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Access

Gov. Hickenlooper helps Delta Dental of Colorado launch program benefitting low-income Coloradoans

Winning Colorado's battle to improve oral health!

The Delta Dental of Colorado Fund was officially launched at an event on October 7. This one-of-a-kind program provides two years of free dental insurance to qualifying low-income Coloradans of all ages. It also helps dentists to treat patients who need care and cannot afford it. Efforts to improve our state's oral health are gaining momentum. In fact, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment recently selected oral disease as one of Colorado's 10 winnable battles.

The DDCO Fund is a powerful tool for winning Colorado's battle for improved oral health. This is why Governor John Hickenlooper joined Delta Dental of Colorado to formally launch the DDCO Fund program. The launch event took place at Focus Points Family Resource Center in Denver. A diverse representation of dental, public health, civic and business leaders attended.

Why is this push so important? Because dental disease is nearly 100% preventable!

In addition to the Governor, Delta Dental of Colorado president and CEO, Kate Paul, and board of trustees chair Cynthia Evans, spoke about the importance of providing dental care to underserved populations. Focus Points executive director Cynthia Gallegos shared her organization's struggle with dental disease and its impact on Colorado families.

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Dr. Doug Berkey, Vice Chair, DDCO Board of Trustees; Cynthia Evans, Chair, DDCO Board of Trustees; and the Honorable John Hickenlooper, Governor, State of Colorado



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Unfortunately, in this economic climate, many families are forced to make tough financial decisions. Dental spending is considered a luxury for some families. In fact, 2009 saw the first year-to-year decline in dental spending since tracking began in 1960. As a result, 42% of adults in Colorado do not have dental insurance. This means more than 2.1 million Coloradans are less likely to see a dentist. This is the problem that the DDCO Fund will help solve.

If you would like additional information about the DDCO Fund, please visit www.deltadentalco.com/DDCO-Fund.aspx or call (720) 489-4713.

Because a healthy smile can change a life.

Upgraded suite of tools helps subscribers get information fast



Recently, Delta Dental of Colorado upgraded a suite of tools to help subscribers better manage their dental benefits. The goal? Help your employees get the information they need faster.

By now, many members of your group are probably using these tools to gather their own benefit data any time – day or night. Subscribers may access specific benefit information using:

- **Our website, www.deltadentalco.com**
- **The Automated Call Center, at 1-800-610-0201**
- **A predetermination of benefits**

What about subscribers who need access to non-standard information? If your employee cannot access the data he or she needs using our suite of tools, we have a live agent who can help.

We're excited to give subscribers more ways to get the information they need.

Delta Dental is Top Dog Among Brokers

Receives Readers' Choice Award from Benefits Selling

Delta Dental Plans Association (DDPA), the nation's largest dental benefits provider, recently received the Readers' Choice Award as the best dental carrier from Benefits Selling magazine.

The magazine saw record participation in its annual survey of brokers. This is the sixth year that Delta Dental was selected the "carrier that offers the best dental coverage."

"At a time when the number of Americans with dental insurance has decreased, Delta Dental's subscriber base continues to grow," said Kim Volk, DDPA's president and CEO. "This is a testament to the value of our network and products, and we're thankful for the continued confidence the broker community has in our service."



Delta Dental Contributes to Colorado charities with 'I Give' program

Delta Dental of Colorado is celebrating a milestone—we've reached one million members! To mark this milestone, Delta Dental of Colorado contributed nearly \$120,000 to local charities through its 'I Give' program. The program allotted each employee \$1,000 to give to the Colorado charity of his or her choice.

"The people of Delta Dental are incredibly generous, so I know this opportunity is really meaningful to them," said Kate Paul, Delta Dental of Colorado's president and CEO. "This program is one way we fulfill our non-profit mission of giving back the communities we serve."

Many employees pooled their individual donations to make a larger impact.

The largest donation went to the HALO (Helping Art Liberate Orphans) Foundation of Denver, which received \$24,500. HALO provides support for international orphans and also runs a youth center in the Five Points area of Denver.

"The grant from Delta Dental will make such an impact on the kids we support," says Rebecca Welsh, HALO founder. HALO's Denver center offers after school programs and hot meals for needy, local kids.

One Delta Dental employee stated emphatically, "It's so wonderful to work for a company that allows us to make a contribution that really matters. We're really helping many organizations that are near and dear to our hearts."



Other charities that benefited from Delta Dental's 'I Give' program include:

- **The Alzheimer's Association of Metro Denver**
- **The American Cancer Society**
- **The American Heart Association**
- **The American Transplant Foundation**
- **Colorado Horse Rescue**
- **Make A Wish Foundation**
- **Project Angel Heart**
- **The Susan G. Komen for the Cure Advocacy Foundation**
- **Food Bank of the Rockies**
- **Rocky Mountain MS Center**

New look, centralized information key features of new website

Hopefully you've noticed the cleaner look of the redesigned Delta Dental of Colorado website.

By now you're becoming more familiar with the site's enhanced features. Isn't it nice to have everything in one place?

We hope you are taking advantage of the Employer section. It provides everything you need to proactively manage your employees' dental benefits. Many employers have expressed their appreciation at the way information is displayed – they're finding the site easy to use.

Subscribers are benefitting too. Patient benefit reports have a new layout with a clear overview and breakdown of dental benefits. Maximums remaining and used to date are clearly listed. The revamped dentist search feature provides clear, comprehensive search results that make sense to users.

We're excited to keep making improvements to our new site.



We Value Your Opinion This newsletter is meant to be an informative and useful publication for brokers and plan administrators. E-mail your ideas, suggestions and comments to the Delta Dental of Colorado editorial team at accessnewsletter@ddpco.com.



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