



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Delta Dental of Illinois Foundation Accepting Applications for Community Grants Program

Eligible Organizations Encouraged to Apply by Sept. 5

NAPERVILLE, Ill. (August 1, 2017) – Illinois organizations may begin applying for grants to fund programs and services that improve the oral health of children in our state. Delta Dental of Illinois Foundation, the 501(c)(3) philanthropic arm of Delta Dental of Illinois, will accept applications for its annual Community Grants Program from Aug. 1 through Sept. 5, 2017.

The Foundation will award grants of up to \$10,000 to programs and organizations that work to improve Illinois children's access to oral health care and provide oral health education and awareness. This year, a total of \$175,000 in grants will be awarded. Criteria and an online application are available at ddilfoundation.org/grantreq.aspx.

Since 2013, the Delta Dental of Illinois Foundation has awarded more than \$600,000 through the Community Grants Program. Last year, the Foundation awarded 18 organizations more than \$150,000 in grants. The grant recipients used the funds to support mobile dental programs, purchase dental hygiene equipment and tools, support the hiring of dental professionals and provide much needed dental care and education to underserved children.

"Too many children in Illinois don't receive the dental care they need, and therefore, suffer from untreated cavities and more serious oral health problems," said Lora Vitek, director of philanthropy and community relations for Delta Dental of Illinois Foundation. "Fortunately, there are many great organizations and programs throughout the state that share our mission to improve children's oral health. We are honored to partner with these organizations and help support their work to eliminate dental disease, as well as advance the overall health and well-being of Illinois children."

Grant applicants must have a physical presence in the state of Illinois; be a public charity classified as exempt from federal income taxes under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code; or be a public or governmental entity such as a public school or health department. To learn more about the Delta Dental of Illinois Community Grants Program or to support the Foundation, please visit deltadentalil.com/ddilfoundation.

About Delta Dental of Illinois Foundation

The Delta Dental of Illinois Foundation was formed in March 2008 by Delta Dental of Illinois, a not-for-profit dental service corporation with a mission to improve the oral health of the communities it serves. Delta Dental of Illinois Foundation is the 501(c)(3) charitable arm of Delta Dental of Illinois and works to support and improve the oral health of people in Illinois. In the past decade, combined efforts of Delta Dental of Illinois and Delta Dental of Illinois Foundation have provided more than \$3 million to programs and organizations in Illinois that improve the oral health of the residents of Illinois.

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