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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**FREE DENTAL SCREENINGS AVAILABLE TO SENIORS**

A series of nine free dental screenings for seniors in the metropolitan area have been scheduled by the Volunteers of America (VOA) Colorado Branch, Health SET and Oral Health Awareness Colorado! (OHAC!), beginning Tuesday, January 13, 2009. All will be open to the public.

Three of the dental screenings and preventive education programs will be conducted at sites with participation of the Health SET clinic. The remaining programs will be at VOA locations, with screenings conducted by dental hygiene students from Community College of Denver.

Dates and locations are as follows:

\* January 13 – 9:30-11:30 a.m., Thomas Bean Towers, 2350 Cleveland Place

\* January 20 – 9:30-11:30 a.m., Francis Heights (west), 2626 Osceola St.

January 27 – 9-11 a.m., Walsh Manor, 1790 W. Moiser

February 3 – 9-11 a.m., North Lincoln, 1425 Mariposa

February 10 – 9-11 a.m., Thomas Connole, 1710 Williams

February 17 – 9-11 a.m., Barney Ford, 2024 Clarkson

\* February 27 – 9:30-11:30 a.m., Mountain View, 11850 E. Maple Ave., Aurora

March 10 – 9:30-11:30 a.m., Mulroy Senior Center, 3550 W. 13<sup>th</sup> Ave.

April 14 – 9-11 a.m., Montbello Manor, 4355 Carson St.

\* With Health SET

Oral health concerns for seniors include root decay, dry mouth, periodontal diseases and complications to chronic diseases such as arthritis, diabetes or heart disease. Nearly one-third of seniors have untreated dental cavities and 25 percent have severe

periodontal disease. Four out of five seniors also have no dental insurance, making it more difficult for them to pay for preventive and treatment services.

**Dental Services are NOT available during this screen and program.**

For more information, contact Janelle Rumley, fitness instructor for the Healthy Aging Program at the VOA, 720-264-3304, Ext. 13114.

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