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For Immediate Release**Delta Dental of Colorado Foundation Named National Philanthropy Day
Colorado 2015 Outstanding Foundation**

DENVER – November 13, 2015 – Delta Dental of Colorado Foundation (DDCOF) was recognized today as the National Philanthropy Day Colorado 2015 Outstanding Foundation at the Association of Fundraising Professionals, Colorado Chapter annual luncheon.

National Philanthropy Day is a special day set aside to recognize and pay tribute to the great contributions philanthropy – and those people active in the philanthropic community – have made to individual lives, communities and the world. The Outstanding Foundation award is presented to a grantmaking foundation that has demonstrated outstanding commitment through financial support and through encouragement and motivation of others to take leadership roles in philanthropy and community involvement. Previous recipients include Community First Foundation, Temple Hoyne Buell Foundation, the Colorado Health Foundation and the Daniels Fund.

DDCOF's mission is to improve the state's oral health by eradicating childhood tooth decay. Over the past 15 years, DDCOF initiatives have included educational programs targeting low-income, high-risk families; support of dental health education for medical and dental students as well as providers; and opportunities to teach good dental habits and cavity prevention among pregnant women and children. As a 501 (c)(3) organization, DDCOF works to make good dental health a community priority. Its active programs include:

- Public will building to improve education about the importance of baby teeth and the role of nutrition in children's oral health in order to motivate behavior and policy changes.
- The Colorado Medical-Dental Integration project, which integrates dental hygienists in 16 primary care clinics to provide greater access to routine dental care. These hygienists provide preventive dental health services, coordinate preventive dental care with well-child checkups and collaborate with local dentists to ensure comprehensive care.

- Support of the Kids in Need of Dentistry (KIND) Chopper Topper Sealant Program, a mobile dental sealant program serving 10 school districts and five parochial schools in the Denver metro area.
- Funding of the Children’s Museum of Denver’s Village of Healthy Smiles exhibit and delivering educational programs at the museum and at schools.
- The development of measures and technical assistance resources for nonprofit dental clinics to guide program quality.
- Funding Cavity Free at Three, a program that educates medical professionals on how to apply fluoride varnish to children ages 0-3 at their well-child checkups.
- Funding of the University of Colorado School of Medicine’s Frontier Center to provide inter-professional training to third-year dental students on the connection between oral and systemic health.

“We are extremely honored to be recognized as the National Philanthropy Day Colorado 2015 Outstanding Foundation,” said Barbara Springer, executive director, Delta Dental of Colorado Foundation. “Our work is collaborative and diverse in order to engage state decision makers, trusted community advisors and families about the important role oral health plays in the lives of Colorado children. This recognition is shared with those we have the privilege of working with every day at Delta Dental of Colorado Foundation.”

Learn more about DDCOF and its funding initiatives at www.deltadentalcofoundation.org.

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About Delta Dental of Colorado Foundation

Delta Dental of Colorado Foundation’s (DDCOF) mission is to improve the state’s oral health by eradicating childhood tooth decay. Over the past 15 years, the Foundation has been solely funded by Delta Dental of Colorado. DDCOF’s initiatives have included educational programs targeting low-income, high-risk families; support of dental health education for medical and dental students as well as providers; and opportunities to teach good dental habits and cavity prevention among pregnant women and children. As a 501(c)(3) organization, the Foundation works to make good dental health a community priority. A core belief is that, because dental disease is almost 100 percent preventable, efforts to improve oral health will result in a healthier Colorado overall. To learn more about Delta Dental of Colorado Foundation, please visit www.deltadentalcofoundation.org.