



## NEWS RELEASE

### For Immediate Release

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### **DELTA DENTAL AWARDS 11 IOWA AGENCIES OVER \$57,000 FOR ORAL HEALTH PROJECTS**

**Ankeny, IA (January 7, 2010)** – The Delta Dental of Iowa Foundation awarded \$57,899 to 11 Iowa agencies to improve the oral health of Iowans.

The oral health grants are part of the Delta Dental of Iowa Foundation’s mini-grant program. Grant applications are reviewed twice a year in May and October. Mini-grants are intended to support one-time oral health projects, such as workshops or conferences, or short-term projects of up to one-year in duration, such as a survey, data collection or research study. These grants are also used to stimulate long-term oral health projects and may be combined with funds from other sources.

“The Delta Dental of Iowa Foundation’s mission is to support and improve the oral health of Iowans,” said Donn Hutchins, president of the Delta Dental of Iowa Foundation. “The Foundation supports non-profit organizations providing funds for oral health projects throughout the state that make a measurable difference in the oral health of Iowans.”

The agencies being awarded mini-grants by the Delta Dental of Iowa Foundation in October 2009 include:

- **Area Health Education Center - Southeast Iowa, Davenport** - \$8,684 for an educational program for middle school students about chewing tobacco.
- **Buena Vista University, Storm Lake** - \$10,000 for an undergraduate rural dentistry internship program.
- **Iowa Department of Public Health, Des Moines** - \$10,000 for oral health educational books for 458 family practice and pediatric offices throughout Iowa.
- **Iowa Central Community College, Fort Dodge** - \$3,500 for custom-fit mouth guards for 100 high school athletes and \$3,250 for educating nursing

home staff and residents on oral health care and its affect on overall health.

- **Iowa Branch of the American Student Dental Association, Iowa City** - \$8,000 for the second edition printing of “Healthy Smiles for Young Children.”
- **North Iowa Community Action Organization, Mason City** - \$3,000 for fluoride varnish and hygienic covered toothbrush racks to Head Start facilities and schools in nine Iowa counties.
- **Siouxland Community Health Center, Sioux City** - \$3,000 to provide screening supplies for use by dental professionals as well as oral health aids for home use.
- **Visiting Nurse Services of Iowa, Des Moines** - \$3,000 for oral health educational and outreach materials.
- **Winnebago County Public Health, Forest City** - \$500 to provide supplies for oral health screenings for children with no dental insurance.
- **Youth Law Center, Des Moines** - \$4,966 for oral health supplies to be provided to juvenile court judges to provide these supplies for at-risk families.

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. The Iowa company is a member of the Delta Dental Plans Association, a national organization of not-for-profit Delta Dental plans. The national association is the largest dental benefits carrier in the nation providing coverage to 54 million people in more than 89,000 employer groups.

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