



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

Tammy Lemke, President  
[tammylemke@ilchf.org](mailto:tammylemke@ilchf.org)  
630.571.2555

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**Illinois Children's Healthcare Foundation Awards more than \$490,000  
1<sup>st</sup> Round of Funding - Strengthening the Capacity of the ILCHF Oral Health Network**

**Oak Brook, IL (Tuesday, August 10, 2010)** - The Illinois Children's Healthcare Foundation announced today its investment of more than \$490,000 in 9 programs throughout the State of Illinois designed to reduce barriers preventing children from receiving optimal levels of oral health care.

These grants marked the beginning of the fourth year of investments as part of ILCHF's \$20 million, five-year Oral Health Initiative aimed at improving the health of vulnerable Illinois children by expanding their access to oral health care services. Over the past three years, ILCHF has invested over \$13.5 million in targeted efforts designed to build the capacity of the safety-net-system throughout the state to deliver high-quality oral health services; increase the number of oral health professionals caring for underserved children; and create a greater awareness of the role oral health plays in the overall health and well-being of a child. Funding from this first round of proposals in 2010 will assist our previous and present grantees in reducing the barriers which prevent children in their community from receiving optimal levels of oral healthcare, including outreach/public education/awareness and internal efficiencies.

As a reminder, the second round of the 2010 RFP, *Strengthening the Capacity of the ILCHF Oral Health Network*, will be open August 30, 2010. The RFP is open to anyone who currently or has previously received funding through ILCHF's oral health efforts. The request for proposals is for programs designed to reduce barriers preventing children from receiving optimal levels of comprehensive oral health care. These proposals should not create or expand existing physical facilities. Grants will be up to \$75,000. Applications are due October 1, 2010.

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***About Illinois Children's Healthcare Foundation***

Illinois Children's Healthcare Foundation (ILCHF) is the only statewide private foundation focused on improving the health of all children in the State of Illinois. ILCHF was created in December 2002 through an action between the State of Illinois Attorney General's Office and a private insurance carrier. This action established the Foundation which was funded with an investment of approximately \$125 million.

In 2007, ILCHF announced its first major initiative in the area of oral health. More than \$20 million is committed over five years on efforts related to building the capacity of the safety net system, workforce development and public education and awareness. In September, 2009, ILCHF announced its second major initiative, the Children's Mental Health Initiative, *Building Systems of Care, Community by Community*.

From the Foundation's inception through 2009, a total of more than \$36 million in grants has been invested in over 225 programs. For additional information about ILCHF, please see [www.ilchf.org](http://www.ilchf.org).

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Illinois Children's  
Healthcare Foundation

**ILLINOIS CHILDREN'S HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION  
ORAL HEALTH INITIATIVE INVESTMENTS  
August, 2010**

<b>Agency/Organization (alphabetical order)</b>	<b>Program</b>	<b>Barrier Addressed</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Christian Community Health Center	Children's Health Integration: Phase II	Outreach/Education	\$38,438
Community Health Partnership of Illinois	Integrated Electronic Dental Health Record	Equipment/EDR	\$48,240
Crusaders Central Clinic Association	Pediatric Dental Access Coordination	Outreach/Education	\$59,100
Greater Elgin Family Care Center	School-Based Oral Health Care Program	Outreach/Education	\$47,549
Hancock County Health Department	Better Oral Healthcare through Panoramic Radiography	Equipment/EDR	\$75,000
Milestone, Inc.	Sensory Improvements Project	Equipment/EDR	\$64,328
Shawnee Health Service and Development Corporation	Comprehensive Oral Health Education and Awareness Program	Outreach/Education	\$29,590
Southern Illinois Healthcare Foundation	Strengthening Capacity to Gather Information and Integrate Dental and Medical Services	Equipment/EDR	\$64,000
The Children's Clinic Sponsored by Oak Park River Forest Infant Welfare Society	Expansion of Community Oral Health Outreach	Outreach/Education	\$66,000
	<b>Totals</b>		<b>\$492,245</b>