Dear Friends and Partners:

On behalf of the Delta Dental of Illinois Foundation Board of Directors, I am pleased to present you with a summary of our exciting 2012 efforts on behalf of children’s oral health.

This year, we began building partnerships with organizations across the state and kicked off a new community grants program in which we funded 10 efforts seeking to enhance children’s oral health resources and programs. The Foundation also continued to grow the “Land of Smiles” oral health education program through visits to many more communities.

The recruitment of six new board members represents another big step for the Foundation. This new energy will help us further improve our programming and increase our reach to all areas of Illinois.

We are excited about all of our accomplishments and are passionate about the future efforts of the Foundation. Thank you to all those who have helped make partnerships possible and those who continue to advocate for improving children’s oral health in Illinois.

Sincerely,

Dr. Frank Maggio
Board Chair
Delta Dental of Illinois Foundation

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* Term begins in 2013
Improving Oral Health

The Delta Dental of Illinois Foundation (Foundation) is the 501(c)3 charitable arm of Delta Dental of Illinois (DDIL). In 2008, the Foundation was formed by DDIL to help emphasize its philanthropic commitment to oral health in Illinois.

Our mission is to improve oral health for residents of Illinois, with a specific focus on children.

Access to Oral Health Care

We partner with and provide support to Illinois organizations and programs that help expand access to oral health care, promote oral health education and increase community awareness of oral health issues. We are the Illinois oral health experts and a resource for oral health education, awareness and support.
Annually, Delta Dental of Illinois and the Foundation provide nearly 250,000 oral health kits, including toothbrushes, floss, toothpaste and oral health brochures, to Illinois residents and Delta Dental of Illinois members.
The Foundation believes that oral health education helps further our mission. Because childhood is the time when good dental habits begin and healthy teeth develop, we have several programs that focus on children’s education.

One is **Land of Smiles**, a free and fun children’s program geared to students from pre-kindergarten through third grade. The Tooth Wizard and his nemesis, PlaqueMan, have visited more than 200,000 children in elementary schools across the state, educating on the importance of good oral health.
In 2012:

- More than 120 schools in Illinois hosted the Land of Smiles program.
- More than 28,000 pre-kindergarten through third grade students heard our oral health message and received oral health kits that included a toothbrush, floss, toothpaste and dental hygiene tips. This is nearly a 10 percent increase in the number of children served from the previous year.
- The majority of teachers – 90 percent – reported their expectations were exceeded when asked if they were satisfied with the tools, information and resources from the Land of Smiles program.
- Students in pre-kindergarten through first grades were satisfied with the Land of Smiles program with 93.1 percent of children reporting, “I enjoyed the presentation” and 82.6 percent of students reporting they learned something new during the program.
- Students in second and third grades were also very satisfied with the Land of Smiles program with 90.8 percent of children reporting having “liked or mostly liked” the presentation.
- More than 200,000 Illinois children have received the Land of Smiles presentation since 2006.
Dentist By 1™ Program Launch

Children in Illinois don’t see their family dentist on average until they are 3 1/2 years old. It’s recommended, however, that a child should go to the dentist within six months of getting the first tooth – and no later than the first birthday. In response to this discrepancy, the Foundation, in partnership with DDIL, launched “Dentist By 1,” a statewide public service campaign to educate parents about the benefits of taking their children to the dentist by age 1 and to encourage them to schedule a visit.

By visiting the dentist by age 1, the child and parent can establish a relationship with a dentist, which can help set a foundation for a lifetime of good dental health care and habits. Young children can’t articulate the pain resulting from dental infection. An early visit can help detect any problems before the damage becomes so severe that it requires multiple dental visits, oral surgery or extractions.

In 2012, the Delta Dental of Illinois Foundation:

- Piloted the Dentist By 1 program as an answer to the need for early oral health literacy.
- Offered parents and caregivers the opportunity to pledge to take their child to the dentist, mailed oral health kits to their homes and made these tools available at dentistby1.com.
- Placed more than 15,000 Dentist By 1 educational pieces in the hands of expectant parents, new parents and caregivers throughout the state. These materials were offered free by request and continue to be available today.
- Continued to develop the Dentist By 1 program and laid the groundwork for expansion in 2013.
Community Grants Program Launch

In the past decade, the combined efforts of Delta Dental of Illinois and the Delta Dental of Illinois Foundation, its philanthropic arm, 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.

The Foundation awarded nearly $75,000 in grants to 10 organizations during 2012.

**Adams County Health Department**
The Foundation grant will allow the Adams County Health Department dental clinic to purchase a pediatric X-ray sensor for patients ages 6 and under. This project will serve up to 1,385 children ages 6 and under who are active in the dental clinic and children over age 6 who have trouble tolerating large sensors.

**Hancock County Health and Wellness Coalition**
Each year, the Hancock County Dental Center serves as the dental home for more than 3,000 children in Hancock and surrounding counties. The Foundation grant will allow the Hancock County Health and Wellness Coalition to purchase children’s dental equipment.

