

**DELTA DENTAL OF VIRGINIA FOUNDATION
AWARDS \$716,000 IN GRANTS FOR 2014**

Thirty Virginia-based organizations receive funding to improve oral health across Commonwealth

ROANOKE, Virginia – January 24, 2014 – The Delta Dental of Virginia Foundation is giving 30 oral health organizations and educational institutions something to smile about in 2014.

In December 2013, grants totaling \$716,000 were awarded to 501(c)(3), tax exempt organizations whose work positively improves the oral health of Virginians through education, expansion of access to care for the under or uninsured or research to advance oral health.

The focus of this year's grants is on funding for free and community-based health clinics and dental safety net programs, public oral health education initiatives and dental curricula at Virginia universities. (See full listing by region below.)

“By providing much-needed funding to these 30 fine organizations, their focus can be on meeting the oral health needs of their communities, delivering public oral health information and educating future dental professionals instead of worrying about how to keep the lights on,” said George A. Levicki, president and CEO, Delta Dental of Virginia Foundation. “Our challenge is to find ways to make the biggest impact on improving oral, and thus, whole body health of Virginians. We look forward to seeing positive results from these organizations in the coming year.”

In 2013, Delta Dental of Virginia Foundation grant award recipients were able to provide dental care to more than 8,124 children and 21,528 adults who had previously been unable to access care.

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.

The next grant application period will be held June 1 through September 30, 2014 with grants being awarded in December 2014. Information regarding grant eligibility and application can be found online <http://deltadentalva.com/ddvafoundation.aspx>.

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