

ILCHF Grant Apps Due Oct. 1

August 11, 2010

The Illinois Children's Healthcare Foundation has announced 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 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.

The Illinois Children's Healthcare Foundation Oral Health Initiative Investments from this first round:

- Christian Community Health Center
- Community Health Partnership of Illinois
- Crusaders Central Clinic Association
- Greater Elgin Family Care Center
- Hancock County Health Department
- Milestone, Inc.
- Shawnee Health Services and Development Corporation
- Southern Illinois Healthcare Foundation
- The Children's Clinic Sponsored by Oak Park River Forest Infant Welfare Society

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.**