



# COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

# NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 1, 2004

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## MEDIA ADVISORY

### FREE DENTAL CLINIC FOR NORTH COUNTY CHILDREN WITHOUT INSURANCE

*Dental Sealants and Fluoride Provided Free of Cost to Children Without Dental Coverage*

**WHO:** Pam Slater-Price, District 3, Vice-Chair of the San Diego County Board of Supervisors  
Nick Macchione, Deputy Director, Health and Human Services Agency  
Doug Christiansen, DDS, President, San Diego County Dental Society  
250 children, with their families, receiving dental sealants or fluoride varnish  
20-30 volunteers, including dentists and hygienists

**WHAT:** For the first time in eight years, free dental services will be provided to North County children (ages 1 to 18 years) with no dental 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.

Funded by County Supervisor Pam Slater-Price, this event is a collaborative effort of the North County Dental Task Force, the Hispanic Dental Association-San Diego Chapter, San Diego Association of Women Dentists, San Diego County Dental Hygienists' Society, San Diego County Dental Society, the San Diego County SMILES Program, the Share the Care Dental Program, and Southwestern College's Dental Hygiene Program.

**WHEN:** 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. (10:00 am media interviews)  
Saturday, November 6, 2004

**WHERE:** Neighborhood Healthcare Dental Clinic  
425 N. Date Street, Escondido 92025

**WHY:** When more than 4,700 children were screened in North County public schools during the 2003-04 school year, 22% had obvious cavities. Painting 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, particularly in North County, where there are shortages of dental professionals. This free clinic will help address this important health issue, while teaching families about local dental health resources.

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