



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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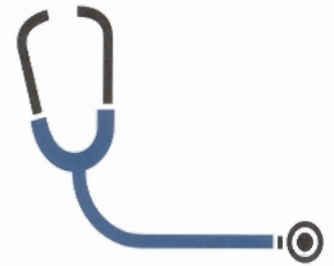
Free Dental Services Provided To Underinsured Children

ORLANDO, Fla...Primary Care Access Network (PCAN), a health care collaboration between Orange County Government and area public and private organizations, were recently partnered with Valencia's Community College's Dental Hygiene School, the Florida Department of Health, the Greater Orlando Dental Society and other sponsors to "Give Kid's A Smile." The event, held January 31 at Valencia's West Campus, celebrated National Children's Dental Health Day.

"PCAN is honored to be able to participate in "Give Kid's A Smile," said PCAN Chairman George F. Ellis, M.D., "It is truly beneficial for children to learn about dental health at an early age, so they can continue to practice proper dental care throughout their lives."

Over 80 volunteers from Dental Society of Orlando and Valencia's Dental Hygiene School provided free dental services, such as dental cleanings, sealants and screenings to over 140 underinsured children between the ages of two and eighteen. The children attended free dental health education classes and were entertained by clowns and face painters, as well as given a take-home bag of free dental materials. Those children requiring additional dental services were referred to a participating dental office for Friday, February 6, where volunteer dentists will provide care free of charge.

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The Primary Care Access Network is comprised of public and private health care providers committed to improving the access, quality and coordination of health care services to the underinsured in Orange County. By developing an integrated, comprehensive system of primary care centers, PCAN intends to increase primary care capacity and reduce utilization of the local emergency departments by providing "medical homes" and teaching basic first aid to residents of Orange County.