



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MEDIA ADVISORY

DENTAL SEALANT, VARNISH CLINIC OPEN TO CHILDREN IN EAST COUNTY

Services to be Provided Free of Cost to Children Who Lack Dental Resources

- WHO:** Peggy Yamagata, RDH, MEd, Program Manager, HHS Dental Health Initiative
Rick Griffin, Grossmont Healthcare District
Gene Hartman, Regional Director, Family Health Centers of San Diego
300 children, with their families, receiving dental sealants or fluoride varnish
30-40 volunteers, including dentists and hygienists
- WHAT:** This free children's dental sealant and fluoride varnish clinic is an effort to accommodate the many children (ages 1 to 18 years) in San Diego County with no dental health resources. Volunteer dental professionals will apply sealants and fluoride varnish to children's teeth, while community organizations entertain and educate children and parents about dental health.
- WHEN:** Saturday, April 22, 2006
9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- WHERE:** Grossmont Spring Valley Family Health Center
8788 Jamacha Road, Spring Valley CA 91977
- WHY:** Recent California data show that over half of all kindergartners and more than 70 percent of third graders have experienced tooth decay, with over 25 percent having untreated dental disease. Placement of dental sealants and fluoride varnish on teeth is a safe and painless way to help prevent cavities. Unfortunately, many children do not receive these services due to lack of resources and a shortage of dental professionals in some areas of the East County.
- The event is funded by the Grossmont Healthcare District in collaboration with County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency, San Diego County Dental Society, East County Dental Health Task Force, San Diego County Dental Hygienists' Society, San Diego County Smiles Program, Share the Care Dental Program, Mesa College Dental Assisting Program, UCSD Pre-Dental Club and Southwestern College Dental Hygiene Program.

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