Delta Dental of Arizona Foundation Mission

“To support the improvement of oral health” for communities and residents of Arizona is the mission of the Delta Dental of Arizona Foundation. Since 1997, the Foundation has focused resources across the state promoting oral health and preventing dental disease.

Grant Making Focus

Oral health is a part of a person’s overall general health. A healthy mouth is important at the earliest ages and throughout life as a predictor of well-being. Yet dental care remains the most frequently cited unmet health care issue for children in this country. A report published by the Pew Center on the States in February 2010; “The Cost of Delay: State Dental Policies Fail One in Five Children” outlines the barriers, obstacles and challenges resulting in 20% of children in the United States under age 19 going without dental care. Despite the fact that caries remain the number one childhood disease and it is five times more common than asthma and hay fever, states have failed to meet benchmarks and fully implement proven dental prevention approaches.

In Arizona children show significant levels of dental decay and limited access to adequate dental services. The consequences of this lack of access to and understanding of the importance of good oral health results in undue suffering, pain, decay, and disease effecting speech and language development, learning, attention in school, and increased absenteeism.

Supporting programs and services promoting good oral health practices and increasing access to safe and effective preventive measures is the goal of the Delta Dental of Arizona Foundation Grants Program. Grants are funded through the Foundation’s fundraising and outreach efforts, which also raise awareness about oral health and gain financial support from the community. It is the intention that this funding will:

• Help translate proven approaches into greater and more widespread practice;
• Foster innovative projects and programs, paving the way for new and creative approaches toward positive impact;
• Identify more effective ways to increase access to care to reach underserved and uninsured children and youth;
• Promote collaboration across a wide range of health providers in Arizona;
• Encourage and advance the integration of oral health and overall health.

Grants Overview

Delta Dental of Arizona Foundation Grants Program is designed to support communities and organizations statewide that focus on oral health promotion and dental disease prevention programs serving children and youth. This includes programs serving pregnant mothers, children and youth through age 18.
Types and Range of Grants

- Organizations may apply for one, two or three year grants ranging from $1,000 to $25,000.
- The Foundation provides the following types of support: Program, Capital, Equipment, Supplies, or Matching/Challenge Support.
- Organizations may submit only one proposal per organization.
- Organizations may apply for grants ranging from $1,000 to $25,000 in the following Program Areas:

I. Increased Access to Preventive Dental Health Services.
   Grants are considered for programs providing direct prevention services, oral health instruction, screenings, exams, education and/or training. These funds are not intended for restorative dental services (that is, the grant funds are not for fixing decayed teeth).

II. Community-Based Groups, Coalitions, and Partnerships Addressing Local Oral Health Projects.
   These grants can cover staffing and other costs for local, collaborative groups/coalitions offering oral health community activities. A few examples of eligible programs in these areas are:
   - Programs serving pregnant mothers specific to their oral hygiene
   - Programs providing oral health instruction and services to parents/caregivers for infant dental care
   - Programs increasing knowledge, awareness and/or screening for oral cancer, substance use or tobacco prevention for youth
   - Oral health coalition start-up and expansion in Arizona counties
   For more program examples please visit our website for a list of previously awards grants at www.deltadentalaz.com.com/foundation.

Who We Fund

The Foundation funds 501c3 organizations, public schools, federally recognized Indian tribes and their component agencies, and can make grants to governmental entities. Faith based organizations that are registered charities or incorporated not-for-profits are eligible to apply for Delta Dental of Arizona Foundation funding, provided the program or project is not religious in nature. The Foundation will consider grant requests from organizations in Arizona with 501c3 tax-exempt status from the IRS and in good standing with the Arizona Corporation Commission.

What We Fund

In general Delta Dental of Arizona Foundation favors grant requests that incorporate some or all of the following:
   - Demonstration of operational and financial stability
   - Active collaboration (when appropriate) among organizations, schools, dental and/or healthcare providers
   - Inclusion of diverse groups and cultural issues
   - Demonstration and reporting of measurable, meaningful outcomes
   - For dental screening program include a protocol that links individuals needing dental care with a source of dental care
   - Initiation of dental sealant programs or dental sealant services into existing programs, particularly in counties where none exist, and/or in schools where greater than 50% of the student population is on a free or reduced lunch program (FRL)
   - Meeting the criteria for submission of complete and timely Interim and Final Reports (applicable to previously funded organizations)
Who/What We Don’t Fund

- Individuals
- Restorative dental services
- Sponsorship or attendance at conferences
- Religious activities
- Reduction of organizational debt
- Direct lobbying or influencing of elections
- Duplication of existing services
- Fundraising campaigns and expenses

How to Apply

All applications materials are available on Delta Dental of Arizona Foundation’s website at http://www.deltadentalaz.com/foundation/community-grants/

Applications and all accompanying materials should be sent via email no later than **5:00 p.m., September 4, 2014**, to deltafoundation@deltadentalaz.com. Late applications will not be considered.

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<th>2015 Grant Cycle Timeline:</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>June 20, 2014</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Summer 2014</strong></td>
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<td><strong>September 4, 2014</strong></td>
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<td><strong>September 2014 – January 2015</strong></td>
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<td><strong>February 2, 2015</strong></td>
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The Foundation is pleased to offer Grants Workshops prior to the application deadline of September 4, 2014. The Grants Workshops are **strongly encouraged but not required.** The purpose of these Workshops is to benefit potential grantees by highlighting new information in the grants process, serving as a resource for grant ideas, and assisting with the grant application. “**Calling in**” (teleconferencing) to listen to the Workshop from a remote location will also be facilitated wherever possible on days that the workshops are given. For dates and locations of the Grants Workshops, please contact us or visit our website at https://www.deltadentalaz.com/foundation/.

The Foundation may request additional information and/or a site visit from applicants during the review process. Site visits may also be conducted by Foundation board and staff throughout the grant period. These visits are used to evaluate progress, obtain or gather information, and also to serve as a resource to the grantee.

If you need assistance in planning any segment of your proposed program or if you have questions regarding the instructions and application process, you are strongly encouraged to contact Judy White, Oral Health Program Officer, prior to submitting a full application. Ms. White welcomes your questions and she can be reached at 602-588-3923, or via email at jwhite@deltadentalaz.com.