



## The Maryland Children's Oral Health Institute Launches Oral Health Initiative for Schools

*Compiled oral health lessons made readily available to educators in symbolic "Teacher's Apple" booklet*

**Owings Mills, Maryland** (March 30, 2010) – In an effort to raise awareness for proper oral health in all children, The Maryland Children's Oral Health Institute (MCOHI) has compiled a series of oral health lessons into a single guide booklet entitled *Code Red: The Oral Health Crisis in Your Classroom*© *Empowering the Teacher to Teach Oral Health Education-A Curriculum Resource Reference*.

*Code Red* will launch during an educational media event offered by The Maryland Children's Oral Health Institute with special guest Congressman Elijah Cummings. The event will be held:

Date: Friday, April 8th, 2011  
Time: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon  
Place: Dickey Hill Elementary/Middle School  
5025 Dickey Hill Road  
Baltimore, MD 21207-7239

"We cannot lose one more child to complications from dental decay, yet many children and families are not well enough informed about the importance of dental hygiene and oral health care. This lack of being properly educated can translate into unsuspecting dental problems in children," said Dr. Winifred Booker, executive director of MCOHI. "For many children school is the one constant place where we can instill in children the need for good oral hygiene. The Institute wants to equip educators with the resources to help teach oral health."

During the workshop phase of this event the audience will receive a brief PowerPoint presentation explaining some of the factors that can lead to the oral health crisis in the classroom. An overview of the information contained in the *Code Red* booklet will be highlighted. The morning will conclude with a short discussion and Q & A segment.

The MCOHI will make several thousand booklets available free in hard copy, as well as making it available free to download from the MCOHI website. The booklet includes lessons for elementary to secondary students that tie oral health into other curriculum areas such as mathematics and biology. In addition, the booklet includes signs and symptoms for recognizing oral health neglect in students.

To RSVP, please email Ms. Khaleila Iwuoha at [kiwuoha@umd.edu](mailto:kiwuoha@umd.edu) to confirm your planned attendance.

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*Prevention that Empowers!*

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