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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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# DELTA DENTAL OF VIRGINIA FOUNDATION AWARDS GRANTS TO 30 VIRGINIA ORGANIZATIONS COMMITTED TO IMPROVING ORAL HEALTH IN 2017

Annual Grant Program Increases Access to Oral Health Care and Education for Underserved Virginians

**ROANOKE, Virginia**—Feb. 15, 2017 – The Delta Dental of Virginia Foundation believes in the power of a healthy smile and has put its money where its mouth is, supporting 30 organizations committed to improving oral health in the Commonwealth.

Since its creation in 2012, the Delta Dental of Virginia Foundation has provided \$3,653,000 to 51 (unduplicated) Virginia non-profit organizations. In 2015 alone, these grant award recipients were able to provide dental care and education to more than 157,000 in our state who had previously been unable to afford or access care.

In December 2016, grants totaling \$231,500 were awarded to 30, 501(c)(3), tax exempt organizations whose work will positively improve the oral health of Virginians through education and access to care for the under or uninsured in 2017. (Full list of grant recipients attached.)

The Delta Dental of Virginia Foundation works to fulfill its mission of improving the oral health of Virginians through a community-based approach that provides grants to local organizations for research, educational outreach and programs that provide access to care.

"Over and over again we have seen the inspiring changes that can happen in a person's life with proper oral care," said Dr. George A. Levicki, president and CEO, Delta Dental of Virginia Foundation. "By providing funding to these organizations that are making a difference in their communities, we can help bring healthier, confident smiles to an increasing number of Virginians in need."

The Virginia Health Care Foundation (VHCF) has been a big beneficiary of the Delta Dental of Virginia Foundation grants. Previously awarded a \$1 million matching grant over the past three years to establish dental safety net organizations in Virginia communities where access to dental care is lacking, VHCF has received an additional \$35,000 this year to continue growing this program, training providers and developing new initiatives.

Many of the 30 grants awarded focus on key areas of need throughout Virginia – the state's youth, the uninsured and medically underserved population and dental professionals in training. Community

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organizations such as the Boys & Girls Clubs of Southwest Virginia and the Virginia Peninsula, who combined served more than 370 children in 2015 with Foundation grants, will continue providing much-needed dental appointments and education for children in need.

Low-income, uninsured Virginians will receive expanded access to dental care through grant recipients such as CrossOver Healthcare Ministry and Free Clinic of Central Virginia. Additionally, four universities and non-profit organizations received grants totaling \$32,500 for oral health education and expansion of care through scholarships and workstations for aspiring health professionals.

Organizations eligible to receive grants from the Delta Dental of Virginia Foundation include governmental agencies or educational institutions, entities holding a 501(c)(3) tax-exemption, or organizations with a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt fiscal sponsor. The Foundation was created with an initial \$2.5 million donation from Delta Dental of Virginia in 2012. Information regarding grant eligibility and application can be found online at <a href="http://deltadentalva.com/ddvafoundation.aspx">http://deltadentalva.com/ddvafoundation.aspx</a>.

#### 2017 DDVAF Oral Health Grant Recipients

Grant Recipient	How The Grant Will Be Used	Amount
Boys & Girls Clubs of Southwest Virginia	Smart Smiles® At the Dentist Program	\$5,000
http://bgcswva.org/		
Boys & Girls Clubs of The Virginia Peninsula	Smart Smiles® At the Dentist Program	\$5,000
http://www.bagclub.com/		
Bradley Free Clinic	Support of VCU dental students	\$15,000
http://bradleyfreeclinic.com/		
Chesapeake Care Clinic	Safety net program for underinsured	\$5,000
http://www.chesapeakecare.org/		
CHIP of Roanoke Valley	Fluoride varnish application/in-home	\$5,000
http://www.chiprv.org/	dental education	
Community Health Center of the New River Valley	Dental equipment	\$10,000
http://chcnrv.org/		
Community Youth Program	Oral hygiene education, dental	\$4,000
http://stjohnsroanoke.org/cyp/cyp.php	appointments and transportation	
CrossOver Healthcare Ministry	Dental services and supplies	\$5,000
http://www.crossoverministry.org/index.php/about-		
us/programs/		

