



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Mentoring Initiative to Reach Additional Maryland Middle Schools**

*Maryland State Dental Association and Foundation support instrumental.*

**January 30, 2023** (Owings Mills, Maryland). The Children's Oral Health Institute's (COHI) was elated to introduce the "Middle School to Dental School™ Mentoring Initiative," in Maryland on January 20<sup>th</sup>. The nonprofit organization hit the ground running for the launch at the Baltimore Collegiate School for Boys. The COHI is now on course to reach two more schools in the state.

Middle School to Dental School is scheduled to be presented during the month of February in coordination with the American Dental Association's Give-Kids-A-Smile Day and National Children's Dental Health Month. A host of volunteers along with members from the Maryland State Dental Association (MSDA) and Foundation will provide instrumental support for the February presentations. Dr. Winifred Booker, CEO of the COHI, and who currently serves as president of the MSDA has praised this commitment to health care benevolence.

Dr. Joanne Rief, MSDA member from the Baltimore County Dental Association is poised to be at the helm of the presentation planned for 190 students at the Beth Tfiloh Community School on Friday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>. Dr. Bill LeBoe, MSDA component president of the Baltimore City Dental Society will lead the presentation at the Mother Mary Lange Catholic School on Friday, February 10<sup>th</sup>. 91 youth are to be recipients of this program. Both presentations are scheduled at 10am.

Every student will receive a stethoscope and a white doctor's coat donated by the Maryland Office of Oral Health, and exclusively designed by The COHI that reads on the back, "I can become a dentist." The *Middle School to Dental School* logo is printed on the front. Students will receive a mouse pad describing the teeth, toothbrushes donated by the MSDA, and much more.

The Children's Oral Health Institute's Educational Resource Consultant, Ms. Sherry Holland Senter remarked, "*Middle School to Dental School* provides exciting exposure to the careers in dentistry during these impressionable years. The collaboration between dental professionals, corporate sponsors and educators to offer Maryland youth these motivating presentations will have a lasting impact. I feel confident many will pursue pathways to health care."

For more about presentations during National Children's Dental Health Month visit [www. mycohi.org](http://www.mycohi.org).



Middle School to Dental School™



*Prevention that Empowers Globally!*