



For Immediate Release

**Contact: Suzanne Heckenlaible
Delta Dental of Iowa
515-261-5559**

**DELTA DENTAL AWARDS 16 IOWA AGENCIES
\$67,526 FOR ORAL HEALTH PROJECTS**

ANKENY, IOWA – June 10, 2008 – Delta Dental of Iowa has awarded a total of \$67,526 to 16 Iowa agencies to improve the oral health of Iowans.

The oral health grants are part of Delta Dental of Iowa’s Public Benefit 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.

“As a not-for-profit organization, Delta Dental of Iowa funds oral health projects that make a measurable difference in the communities we serve,” said Donn Hutchins, president and CEO of Delta Dental of Iowa. “We are proud to support these agencies and share their passion for improving oral health. Since the inception of the mini-grant program in 2006, Delta Dental of Iowa has become a major funder of oral health projects in Iowa.”

The agencies being awarded mini-grants by Delta Dental of Iowa include:

- **Iowa Dental Hygienist Association**, \$4,000 to provide a hands-on “Cavities Management” workshop.
- **Bedford, Taylor County Public Health**, \$3,000 to fund dental screening/fluoride varnish start-up kits and dental puppets to collaborative partners in Adams, Montgomery, Page, and Taylor counties.

- **Clinton, Mercy Medical Center**, \$6,652 to provide dental equipment for the Gateway Free Dental Clinic program.
- **Davenport, Edgerton Women’s Health Center**, \$3,000 to provide single-finger swabs to families with infants to improve infant oral health care.
- **Des Moines, Broadlawns Medical Center**, \$3,500 to fund dental equipment.
- **Des Moines, Mercy Foundation**, \$1,300 for toothpaste for children that attend the Clowns at the Carousel event in Des Moines.
- **Des Moines, Visiting Nurse Services (VNS)**, \$3,000 to provide oral health education kits to families participating in VNS Maternal & Child Health Program, Health Start, Empowerment Family Support Programs, and Empowerment Parent Education Program.
- **Des Moines, Youth Law Center**, \$3,000 to fund oral health educational kits through community service providers and the juvenile court system.
- **Forest City, Winnebago County Public Health**, \$500 for dental education materials and prevention products.
- **Hiawatha, Hawkeye Area Community Action Program (HACAP) – Linn County**, \$3,000 to fund I-Smile outreach activities.
- **Iowa City, Iowa Chapter of the American Student Dental Association**, \$5,000 to provide trauma kits and training, as well funding for a meth abuse prevention program.
- **Iowa City, University of Iowa College of Dentistry – Pediatric Department**, \$10,000 to fund research on pediatric dentistry.
- **Marshalltown, Mid-Iowa Community Action**, \$3,239 to provide I-Smile program education sessions for dental staff in six counties (Benton, Boon, Hardin, Marshall, Story, & Tama).
- **Mason City, Mercy Medical Center Foundation – North Iowa**, \$5,000 to fund laboratory fees for clinic patients at the free community dental clinic.
- **Mason City, North Iowa Community Action Organization**, \$7,835 to purchase dental equipment for the expansion of screenings for students in nine counties in North-Central Iowa.
- **Storm Lake, United Community Health Center**, \$5,500 to purchase a patient education kiosk.

For more information about Delta Dental of Iowa's Public Benefit Program, visit the company's Web site at www.deltadentalia.com.

Delta Dental of Iowa supports a number of community benefit programs as part of its not-for-profit mission to improve the oral health of Iowans. In 2007, the company contributed more than \$605,000 to oral health projects in Iowa, benefiting underserved populations such as the elderly, uninsured, Medicaid patients and children. Delta Dental of Iowa, the largest and most experienced provider of dental benefits in the state, is a member of the Delta Dental Plans Association, a national organization of not-for-profit Delta Dental member companies. The national association is the largest dental benefits carrier in the nation, providing coverage to more than 50 million people in nearly 88,000 employer groups.

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