



Delta Dental of Wisconsin  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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# Celebrating the Power of a Smile in Wisconsin with Focus on Nutrition

Delta Dental of Wisconsin Marks National Smile Power Day with Donations to Five Food Banks throughout State

STEVENS POINT, Wis., June 8, 2016 – Nutritious foods are essential to maintaining strong teeth and a healthy smile. That’s why Delta Dental of Wisconsin, the state’s largest dental insurance provider, is donating nutritious food and toothbrushes to five food pantries throughout the state of Wisconsin on June 15, national Smile Power Day.

“People often fail to realize the impact of food choices on oral health, but proper nutrition plays an essential role in preventing tooth decay and gum disease,” said Dr. Fred Eichmiller, DDS, vice president and science officer at Delta Dental of Wisconsin. “To maintain a healthy smile, it’s important to eat plenty of vegetables and fruits, as well as dairy foods including cheese and yogurt. These foods are full of important vitamins, such as calcium, potassium and vitamin K, that help strengthen and protect teeth.”

Delta Dental of Wisconsin recognizes that nutritious, perishable food items are often more expensive than many processed, unhealthy alternatives. They are providing donations to food pantries throughout the state with the goal of making healthy food – and therefore oral health – attainable for Wisconsin residents of all income levels.

The donations to each food shelf will consist of \$1,000 of nutritious foods such as fruits, vegetables, and dairy items including cheese and yogurt, in addition to more than 500 tooth brushes. Delta Dental of Wisconsin will also provide a \$2,000 grant to each food pantry to use to purchase produce in the upcoming months.

The recipients of the donations include:

- Salvation Army Food Pantry, Milwaukee
- The Neighbors’ Place Food Bank and Food Pantry, Wausau
- The Allied Food Pantry, Madison
- WAFER Food Pantry, La Crosse

- Paul's Pantry, Green Bay

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#### **About Delta Dental of Wisconsin**

For more than 50 years, Delta Dental has been working to maintain healthy communities and healthy teeth. We provide dental benefits and services to more Wisconsin companies, subscribers, and their family members than any other insurance carrier. Our mission is to improve oral health and wellness by extending access to care, advancing science, and supporting an effective oral-health workforce. Through Delta Dental of Wisconsin's Charitable Fund, we are committed to *advancing solutions* for Wisconsin's oral health.