



The Children's Oral Health Institute



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SWEET 16 YEAR FOR LESSONS IN A LUNCH BOX® WELL UNDERWAY

Owings Mills, Maryland (**February 5, 2024**). The Children's Oral Health Institute has tipped off the Sweet 16 milestone year for *Lessons in a Lunch Box*® at the start of National Children's Dental Health Month. This follows a week of service where the lunch boxes were packaged for shipment to elementary schools nationwide. Dr. Leslie Grant, nonprofit Director of Advocacy & Outreach submits, "This Sweet 16 Celebration is well underway with the ongoing distribution of 10,000 additional lunch boxes to the already 65,000 to recipients of the program. Sixteen years acknowledges the sustainability and impact of our oral health literacy mentoring project."

The first of the 40 elementary schools registered have had program presentations in Connecticut, Maryland and Michigan in the first five days of February. Four dental schools are responsible for introducing this health initiative to 2nd and 3rd graders in these states. The University of Maryland School of Dentistry, Tufts University School of Dental Medicine, University of Connecticut School of Dental Medicine, and University of New England School of Dental Medicine thrilled children with education about oral health and careers in dentistry.

Week two is scheduled to begin with presentations in at least 15 more states. The Medical University of South Carolina James B. Edwards and College of Dental Medicine and Meharry Medical College School of Dentistry are dental schools presenting *Lessons in a Lunch Box*® this week. Sponsors, including the Dental Trade Alliance Foundation, the North Carolina Dental Society Foundation, and adec will have hands-on-deck at the elementary schools too.

Visit The Children's Oral Health Institute to learn more about Lessons in a Lunch Box® and other outreach programs. Register an elementary schools at www.mycohi.org while supplies last.

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