

Spotlight On: Cavity Free at Three

Ten Colorado communities will receive technical assistance grants this year from the Cavity Free at Three program, a three-year statewide effort to prevent oral diseases in young children.

This is the second year of the program, which is being funded by Caring for Colorado Foundation, The Colorado Health Foundation, The Colorado Trust, Kaiser Permanente, Rose Community Foundation and Delta Dental of Colorado Foundation.

The grant application deadline is 5 p.m. on March 27, 2009.

The aim of the program “is to make dental disease in children rare instead of inevitable.”
The project:

- Provides training for health care providers on how to incorporate an oral health risk assessment, parent education and fluoride applications for young children into their services,
- Works to ensure that all children have a regular source of dental care beginning at age one, and
- Addresses the oral health needs of pregnant women and provides them with education about how to care for their infant’s teeth.

Awarded communities receive educational materials, clinical supplies and technical assistance to implement infant oral care protocol.

Ten communities were awarded grants during the first year of giving in 2008. In all, over 200 physicians, dentists, nurses and registered dental hygienists were trained last year.

For more information, contact Linda Reiner at Caring for Colorado Foundation, lreiner@caringforcolorado.org, 720-524-0770, or go to the Cavity Free at Three website, www.cavityfreeatthree.org.