

# *Clay County* *Health Department*

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

December 5, 2024

## **Clay County Health Department Awarded \$10,000 Oral Health Grant From Delta Dental of Illinois Foundation**

The Clay County Health Department (CCHD) has been selected by Delta Dental of Illinois Foundation to receive a \$10,000 grant to support oral health initiatives in Clay County. CCHD will use the funding for its public health educator to attend community events and provide oral health education and awareness. Funding will also support its mobile dental units and professional partners to provide free preventive dental care to the community.

April Carruthers, Public Health Educator at CCHD explained “Having the opportunity to provide dental care and education to those in our area has been nothing but humbling. This funding will allow us to continue to disperse oral health kits and education for adults, children, and infants to those in the county. In addition, we will also be able to continue to offer our adult dental clinics with the help of our PHDHs (Public Health Dental Hygienists). And for that, we and the community are grateful.”

Delta Dental of Illinois Foundation, the 501(c)(3) charitable arm of Delta Dental of Illinois, awarded over \$260,000 to 19 nonprofit and community organizations through its annual Community Grants Program. Each organization selected shares the Foundation’s mission of improving health and well-being throughout Illinois.

Since 2012, Delta Dental of Illinois Foundation’s Community Grants Program has provided more than \$2 million to support organizations that help increase access to oral health care and education.

For more information on CCHD’s oral health initiatives, please contact April Carruthers of the Clay County Health Department at (618) 662-4406 or visit our website at [www.healthdept.org](http://www.healthdept.org)

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