



Media Contact

Rachel Spencer - VP, Strategic Communications

(on behalf of Delta Dental of Virginia)

rachel@visitaccess.com

540-798-6278

Note to Media: An online media kit is available at [DeltaDentalVA.com/foundation/media-toolkit](https://www.DeltaDentalVA.com/foundation/media-toolkit) with photography, video, infographics and facts for journalist use.

**DELTA DENTAL OF VIRGINIA FOUNDATION AWARDS \$500,000
TO SUPPORT ACCESS TO DENTAL CARE**

Philanthropic arm of Virginia's largest dental insurer launches new approach to improving health

Roanoke, Virginia (January 26, 2021) – The Delta Dental of Virginia Foundation has awarded \$500,000 in grants to fund education, prevention and delivery of care initiatives for six Virginia safety-net providers.

Delta Dental's grants were focused on groups pursuing innovative approaches to reducing barriers to care and prioritized those that could demonstrate strong local collaboration. "Our foundation took a new approach this year, shifting focus toward providing larger, more substantive grants to a fewer number of organizations," said Polly Raible, Delta Dental of Virginia's corporate social responsibility manager. "Through these larger grants, we are making significant investments in organizations and programs that have great potential to meet the needs of Virginians," said Raible.

Organizations receiving grants include:

Roanoke and New River Valleys:

- The Community Health Center of the New River Valley (\$100,000)
- Child Health Investment Partnership/New Horizons Healthcare (\$85,000)

Southwest Virginia:

- Bland Ministry Center (\$100,444)

Eastern Shore:

- Eastern Shore Rural Health Center (\$92,000)

Richmond/Central Virginia:

- Lucy Corr Foundation (\$22,000)
- CrossOver Healthcare Ministry (\$100,000)

“Virginia’s dental safety-net clinics are on the front lines of recognizing, treating and preventing oral diseases for those who are uninsured or underinsured,” said Frank Lucia, president and CEO of Delta Dental of Virginia. “We are increasing support to organizations that are committed to innovative and collaborative approaches to eliminating barriers to care, and we are proud to play a small role in improving the health of Virginians,” said Lucia.

Grant funding this year will support increases in staffing and resources, expanded access and services for high-risk patients and the development of school-based programs to help eradicate childhood dental diseases, particularly in rural areas of the Commonwealth.

For more information, visit [DeltaDentalVA.com/foundation](https://www.DeltaDentalVA.com/foundation).

About Delta Dental of Virginia Foundation

Delta Dental of Virginia Foundation was founded in 2012 by Delta Dental of Virginia to help improve the oral health and, subsequently, overall health of all Virginians. The foundation focuses its support on initiatives that improve oral health through improved access to oral care, oral health education and oral health research.

About Delta Dental of Virginia

Established in 1964, Delta Dental of Virginia is the largest dental benefits provider in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Delta Dental of Virginia provides high-quality, cost-effective dental plans to more than two million members. Through its foundation, Delta Dental of Virginia has donated millions of dollars to improve the oral health of Virginians.

Delta Dental of Virginia is a member of the national Delta Dental Plans Association (DDPA). For more than 50 years, the DDPA has worked to improve oral health nationally. Delta Dental member companies serve more than 80 million people in more than 141,000 groups across the nation.

