Hutchins, President and CEO, Delta Dental of Iowa; Dr. Bill Strohman, President, Iowa Dental Association; Dr. Ed Schooley, Dental Director, Delta Dental of Iowa; and Jan Reinicke, Director, Delta Dental of Iowa Foundation Board.

**Johnston, IA (October 22, 2010)** – The Delta Dental of Iowa Foundation has awarded \$50,000 to the Iowa Dental Foundation, the Iowa Dental Association’s non-profit foundation, to help fund the Iowa Mission of Mercy (Iowa MOM) project. The two-day event, scheduled for Friday, November 5, and Saturday, November 6, will be at the US Cellular Center in Cedar Rapids. Iowa MOM is expected to serve more than 1,000 patients seeking dental care at no cost and with no need for prior appointments.

“The Delta Dental of Iowa Foundation is proud to be the major sponsor of the Iowa Mission of Mercy event,” said Donn Hutchins, president of the Delta Dental of Iowa Foundation. “The goal of Iowa MOM supports Delta Dental’s mission to improve the oral health of Iowans. Throughout the two-day event, hundreds of dentists, hygienists and other volunteers will come together to assist Iowans’ oral health needs.”

There is a strong connection between oral health and overall health. Untreated oral infections can lead to other serious health care issues. With the Iowa MOM event, Iowans can access free dental care, including cleanings, fillings and extractions. Mission of Mercy projects are conducted throughout the country and have been very successful in bringing all the participants in the oral health system together in a concentrated effort to address short-term oral health needs of the community.

The clinic opens each day at 7 a.m. and closes at 5:30 p.m. Patients are seen on a first-come, first-served basis. More information is available at [www.IowaMOM.org](http://www.IowaMOM.org).

Delta Dental of Iowa is the largest and most experienced provider of dental benefits in the state. As a not-for-profit, Delta Dental of Iowa invests in oral health projects through the Delta Dental of Iowa Foundation that focus on access to care, prevention, education and research. Delta Dental of Iowa Foundation’s mission is to support and improve the oral health of Iowans. In 2009, more than \$1,076,000 was provided in oral health support and improvement projects in Iowa.

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