



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Delta Dental of North Carolina
4242 Six Forks Road
Suite 970
Raleigh, NC 27609

Contact:
Elaine Loyack
ELoyack@DeltaDentalNC.com
(919) 424-1044

Delta Dental Foundation Awards \$4,400 Smiles for Kids Grant to the Columbus County Health Department

Whiteville, NC (May 7, 2018) –The Columbus County Health Department received a \$4,400 Smiles for Kids grant from the Delta Dental Foundation (DDF) to purchase new dental equipment for their mobile dental clinic that will support their “Put a Smile on Your Face” oral health program.

The Columbus County Health Department’s mobile dental clinic will be offering free and low-cost dental services in the form of dental exams, cleanings, and further dental work for approximately 750 Columbus County children and teens. The “Put a Smile on Your Face” program merges education, preventative care, and treatment to give those who are served the best ability to develop healthy habits.

“The Columbus County Health Department is very excited to use this Delta Dental Foundation Smiles for Kids grant to provide dental screenings and services to some of our community’s most vulnerable students who otherwise may not be able to afford it,” said Columbus County Health Education Director Daniel Buck. “These funds will allow us to provide them with the care that they need, as well as allow us to educate them on the importance of good oral health practices. We look forward to ensuring increased access to affordable care to more students in our county.”

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 Columbus County Health Department is one of 19 grants totaling \$65,800 that DDF is donating to North Carolina oral health organizations and programs. 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.

“We are proud that the work being done by the Columbus County Health Department has been recognized by the Delta Dental Foundation,” said Curt Ladig, president and CEO of Delta Dental of North Carolina. “By increasing access to dental care, we can help improve the oral and overall health and well-being of children and teens by preventing serious health issues down the road.”

About the Columbus County Health Department

The mission of the Columbus County Health Department is to prevent disease, promote health and protect the environment for all citizens, and to continually assess and respond to the health needs of the community as a whole. For more information, visit www.columbusco.org.

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.

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.

###