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NEWS ALERT: DELTA DENTAL FOUNDATION SEEKS APPLICATIONS FOR 2023 GRANTS

The Smiles for Kids grant application is open to organizations that promote and provide oral care for children

RALEIGH, N.C. – October 10, 2022 – The Delta Dental Foundation (DDF) is seeking applications from community-based oral health nonprofit programs and organizations in North Carolina for its 2023 Smiles for Kids grants program.

This year, DDF will award up to \$130,000 to organizations across the state that specifically focus on children's oral health, particularly among populations who are underserved. This is a 50% increase in giving from last year and the largest year of giving to date!

"Tooth decay is the most common, chronic childhood disease, and children in North Carolina are three times more likely to miss school due to oral health-related issues," said Curt Ladig, chief executive officer of Delta Dental of North Carolina. "This year, we are delighted that our level of available funding has grown so that we might help more children who are lacking in resources receive better access to dental care and oral health education." Over the last 11 years, the Foundation has received applications from and granted awards to organizations representing 40% of the counties in North Carolina. "I would like to see the Smiles for Kids program grow to impact oral health initiatives in all 100 counties in the state," said Ladig.

Upon submission, the Delta Dental Foundation will evaluate each application based on factors such as the program's focus on children, potential value to the community, measurable results and the level of local community support it attracts.

Applications will be accepted beginning Monday, October 10, 2022 through Sunday, January 8, 2023. For applications, grant guidelines and more details, visit www.deltadentalnc.com/smilesforkids.

About Delta Dental Foundation

The Delta Dental Foundation (DDF) 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 DDF is dedicated to developing and enhancing partnerships and programs to improve oral and overall health and health equity. For more information, visit www.deltadental.foundation

About Delta Dental of North Carolina

For more than 50 years, Delta Dental of North Carolina has championed healthy smiles across the state as North Carolina's leading dental insurer. A member of the Delta Dental Plans Association, DDNC is part of the largest dental insurance network in the nation, covering more than 80 million Americans. DDNC is pleased to provide both dental and now vision insurance administered by VSP® Vision Care to businesses as part of their employee benefits, and directly to individuals and families. Our mission is to improve the oral health and the overall well-being of the communities we serve. Learn more about Delta Dental of North Carolina at www.deltadentalnc.com/deltavision.