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**Dental Care Available at Leadville High School Health Center
Throughout August**

Summit Community Care Clinic's Healthy Smiles program offers affordable preventive dental health services.

LEADVILLE, Colo. – July 30, 2015 – Leadville students are encouraged to take advantage of the last few weeks of summer and come back to school with healthy smiles. Summit Community Care Clinic's Healthy Smiles Program is currently offering a variety of preventive dental health services at the new Lake County High School health center.

Under the direction of registered dental hygienists Emily Milner, Amanda Hamilton and Megan Jackson, the services provided include oral health education, exams, regular cleanings, x-rays, fluoride varnishes and sealants. The hygienists work in collaboration with other health center medical providers to identify oral health needs during well-child or sick visits. Care is available every Wednesday from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

The Lake County High School health center will officially open for daily, in-school care this fall. Well-child checkups, sports physicals, immunizations, mental health counseling and dental care are available at the center now. All services are open to Lake County District students and their immediate family members, as well as school staff and their family members, at affordable sliding scale fees with no co-pays. The health center also accepts Medicaid, Child Health Plan *Plus* and some private insurance plans.

Summit Community Care Clinic is able to offer dental care at the Lake County High School health center through funding it received from Delta Dental of Colorado Foundation's (DDCOF) Colorado Medical-Dental Integration (CO MDI) initiative. The first initiative of its kind in the U.S., CO MDI will integrate dental hygienists in 16



Colorado primary care clinics over five years in an effort to increase access to preventive dental health services. DDCOF has awarded \$1.95 million in funding to the CO MDI clinics to hire hygienists, purchase equipment and deliver care.

“Providing dental care is crucial to the success of our new school-based health center,” said Lori Bowman-Falce, data coordinator and billing specialist for the Summit Community Care Clinic. “Now Lake County parents no longer have to miss work to take their children to dental appointments and students will feel comfortable accessing care in a location they know well. Through the CO MDI initiative, we can improve the health of more students in this community.”

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, tooth decay is the most common chronic disease among U.S. children ages 6 to 11. CO MDI is designed to improve the dental health of Colorado’s youngest residents and reach families who have limited access to dental care due to geographic barriers, lack of insurance or transportation difficulties.

To make an appointment at the Lake County High School health center, please call 970-668-4040.

For a complete list of the CO MDI clinics as well as more information on the initiative, visit www.deltadentalcofoundation.org/initiatives.

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About the Summit Community Care Clinic

Summit Community Care Clinic is a Federally Qualified Health Center and the only safety net clinic in the Summit County and neighboring community area. We offer high-quality primary care, oral health, behavioral health and reproductive health services to our patients, regardless of their ability to pay. We have been recognized locally, statewide and nationally for our integrated care model, and for the high quality of care that we provide.

About Delta Dental of Colorado Foundation

Delta Dental of Colorado Foundation’s mission is to improve the state's oral health by eradicating childhood tooth decay. Over the past 15 years, the Foundation'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 the Delta Dental of Colorado Foundation, please visit www.deltadentalcofoundation.org.