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Delta Dental Foundation Awards \$2,000 Smiles For Kids Grant To The Orange County Health Department Dental Clinic

Hillsborough, NC (April 17, 2018) – The Orange County Health Department Dental Clinic received a \$2,000 Smiles for Kids grant from the [Delta Dental Foundation](#) (DDF) to utilize the alternative, painless technique for treating childhood caries known as Silver Diamine Fluoride (SDF) for 75 children. The children who benefit from this grant are uninsured and otherwise would not have funding to pay for the provided dental health service.

“SDF has been suggested for difficult-to-treat lesions and patients with high caries risk, including those with medical or behavioral complications, those who require multiple treatment visits, or those without access to dental care.”¹

“We are exceedingly grateful to the Delta Dental Foundation for providing us with continued funding to bring new and innovative products into our clinic. We look forward to incorporating Silver Diamine Fluoride into practice as a great option for our families who have children with dental decay.”

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 Orange County Health Department Dental Clinic is one of 19 grants totaling \$65,800 that DDNC is donating to North Carolina oral health organizations and programs. This is the fourth year that the Orange County Health Department Dental Clinic has received a Smiles for Kids grant. 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 pleased that the Delta Dental Foundation is providing funding to the Orange County Health Department Dental Clinic,” said Curt Ladig, president and CEO of Delta Dental of North Carolina.

“Children miss 51 million hours of school every year because of oral health related issues, and tooth decay is the most common chronic childhood disease today. Supporting the work of this organization can help ensure that more children receive the care they need to grow up healthy and be successful in school and in life.”

¹ Contreras, V., Toro, M. J., Elías-Boneta, A. R., & Encarnación-Burgos, A. (2017). Effectiveness of silver diamine fluoride in caries prevention and arrest: a systematic literature review. *General Dentistry*, 65(3), 22–29.

About Orange County Health Department Dental Clinic

Having healthy teeth and gums is an important part of overall good health. At the Orange County Health Department's Dental Clinic, we not only take care of routine dental needs, we also help individuals and families establish good dental habits that will last a lifetime. For more information, visit <http://www.orangecountync.gov/departments/health>.

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.

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