



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE PUBLICATION

Oct. 14, 2005

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MEDIA ADVISORY

FREE DENTAL CLINIC FOR SOUTH COUNTY CHILDREN OCT. 15

Dental Sealants and Fluoride Free to Children Without Dental Insurance

WHO: Supervisor Greg Cox, First District, San Diego County
Jean Shepard, Director, County Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA)
Rene Santiago, Deputy Director, HHSA
Christine Perri, RDH, MA, Acting Dean, Southwestern College Dental Hygiene Clinic

300 children receiving dental sealants or fluoride varnish
60 volunteers, including dentists and hygienists

WHAT: 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: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. (10 a.m. media interviews)
Saturday, Oct. 15, 2005

WHERE: Southwestern College Dental Hygiene Program
880 National City Blvd., National City

WHY: Children should not have to suffer from preventable dental health problems. Painting dental sealants and fluoride varnish on teeth is a safe and painless way to help prevent cavities. Unfortunately, many children who lack dental coverage do not receive these services, particularly in South San Diego County.

This free clinic, funded by the County Board of Supervisors at the recommendation of Supervisor Greg Cox, in collaboration with the County Health and Human Services Agency South Region, will help address this important health issue while teaching families about local dental health resources. The event supports the "Something to Smile About" program initiated by San Diego County Board of Supervisors Chairwoman Pam Slater-Price. For information, the public can call (619) 692-8858.

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