

NEWSRELEASE



Because every child deserves a healthy smile™

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The National Children's Oral Health Foundation Announces \$170,500 in Grant Awards for Critical Oral Healthcare Initiatives for Economically Disadvantaged Children

(Charlotte, NC—December 30, 2008) The National Children's Oral Health Foundation (NCOHF) recently awarded grants totaling \$170,500 to 16 not-for-profit community, university, and hospital-based dental programs nationwide. Facilities are members of NCOHF's national Affiliate network, dedicated to delivering comprehensive oral health treatment and preventive educational services to millions of economically disadvantaged children and their families.

Fern Ingber, NCOHF's President and CEO, expressed her enthusiasm about the projects and gratitude to NCOHF's supporters, stating, "These innovative grants to our NCOHF Affiliates will help to break the cycle of suffering from pediatric dental disease for thousands of vulnerable children. Funding will continue to help remove barriers to access quality preventive oriented oral health services. We are grateful to our Toothfairy Grant makers who share our passion to eliminate this painful and debilitating disease. These extraordinary major donors include: **Patterson Dental, Wells Fargo/Matsco, Heraeus, Dentsply, Centrix Dental, Zenith Dental, Dr. Mitch Conditt, Dr. Cherilyn Sheets, Dr. Gordon Christensen, Scottsdale Center for Dentistry CEO Imtiaz Manji, and Scottsdale President Dr. Glen Wysel and Lisa Wysel,**

One third of U.S. children suffer from serious oral health problems that negatively impact their ability to eat, sleep, and learn. Discolored, decayed and abscessed teeth not only affect children's appearance, they are painful and can result in severe psychological, social, and economic consequences. Left untreated, severe conditions have even caused death.

"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.

The National Children's Oral Health Foundation (NCOHF) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, established with the sole purpose of eliminating the #1 chronic childhood illness: pediatric dental disease, and promoting innovative educational and preventive treatment programs for millions of children with little or no health care coverage. Supporting a growing network of nonprofit community based programs and dental school clinics, NCOHF is dedicated to raising awareness of this debilitating disease, facilitating much-needed comprehensive pediatric oral health solutions, and eliminating preventable pediatric dental disease from future generations.

For more information on the National Children's Oral Health Foundation, please visit www.AmericasToothfairy.org.

Grant awards:

University of North Carolina School of Dentistry
Chapel Hill, North Carolina \$15,000

San Gabriel Valley Foundation for Dental Health
La Puente, California \$10,000

Indiana University School of Dentistry
Indianapolis, Indiana \$15,000

United Methodist Mexican-American Ministries
Garden City, Kansas \$10,000

Valley Community Clinic
North Hollywood, California \$10,000

Community Oral Health Services
Salinas, California \$10,000

Washington State Smile Partners
Bainbridge Island, Washington \$12,000

PrairieStar Health Center
Hutchinson, Kansas \$10,000

St. Joseph Hospital's Puente a la Salud
Orange, California \$15,000

Gateway to Oral Health Foundation
Olivette, Missouri \$15,000

Sonrisas Community Dental Center
Half Moon Bay, California \$12,000

Catholic Healthcare West
Chandler, Arizona \$10,000

The Children's Dental Center
Inglewood, California \$10,000

Family First Health
York, Pennsylvania \$12,500

Primary Health Care
Des Moines, Iowa \$2,000

A Fluoride Connection Non Profit Corporation
Madison, Wisconsin \$2,000

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