



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

October 30, 2008

**Contact:** Liz Underwood, 312-251-9913  
lunderwood@ksapr.com

**Illinois Children's Healthcare Foundation Awards More than \$3 Million in Grants**  
*Eighteen Organizations Providing Oral Health Care Services for Children to Receive Grants*

**HINSDALE, Ill.** – Illinois Children's Healthcare Foundation (ILCHF) announced more than \$3 million is being awarded in grants to 18 Illinois organizations to help establish or expand dental care programs for children. Dollars awarded will fund programs in community health centers, school health centers and public health departments across the state.

"The Foundation is the only grant-making organization that focuses on children's health throughout the state and is committed to improving the health of all children living in Illinois," said Dr. Peter E. Doris, chair of the ILCHF board of directors. "Understanding the pivotal role dental health plays in the overall well-being of children, we've awarded grants that support some of the state's most critical, local programs working to provide oral health care services for children. These grants represent significant dollars at work to help all children, particularly those who are underserved, in Illinois communities."

Since its inception in 2003, ILCHF has created opportunities for and led the development of initiatives that improve the health of all children, such as the Foundation's five-year \$20 million oral health care initiative announced in 2007. ILCHF is proud to announce grants, which, over time, will improve the capacity of the safety net system throughout the state to provide high-quality dental care to children.

Organizations awarded grants, include:

**Metro Chicago/Cook County**

- Christian Community Health Center: \$146,818 to expand existing dental programs at their clinic on the south side of Chicago.
- Heartland Health Outreach: \$290,343 for construction costs and dental equipment needed to co-locate dental and medical facilities at their site in the Uptown neighborhood of Chicago.
- Heartland International Health Center: \$299,645 to establish a new dental center at Albany Park Multicultural Academy.

- Local Initiatives Support Corporation/Chicago: \$124,000 to provide a mobile dental program to students at five Chicago elementary schools in the Integrated School Services Program.
- Oak Park River Forest Children's Clinic: \$75,000 to expand the dental clinic to support use of the facility as a community rotation site for University of Illinois dental School students, as well as to expand the portable dentistry program.
- University of Illinois at Chicago Mile Square Health Center: \$300,000 for construction, equipment and staffing necessary to expand existing dental services at their south shore clinic.

### **Northern Illinois**

- Milestone Clinic: \$101,740 for replacement of dental equipment used to provide oral health services to children with special needs at its clinic located in Rockford, IL.

### **Central Illinois**

- Aunt Martha's Youth Service Center: \$79,310 to expand oral health services at its community health center in Danville, IL.
- Central Illinois Dental Education and Services: \$103,873 to purchase, equip and staff a mobile van capable of performing restorative dental care at schools, health centers and Head Start programs in Champaign County.
- Fulton County Health Department: \$226,630 for the development of a new dental clinic to serve children and fill the current gap in availability of dental services in Fulton and Mason Counties.
- Henderson County Rural Health Center, Inc.: \$165,485 to expand oral health facilities and add staff at its federally qualified health center in Macomb, IL.
- Hope School: \$164,929 to construct three dental operatories and train staff at a Dental Prevention and Intervention Clinic to serve children with special needs at Noll Medical Pavilion in Springfield, IL.
- Sarah Bush Lincoln Health Center: \$300,000 for a mobile dental unit to expand their portable oral health program to include restorative services in nine counties around the Springfield area.

### **Southern Illinois**

- Bond County Health Department: \$442,824 to construct, equip and staff a new dental clinic at their health department building.

- Community Health & Emergency Services: \$144,974 to add new dental operatories and replace old dental equipment at clinics in five of the southernmost counties of Illinois
- Douglas County Health Department: \$200,000 for equipment and staff to expand services at their clinic in Tuscola, IL.
- Macoupin County Public Health Department: \$82,495 to cover the cost of adding dental staff at their new clinic in Macoupin County.
- Southern Illinois Healthcare Foundation: \$206,311 to build and equip three new dental operatories at their primary care health center in Effingham County.

# # #

**About Illinois Children’s Healthcare Foundation**

*The Illinois Children’s Healthcare Foundation was formed in 2003 with one goal in mind: to improve the health of all Illinois children. Through the release of targeted RFPs and proactive, ongoing funding, ILCHF works to eliminate the barriers that prevent children from regularly accessing high-quality health care. Since 2004, the Foundation has awarded more than \$30 million in grants to organizations serving children’s health needs across the state. Please visit [www.ilchf.org](http://www.ilchf.org) for more information about the Illinois Children’s Healthcare Foundation.*