



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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ORAL HEALTH AMERICA AWARDS GRANT TO MORE HEALTH, INC. IN TAMPA

June 22, 2010, Chicago, IL— Oral Health America (OHA) recently awarded a Smiles Across America® (SAA) planning grant to MORE HEALTH, Inc. in Tampa, FL, which partners with Tampa General Hospital and All Children's Hospital to bring educational health lessons to school children in the area.

"MORE HEALTH is a strong force in both Hillsborough and Pinellas Counties. They have an enviable 20-year record of providing quality supplemental health education, including dental, to students in grades K through 12," said OHA Board Chair George Rhodes. "MORE HEALTH has built outstanding relationships with the schools in both counties and will collaborate with its other partners to leverage school-based oral health services."

The SAA grant allows MORE HEALTH to work with the Hillsborough County Oral Health Coalition and the Public Health Dental Program through the Florida Department of Health to develop an oral disease prevention program model for schools.

"We hope that at the end of this grant cycle we will have developed a pilot program with the school district's approval to provide screening and sealants to children at high risk for oral disease," said Karen Pesce, R.N., Executive Director of MORE HEALTH.

Oral Health America's mission is to change lives by connecting communities with resources to increase access to oral health care, education and advocacy for all Americans, especially those most vulnerable. OHA's Smiles Across America® (SAA) program supports oral disease prevention services in school-based or school-linked settings for children who are uninsured and underserved due to issues of poverty – lack of resources, transportation barriers, low literacy, and language diversity. For more information, visit www.oralhealthamerica.org.

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