



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Delta Dental Foundation Awarded \$13,500 in Smiles for Kids Grants to the Orange County Health Department Dental Clinic Since 2011**

*The 2019 Smiles for Kids grant will help purchase new hygiene hand piece systems*

**Hillsborough, NC (June 19, 2019)** – The Orange County Health Department Dental Clinic received a \$4,000 Smiles for Kids grant from the [Delta Dental Foundation](#) (DDF) to purchase new hygiene hand piece systems that will allow them to keep up with the demands of their growing patient population. The population that will benefit from this grant are uninsured and need the preventive care that is a cornerstone of the Orange County Health Department Dental Clinic’s services.

“We are very grateful to the Delta Dental Foundation for providing us with continued funding to bring new and innovative products into our clinic,” said Dr. Stephanie George. “We want the perception of public health dentistry to be of routine care and early conservative treatment, rather than a clinic where teeth are pulled and oral hygiene and education take a backseat. Thus, by purchasing equipment that is crucial to preventive care, we can continue to be a leader in promoting this approach to public health dentistry.”

The Delta Dental Foundation focuses on ensuring that children and adults in North Carolina receive high-quality oral health education and dental care. The grant received by the Orange County Health Department Dental Clinic is one of 19 grants totaling \$70,000 that DDNC is donating to North Carolina oral health organizations and programs. This is the fifth year that the Orange County Health Department Dental Clinic has received a Smiles for Kids grant, totaling \$13,500 since 2011. Grant recipients were selected based on criteria that included the number of at-risk children served, the uniqueness of the program, the level of community involvement in the program and the ability to measure results.

“The Delta Dental Foundation is committed to promoting good oral health habits and providing better access to quality dental care for those who are underserved in our state,” said Curt Ladig, president and CEO of Delta Dental of North Carolina. “Supporting the work of the Orange County Health Department Dental Clinic can help ensure that more children receive the care they need and are educated about the importance of good oral health to grow up healthy and be successful in school and in life.”

**About Orange County Health Department Dental Clinic**

Having healthy teeth and gums is an important part of overall good health. At the Orange County Health Department's Dental Clinic, we not only take care of routine dental needs, we also help individuals and families establish good dental habits that will last a lifetime. For more information, visit <http://www.orangecountync.gov/departments/health>.

**About the Delta Dental Foundation**

The Delta Dental Foundation is a nonprofit, charitable organization established in 1980, which serves as the philanthropic arm of Delta Dental of Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, and North Carolina. The foundation's goals are to support education and research for the advancement of dental science, and to promote the oral health of the public through education and service activities, particularly for those with special needs. For more information, visit [www.deltadentalnc.com](http://www.deltadentalnc.com).

**About Delta Dental of North Carolina**

Delta Dental of North Carolina is a nonprofit dental service corporation created in 1970 to provide dental benefits throughout the state. Its mission is to improve the oral health of the communities it serves. It does so by providing affordable access to oral health care with the largest network of providers, including two out of every three dentists, in North Carolina.

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