



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Delta Dental of Illinois Foundation accepting applications for \$100,000 Wisdom Tooth Award
Eligible Illinois organizations encouraged to apply by May 13

NAPERVILLE, Ill. (March 16, 2015) – The Delta Dental of Illinois Foundation, the 501(c)(3) charitable arm of Delta Dental of Illinois, is accepting applications for its annual Wisdom Tooth Award. The \$100,000 annual award recognizes one Illinois nonprofit organization that has made a significant impact on improving the oral health of Illinois children. Eligible organizations must have an established program that provides oral health education and/or access to oral health resources and care.

“Through the Wisdom Tooth Award, the Delta Dental of Illinois Foundation furthers its mission to help improve the oral and overall health of Illinois children,” said Craig C. Grannon, chair of the Delta Dental of Illinois Foundation Board of Directors. “This prestigious award allows us to fund a program that is committed to advancing oral health care access and education, particularly among children and their caregivers, in our state.”

The recipient of the 2014 Wisdom Tooth Award was St. Bernard Hospital Dental Center. Located in the Chicago Englewood community, the dental center provides comprehensive oral health care to children living in impoverished, underserved communities on the South Side of Chicago and throughout Illinois. The Delta Dental of Illinois Foundation’s \$100,000 award allowed the dental center to purchase essential supplies, as well as add another dentist to focus on caring for children with special needs.

Applications for the 2015 award will be accepted until 5 p.m. Central Standard Time on May 13, 2015. The Wisdom Tooth Award recipient will be announced this summer. The organization that receives the award has up to two years to use the grant money.

Criteria and an online application are available at deltadentalil.com/ddilfoundation/wisdom-tooth-award. Illinois public charities that are classified as exempt from federal income taxes under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and public or governmental entities, such as public schools or health departments, are eligible and encouraged to apply.

To learn more about the Delta Dental of Illinois Foundation's programs, please visit deltadentalil.com/ddilfoundation.

About Delta Dental of Illinois Foundation

The Delta Dental of Illinois Foundation (DDILF), a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, was formed in March 2008 by Delta Dental of Illinois (DDIL), a not-for-profit dental service corporation with a mission to improve the oral health of the communities it serves. DDILF is the charitable arm of DDIL and works to support and improve the oral health of people in Illinois through its in-house programs and grant making to Illinois organizations. In the past decade, combined efforts of DDIL and DDILF have provided more than \$2 million to programs and organizations that provide oral health education and expand access to oral health care for Illinois residents.

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