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OCHD TO OFFER FREE PREVENTIVE DENTAL CARE FOR ELIGIBLE OKALOOSA COUNTY STUDENTS

Crestview – On Tuesday, December 14th, the Okaloosa County Health Department (OCHD) Dental Clinic will begin enrolling eligible 2nd-4th graders for its “Seal Out Tooth Decay” program. Eligible children can receive oral examinations, sealants, fluoride varnish treatments, and limited follow-up appointments.

Tooth decay is the most common chronic disease of childhood. Untreated cavities can cause pain, dysfunction, school absences, difficulty concentrating, and poor appearance—problems that greatly affect a child’s quality of life and ability to succeed. Preventative dental care (such as oral exams, sealants, and fluoride treatments) can provide the maximum protection against cavities.

Starting December 14th, parents/guardians can walk-in to the OCHD Dental Clinic’s Enrollment Clinic (enrollment clinics will be held every Tuesday*, from 3:00 pm – 5:30pm) to determine a child’s eligibility.

*No enrollment clinics will be held on Dec 28, 2010 or Jan 4, 2011

Who is eligible? Students in grades 2-4 who:

- attend Okaloosa County schools (or are home-schooled Okaloosa County residents),
- have no dental insurance
- aren’t covered by Medicaid, **AND**
- have a family income that is at or below 200% of poverty

What to bring to an Enrollment Clinic?

- Proof of residency (ex: cable bill, water bill, gas bill, electric bill, etc)
- Proof of identification (ex: valid driver’s license, social security card, immunization record, etc)
- Proof of Okaloosa school attendance (ex: report card OR student ID OR enrollment letter from school), **AND**
- Proof of income (ex: most recent pay stub OR SSI award letter OR 2 notarized income forms)

The “Seal Out Tooth Decay” Saturday appointments will be made for eligible students following the enrollment clinic visit. The Saturday clinics will begin in January (2011).

For more information on sealants, fluoride, and the “Seal Out Tooth Decay” program at the Okaloosa County Health Department Dental Clinic, please visit: www.healthyokaloosa.com, or call Amanda at (850) 689-7808 ext 1201.

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