**Howard Area Community Center**
The Howard Area Community Center Children’s Dental Clinic is a year-round program that delivers oral health education and access to dental care for 200 Illinois children living below the poverty level. Funding will help support outreach and education efforts, as well as deliver screenings and develop treatment plans.

**Douglas County Health Department**
The Foundation grant will support a partnership between the Douglas County Health Department Dental Clinic and the Wellness on Wheels van, which will provide two trips to the Amish and Mennonite schools in Douglas and Moultrie counties. Children between the ages of 5 and 15 will receive education, exams, cleanings and referrals.

**The Children’s Place Association**
The Children’s Place Association serves children, youth and families confronted by HIV/AIDS or other life-changing health conditions. Funding will help provide dental health services for low-income preschool children enrolled in the agency’s Early Learning Center. The program will serve more than 65 children ages 2 to 5 years old.
Oak Park and River Forest Infant Welfare Society
The Foundation grant will support the Oak Park and River Forest Infant Welfare Society Children’s Clinic’s Portable Dentistry Program to provide preventive dental care to 1,000 elementary school students who would not otherwise have access to care.

Lake Land College
At the Lake Land College Dental Hygiene Clinic, student hygienists conduct oral exams, cleanings, X-rays and fluoride treatments under the supervision of instructors. The Foundation grant will allow the college to purchase a pediatric X-ray sensor and other equipment to more effectively serve approximately 255 children who visit the clinic for their oral health needs.

Little City Foundation
Little City Foundation’s Center for Health and Wellness Oral Health Program provides access to comprehensive, best practice oral health care and treatment for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Funding will enable Little City to purchase sensory materials and equipment necessary for the treatment of children with disabilities. Little City plans to serve more than 100 children in 2013.

McHenry County Cooperative Dental Clinic
The children’s education and oral health program at the McHenry County Cooperative Dental Clinic provides programs and services to low-income children and increases access to oral health services through its mobile dental equipment. The Foundation grant will support the Children’s Bi-lingual Oral Health Education and Prevention Program which aims to increase oral health literacy and participation in dental preventive services programs.

Riverbend Head Start & Family Services, Inc.
Riverbend Head Start & Family Services’ Oral Health Access project provides dental screenings, preventive care, cavity treatment and oral health education to children from birth to age 5, and expectant parents in Madison County. The Foundation grant will help provide access to oral health services for more than 1,000 low-income infants, toddlers, preschoolers and expectant parents through child development programs that promote school readiness.
Education for Oral Health Care Professionals

As part of our dedication to the future of dentistry, we offer grants to dental students at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) and Southern Illinois University (SIU) who exceed academically, exemplify professionalism in the management of providing patient care services, demonstrate interest in community outreach efforts, and have committed to practice in Illinois.

Students that received grants in 2012 include:

- David Choi (UIC)
- Ashley Hill Orth (UIC)
- Brian Homann (UIC)
- Jeffrey Howenstein (SIU)
- Joel Lovell (SIU)
- Michael Rabinowitz (UIC)
- Scott Schwartz (UIC)

SIU grant recipients
Left to right: Joel Lovell; Pamela Woolsey, senior dental network administrator of DDIL; Jeffrey Howenstein

UIC grant recipients
Left to right: Ashley Hill Orth; Scott Schwartz; Bernie Glossy, president and CEO of DDIL; Bruce Graham, dean of UIC College of Dentistry; Michael Rabinowitz; Brian Homann; David Choi
Commitment to Schools

The $500,000 grant, distributed through annual $100,000 donations over five years, to the Southern Illinois University School of Dental Medicine was completed in 2012. This gift provided resources to create two patient recovery areas, increase waiting room capacity and add three additional oral surgery rooms, including a full oral surgery suite with conscious-sedation capacity.

The expansion allows the school to treat approximately twice as many patients and offer additional oral surgery procedures. It also increases accessibility between the oral surgery rooms. This allows faculty to more comfortably supervise surgical procedures and helps provides students with a broader range of clinical experiences.
Our Strategic Goals

Oral Health Education and Awareness
Access to Oral Health Care
Education for Oral Health Care Professionals

DELTA DENTAL OF ILLINOIS FOUNDATION

MISSION: To improve the oral health of Illinois residents.
VISION: The Foundation will be recognized as a statewide resource of value among oral health experts and the public.

STAKEHOLDERS

Foundations
& YOU!

STRAATEGIES

Promote
Engage
Educate
Replicate
Sustain
Invest
Empower
Collaborate
Evaluate

CONTRIBUTORS

FUNDING FOCUS TO ACHIEVE GOALS

Education for Oral Health Care Professionals
Oral Health Education & Awareness
Access to Oral Health Care

Contributors
Funding Focus to Achieve Goals

Oral Health Education & Awareness

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STAKEHOLDERS

YOU!