



## 50 States and District of Columbia Benchmark Achievement Official

*Oral health education experienced through the Lessons in a Lunch Box program reaches elementary school children throughout the country.*

Owings Mills, Maryland, **(April 5, 2017)**. The 2017 winter cycle of *Lessons in a Lunch Box: Healthy Teeth Essentials & Facts About Snacks®* celebrates the benchmark achievement of officially reaching every state and the District of Columbia. Oregon and Rhode Island made it official when the program reached the 1st, 2nd and 3rd grade students at Oregon's School for the Deaf in Salem and Veazie Street Elementary School in Providence. Now all 50 states and the District of Columbia have had at least one elementary school to receive oral health education instruction through *Lessons in a Lunch Box*.

The Children's Oral Health Institute is pleased to share this important success throughout organized dentistry. The mammoth collaboration of volunteers from the dental profession including 47 of 69 dental schools, dental hygiene programs, and school nurses to sororities, fraternities, corporations and many other community service organizations have made this achievement possible. Dr. Leslie E. Grant, Director of Advocacy and Outreach has said, "The experience of oral health education through this program is reaching children where they learn and this impact in and of itself offers a multitude of promising outcomes. From practicing good dental hygiene, and eating proper diet portions, to aspiring to become a dentist are just some."

Please visit The Children's Oral Health Institute to learn more about *Lessons in a Lunch Box* and register for the program in the coming months at [www.mycohi.org](http://www.mycohi.org). View our At-A-Glance Reports to see where programs have been presented throughout the country.

*Prevention that Empowers Globally!*