



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Delta Dental of Arizona
5656 West Talavi Blvd
Glendale, AZ 85306

Contact: Linda Schmidt
Director of Marketing
lschmidt@deltadentalaz.com
Direct Phone: 602-588-3629

A Local Non-Profit Dental Insurance Company donates \$330,000 to their Foundation to support Oral Health Programs across Arizona

Glendale, AZ (March 20, 2008) – Delta Dental of Arizona (DDAZ) announces it will donate \$330,000 in 2008 to the Delta Dental of Arizona Foundation in support of their mission of helping children without dental insurance and providing oral health education in schools, health centers, clinics and community centers across the State. Approximately 38% of children throughout Arizona are without dental insurance, and this number is expected to increase with the recent downturn in the economy.

Delta Dental of Arizona was incorporated in 1972, and provides dental insurance for nearly half a million people through more than 1,200 employers sponsored plans. In **1997** the Board of Directors established their Foundation in order to better serve the community and to date DDAZ has donated more than **\$2.2 million**. “We have a challenging, yet exciting year ahead of us,” explained Dr. Sandi Perez, VP of Philanthropy and Community Relations for DDAZ. “We support a variety of prevention programs for children in three age groups: 0-5 years, 6-12, as well as the 13-18 year olds. We recognize the critical importance of starting young to develop healthy dental hygiene practices and its relationship to our children’s lifelong general health.

"Building from a 35 year history in Arizona and as oral health experts we understand and take our corporate social responsibility very seriously," said Bernard Glossy, President and CEO of DDAZ. "Our mission is to improve oral health throughout our state, which we accomplish in several ways. First, by offering high quality dental benefits to employer groups and individuals. Secondly, by investing back into our state and increasing access to oral health for families and children economically less fortunate. We strive to be a company that leads the state in critical oral health issues and in raising awareness about the relationship of good oral health to overall well being."



News Release

A few examples of the state-wide projects Delta Dental of Arizona supports include:

- Every Little Tooth Counts and other Fluoride Varnish programs
- Delta Dental Sealant™ Program - a school-based outreach where more than 10,000 teeth have been sealed
- The Arizona Meth Project
- Various dental clinics including: Dave Pratt Dental Clinic at Boys and Girls Club of Metro Phoenix, John C. Lincoln Children's Dental Clinic, St. Elizabeth's Health Center, St. Vincent de Paul Piper Dental Clinic
- Teeth-on-the-Go oral health curriculum kits

About Delta Dental of Arizona

Delta Dental of Arizona is the leading dental benefits provider in Arizona with the largest network of 2,800 dentists, servicing more than 4,500 locations. Passionate about oral health and its importance to generations of families, Delta Dental of Arizona has worked for over 35 years to improve oral health by emphasizing preventative care and making dental coverage accessible for a wide variety of employers, groups and individuals. Delta Dental of Arizona, in partnership with EyeMed, introduces DeltaVision, quality vision insurance plans that make maintaining healthy eyesight affordable. Quality dental, vision and FSA benefits are now available from a single, trusted source. For more information about Delta Dental of Arizona, please visit the website at www.deltadentalaz.com.

About Delta Dental of Arizona Foundation

Evidence-based prevention strategies that reduce oral disease such as fluoride varnish treatments, dental sealants, and oral health education are the focus of the Delta Dental of Arizona Foundation. Grants support programs providing fluoride varnish treatments for young children at risk for cavities. School-based programs reach children without dental insurance with dental screenings and sealants, and targeted initiatives affecting oral health in middle and high school aged students reduce at risk behaviors adversely affecting oral health. In the past decade, the Foundation has given back more than \$2.2 million to the community to combat oral disease in Arizona. For more information on the Foundation, please visit www.deltadentalaz.com/foundation.

###