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Danville Community College	Dental hygiene student workstations	\$5,000
http://www.dcc.vccs.edu/	, 5	
Free Clinic of Central Virginia <a href="http://www.freeclinicva.org/">http://www.freeclinicva.org/</a>	Expansion of access to dental services for low income, uninsured or underinsured	\$15,000
Free Clinic of Franklin County <a href="http://www.bernardhealthcare.com/">http://www.bernardhealthcare.com/</a>	Emergency extractions	\$2,500
Gloucester-Mathews Care Clinic <a href="http://www.gmcareclinic.com/">http://www.gmcareclinic.com/</a>	Dental assistant to expand hours and see more patients	\$5,000
Health Focus of Southwest Virginia <a href="http://healthfocusswva.org/scholarships/">http://healthfocusswva.org/scholarships/</a>	Dental education scholarships	\$5,000
Isle of Wight Christian Outreach Program <a href="http://www.iowcop.org/">http://www.iowcop.org/</a>	Expand dental program	\$5,000
Lackey Free Clinic <a href="http://lackeyclinic.org/">http://lackeyclinic.org/</a>	Dental supplies	\$5,000
Lloyd F. Moss Free Clinic <a href="http://lloydfmossfreeclinic.org/">http://lloydfmossfreeclinic.org/</a>	Dental supplies	\$5,000
Lucy Corr Foundation <a href="http://www.lucycorrvillage.com/foundation/">http://www.lucycorrvillage.com/foundation/</a>	Expand dental care to elderly	\$10,000
Mel Leaman Free Clinic <a href="http://melleamanfreeclinic.org/">http://melleamanfreeclinic.org/</a>	Dental supplies	\$5,000
Northern Neck Free Health Clinic <a href="http://nnmfhc.org/">http://nnmfhc.org/</a>	Support of VCU dental students	\$7,500
Northern Virginia Dental Clinic, Inc. http://www.nvds.org/northern-virginia-dental-clinic	Dental supplies	\$7,500
Olde Towne Medical & Dental Center <a href="http://www.oldetownemedicalcenter.org/">http://www.oldetownemedicalcenter.org/</a>	Dental equipment	\$5,000
Park Place Dental Clinic <a href="http://www.parkplaceclinic.org/">http://www.parkplaceclinic.org/</a>	Dental supplies	\$5,000
Piedmont Regional Dental Clinic http://www.vaprdc.org/	Support for "Smile Time", a school-based dental check-up program	\$5,000
		\$7,500

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Piedmont Virginia Dental Health Foundation http://www.piedmontdental.org/	Support for dental clinic providing services to low income adults and children	
RAM of Virginia <a href="https://ramusa.org/virginia/">https://ramusa.org/virginia/</a>	Support for "Smiles Across Virginia" program	\$5,000
Rescue Mission of Roanoke <a href="http://rescuemission.net/">http://rescuemission.net/</a>	Support for dental clinic providing services to low income adults	\$10,000
Virginia Dental Association Foundation <a href="http://www.vdaf.org/">http://www.vdaf.org/</a>	Mobile dental equipment replacement	\$15,000
Virginia Health Care Foundation http://www.vhcf.org/	Dental Opportunities Champion	\$35,000
Virginia Oral Health Coalition <a href="http://www.vaoralhealth.org/HOME.aspx">http://www.vaoralhealth.org/HOME.aspx</a>	Online toolkits for medical and dental providers on the importance of oral health care during pregnancy	\$7,500
Western Tidewater Free Clinic https://www.wtfreeclinic.org/	Dental supplies	\$5,000

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