

Free dental care offered to uninsured children

Children, ages 2-19, in Clark and Skamania counties who have no dental insurance are eligible for X-rays, sealants, fluoride treatment, fillings and extractions during the Children's Dental Health Day in February.

Children's Dental Health Day is Sat., Feb. 4, from 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., at Clark College Dental Hygiene Clinic located at 1933 Fort Vancouver Wy., Vancouver.

Volunteers will provide parents with oral health information, including answers to questions they may have on proper oral care.

"Good oral health is essential to a child's well-being," said Melody Scheer, Health Systems coordinator for Clark County Public Health. "Dental problems can affect the ability of children to eat, learn in school and socialize with others. We encourage

families who lack insurance or can't afford dental care to call now to schedule an appointment for their children."

The annual event is in its sixth year and typically serves about 300 children. Last year, volunteers, dentists, hygienists, and other oral health professionals provided dental services valued at more than \$100,000.

Services are donated by Clark College, Clark County Dental Society, Clark County Public Health, Free Clinic of Southwest Washington, and Greater Southwest Washington Dental Hygiene Association. Funding is provided by Ronald McDonald House Charities and Washington Oral Health Foundation.

Teeth cleanings will not be provided. Children will be seen by appointment only. For an appointment, call (360) 397-8000 extension 7371.