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ADA Foundation, 3M Raise Stakes in Battle against Childhood Caries
3M Donation Will Support Give Kids A Smile® Volunteers Placing 400,000+ Sealants in 2017

Minneapolis, September 22, 2016 – The ADA Foundation and 3M today announced that 3M will donate 3,000 introductory sealant kits to the ADA Foundation for use during the 2017 Give Kids A Smile (GKAS) program. The donation, which has an estimated fair market value of \$250,000, will help Give Kids A Smile volunteers place more than 400,000 sealants on underserved kids' teeth in 2017.

“In our collaborations with oral health care professionals around the world, we see the importance that our customers place on giving back to their communities, and it is one we share wholeheartedly,” said John Tobin, director, U.S. Sales and Marketing, 3M Oral Care. “We are proud to partner with the ADA Foundation and the 2017 Give Kids A Smile program to help kids keep healthy smiles for life.”

Each sealant kit can provide approximately 140 sealant applications and includes two 1.2 ml 3M™ Clinpro™ Sealant syringes, one 3 ml 3M™ Scotchbond™ Etchant syringe, 20 sealant syringe tips, and 25 etchant syringe tips. A sealant kit will be included in each of the 3,000 [Henry Schein Dental professional kits](#) distributed to those who register and are awarded product for Give Kids A Smile programs in January, 2017.

“Give Kids A Smile Programs from around the country have been asking for sealant material because they are highly effective and a safe means of preventive dental care,” said Dr. Jeff Dalin, ADA Foundation Give Kids A Smile Committee member. “We love working with 3M and are excited about the opportunity of getting their Clinpro Sealant into the hands of our wonderful volunteers. A lot of kids will benefit greatly from this generous donation of product.”

The ADA Foundation will celebrate Give Kids A Smile’s 15th anniversary in 2017.

In August, the *Journal of the American Dental Association* published a [systematic review](#), and the updated clinical practice [guidelines](#) it helped generate, giving a clear indication to dental professionals as to the marked benefit of the use of sealants in preventing and managing occlusal caries in children and adolescents. The analysis indicated that children treated with sealants have about a 70 to 80 percent reduction in the incidence of occlusal caries compared with children that do not receive sealants.

For more information about Give Kids A Smile or to sign up your Give Kids A Smile program, visit adafoundation.org/GKAS. To make a donation to Give Kids A Smile, visit adafoundation.org.

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About the ADA Foundation

As dentistry’s premier philanthropic and charitable organization, the ADA Foundation is a catalyst for uniting people and organizations to make a difference through better oral health. The ADA Foundation provides more than \$800,000 in grants, scholarships, and awards annually to programs that are in alignment with the organization’s four mission pillars: Charitable Assistance, Access to Care, Research, and Education (C.A.R.E.). As part of these efforts, the ADA Foundation oversees Give Kids A Smile® and also oversees the ADA Foundation Volpe Research Center in Gaithersburg, Maryland (formerly the Paffenbarger Research Center). For more information about the ADA Foundation, visit www.adafoundation.org.

At 3M

At 3M we apply science in collaborative ways to improve lives daily. With \$30 billion in sales, our 90,000 employees connect with customers all around the world. Learn more about 3M’s creative solutions to the world’s problems at www.3M.com or on Twitter @3M or @3Mnewsroom.

About Give Kids A Smile®

The ADA Foundation’s Give Kids A Smile program is one of the world’s largest oral health charitable programs. Launched nationally by the American Dental Association in 2003, Give Kids A Smile is an access-to-care endeavor designed to encourage parents, health professionals, and policymakers to address the year-round need for oral health care and education for all children. Each year the Give Kids A Smile program supports approximately 10,000 dentists, 30,000 dental team members, and other community volunteers in providing free oral health care services including exams, fluoride treatments, sealants, fillings, crowns, and extractions, to more than 350,000 children from low-income families across the country. To find out more about Give Kids A Smile, visit www.adafoundation.org/GKAS.