



For Immediate Release

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DELTA DENTAL AWARDS MINI-GRANTS TO ORAL HEALTH PROJECTS

ANKENY, IA. November 2, 2006 -- Delta Dental of Iowa has awarded \$75,000 in mini-grants to 14 public health projects in nine Iowa communities. This is the second distribution of \$75,000 this year for Delta Dental mini-grants, which are part of the company's Public Benefit Program to improve the oral health of Iowans.

"Delta Dental established the mini-grants program this year to help meet the short-term needs of oral health projects throughout Iowa," said Donn Hutchins, president and CEO, Delta Dental of Iowa. "This distribution, in response to our second round of grants, brings the total to \$150,000 in support of short-term oral health projects throughout the state—many of which have immediate impact on children and the elderly."

Delta Dental mini-grant recipients include:

Des Moines – Broadlawns Medical Center, to increase oral health access for nursing home residents; Lutheran Services, for refugee interpretation services related to oral health services; Visiting Nurse Services, for portable family dentistry services.

Iowa City – Iowa Chapter of Pediatrics, for oral health mentoring and training for primary health care providers; University of Iowa, College of Dentistry, for student training to treat nursing home patients; College of Dentistry, to survey dental care among pregnant women

Marshalltown – Mid-Iowa Community Action, for oral health training for certified nursing assistants at nursing facilities.

Mason City – Mercy Medical Center, for supplies for North Iowa Dental Clinic.

Missouri Valley – St. Patrick's School, for oral hygiene materials for preschoolers.

Muscatine – Muscatine Center for Social Action, for a community-wide dental education program.

Ottumwa – River Hills Community Health Center, for x-ray equipment for an oral health and education partnership; Southern Iowa Economic Development, for HeadStart and parent education.

Okoboji – Lakes Area Empowerment, for in-home health and parent education programs.

Washington – Washington Co. Public Health, for elderly dental outreach.

For more information about the Delta Dental of Iowa mini-grants program, visit the company's website 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. The company is the largest and most experienced provider of dental benefits in the state. The Iowa company 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 47 million people in nearly 81,000 employer groups.

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