

July 16, 2007

Media calls to David Hass at (630) 682-7979, ext. 7374.

## **DuPage and Kane county health departments host Christina's Smile and provide \$50,000 in free dental service**

The DuPage and Kane county health departments will be hosting Christina's Smile Children's Dental Clinic at Central Public Health Center, 111 N. County Farm Road, Wheaton, from July 16 to July 18. This is the 12<sup>th</sup> year for Christina's Smile to visit Illinois.

Christina's Smile will provide free dental care to 120 needy DuPage and Kane county children during its visit. The free dental services exceed \$50,000 in value.

The mobile dental clinic will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day. The children receiving services are selected and organized by the health departments. Children are seen by appointment only. The children receiving treatment have no access to dental care and must qualify financially.

Dentists and assistants volunteer their time and talent to deliver quality, free dental care, which may include cleanings, sealants, fillings, crowns, root canal treatments and extractions to children between the ages of six and 15.

Dr. Richard Garza, an Austin, TX dentist, conceived the clinic in 1989. The clinic comes in a 48-foot trailer provided by Roadway Express, an Ohio-based trucking company. The trailer houses three fully equipped, state-of-the-art treatment stations, along with X-ray and sterilization equipment.

Christina's Smile annually treats more than 2,400 children and provides approximately \$1 million in free care.

"We promote health, prevent illness, and provide quality service"