



MEDIA ADVISORY
January 27, 2011

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**LOCAL LAWMAKERS AND DENTAL HEALTH ADVOCATES JOIN FORCES TO
ADDRESS THE ORAL HEALTH CRISIS IN COOK COUNTY**
**National Children's Dental Health Month draws emphasis on the
importance of delivering quality oral health for children**

(Chicago, IL)–The press conference will cover the importance of children's dental health, featuring a local mother's story of the struggles she faces in obtaining public dental care and the devastating impact additional cuts to county dental services will have on the 1.4 million Cook County residents registered for government health care. Residents in Cook County suffer every day because of access barriers to public dental services. Research shows the undeniable link between oral health and overall health, therefore ensuring that Cook County families have access to dental care is critical. The results of an audit, requested in a resolution introduced by Cook County Commissioner Peter Silvestri, of the Cook County Department of Public Health's dental program, will be revealed.

WHO: Cook County Commissioner Peter Silvestri (9th District)
Cook County Commissioner Bridget Gainer (10th District)
Dr. Cheryl Watson Lowry, Chicago Dental Society
Dr. Johnny Kuttub, Bright Smiles Pediatric Dentistry
Anne Clancy, Executive Director, Chicago Community Oral Health Forum
Parent impacted by inadequate access to public dental programs

WHAT: February is National Children's Dental Health Month designed to increase awareness about the importance of children's oral healthcare and demonstrate access to care issues in Cook County. A recent audit of dental clinics operated by the Cook County Department of Public Health show how cuts to public dental programs have left Cook County residents with little to no options for critical dental treatment.



WHEN: Monday, January 31, 2011
10:00am

WHERE: Robert R. McCormick Boys and Girls Club of Chicago
4835 North Sheridan Road
Chicago, IL 60640

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