

Sample Invitation Letter to Elected Officials

(Insert Date)

The Honorable (Insert Name Here)
Member – (NAME OF STATE) House of Representatives
(Insert Street Address)
(Insert City, State and Zip Code)

Dear Representative (Insert Name):

As you know, access to dental services is one of the most pressing health care needs for children whose families cannot afford regular trips to the dentist. To make a dent in that urgent need and to highlight this critical problem, the (Insert Name of Your group) will sponsor our annual Give Kids A Smile® event on (Insert Day & Date and Time Here) at (Insert location and address here). At the event, an estimated (Insert number of children) children will receive free dental services consisting of (Insert a brief description of the services your program will offer).

We invite you to participate in our Give Kids A Smile® program to learn the extent of suffering untreated dental disease inflicts on children and to witness what relief a bit of prevention and treatment can provide. This unique, inspiring event presents the opportunity to interact with children, their families, dentists and their team members and any media members who may be present. It is also a chance for you, as a public leader, to gain firsthand knowledge about this critical health need and potential solutions.

It is shocking that dental decay remains the most common chronic childhood disease. Low-income children suffer twice as much dental decay as those from more affluent families. There are thousands and thousands of kids in this country who can't eat or sleep properly, can't pay attention in school and can't smile, because of untreated dental disease. Without relief, these children will face lifelong health problems—not just dental health, but overall health—and difficulty getting good jobs, to say nothing of the lack of confidence and self-esteem caused by their inability to smile. When coupled with emerging research demonstrating a stronger association between oral health and overall systemic health, I'm sure you'll agree that this is a situation that no citizen or public policymaker will find tolerable at either the human or fiscal level.

Unfortunately, no single day volunteer program will provide a solid, maintainable system of dental care delivery. That takes more than any charitable event can offer; it takes resources, commitment and cooperation. The (Insert Name of Your program) has several ideas on how we can work

together to strengthen the dental care available to those in need. We look forward to seeing you on (Insert Date Here) and the opportunity to discuss these ideas with you further.

Sincerely,

(Insert your name)

(Insert your title)

P.S. To RSVP please call or e-mail (insert appropriate contact information here)