



Delta Dental of Virginia Foundation

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NEWS RELEASE

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DELTA DENTAL OF VIRGINIA FOUNDATION AWARDS \$475,000 IN GRANTS FOR 2016

More than 164,000 Under or Uninsured Virginians Received Dental Care through Grant Program in 2014

ROANOKE, Virginia--January 27, 2016 – Smiles across Virginia will be brighter and healthier in 2016 thanks to the Delta Dental of Virginia Foundation and 18 organizations committed to improving oral health in the Commonwealth.

In December 2015, grants totaling \$475,000 were awarded to 18, 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.

The Delta Dental of Virginia Foundation works to fulfill its mission of improving Virginians' oral and, thus, whole body health through a community-based approach that provides grants to local organizations working to help those in need.

“Our challenge is to find ways to make the biggest impact on improving oral health for the underserved,” said George A. Levicki, president and CEO, Delta Dental of Virginia Foundation. “By providing much needed funding, local organizations can focus more time and effort on delivering oral health education and care to our most vulnerable citizens.”

Since its creation in 2012, the Delta Dental of Virginia Foundation provided \$3,653,000 to 44 (unduplicated) Virginia non-profit organizations. In 2014 alone, these grant award recipients were able to provide dental care to more than 96,349 children and 67,977 adults who had previously been unable to afford or access care.

Money from this year's grants will provide for dental supplies and equipment, dental services, delivery of care, dentures and school-based education programs.

Among the success stories is the work done by the Virginia Health Care Foundation (VHCF). The Delta Dental of Virginia Foundation awarded VHCF a \$1 million grant paid over three years to establish dental safety net organizations in Virginia communities where access to dental care is lacking. In the three years since the challenge was issued, VHCF has funded the establishment of seven dental safety net

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clinics in localities that had none, and the expansion of three smaller dental safety net operations in three other localities. In all, these clinics have provided dental treatment to more than 5,800 patients via 16,883 visits.

Five universities and non-profit organizations received grants for oral health education and expansion of care through scholarships for aspiring health professionals. In 2012, Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) School of Dentistry received a \$500,000 grant to be paid over four years for dental scholarships designed to address the shortage of dental professionals. Seventeen dental students have benefitted from the scholarships so far.

Additionally, the Virginia Tech-Carilion School of Medicine received a \$1 million grant paid over four years to endow the Oral Health Teaching curriculum; 207 medical students have been through the program to date. VTC School of Medicine was the first in the nation to provide an extensive oral health component for its students through its innovative partnership with the Delta Dental of Virginia Foundation.

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 <http://deltadentalva.com/ddvafoundation.aspx>.

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2016 DDVAF Oral Health Grant Recipients

Grant Recipient	Program	Amount
Boys & Girls Clubs of Southwest Virginia	Smart Smiles at the Dentist™ Program	\$2,500
Boys & Girls Clubs of The Virginia Peninsula	Smart Smiles at the Dentist™ Program	\$5,000
Bradley Free Clinic (Roanoke)	Support of VCU dental students and upgrade to digital imaging equipment	\$15,000
CHIP of Roanoke Valley	Launch Begin with a Grin program	\$5,000
Crossover Healthcare Ministry (Richmond)	Dental services	\$5,000
Danville Pittsylvania Community Services	Dentures and denture-related oral health services	\$3,000
Free Clinic of Central Virginia	Dental supplies and support of VCU dental students	\$5,000
Gloucester-Mathews Free Clinic	Expansion of dental services for patients needing dentures	\$5,000
Gochland Free Clinic and Family Services	Expansion of Preventive Dental Services	\$5,000
Northern Neck Free Health Clinic, Inc.	Support of VCU dental students	\$5,000
Olivet Medical Ministries (Aka) Lackey Free Clinic (Williamsburg)	Dental supplies	\$5,000
Piedmont Regional Dental Clinic	Expansion-Smile Time school-based exams to Greene County School District	\$5,000
The Rescue Mission of Roanoke, Inc.	2 curing lights and 4 laptops for Fralin Clinic	\$4,500
Virginia Health Care Foundation	Dental Opportunities Champion	\$20,000
Virginia Oral Health Coalition	Online toolkits for medical and dental providers on the importance of oral health care during pregnancy	\$5,000
Williamsburg Area Medical Assistance Corporation Dba Olde Towne Medical & Dental Center	New autoclave to sterilize instruments and additional dental supplies.	\$5,000
VCU School of Dentistry	Scholarship funds	\$125,000
Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine	Endow Delta Dental Oral Health Teaching curriculum	\$250,000