

Give Kids a Smile

'Give Kids a Smile Day,' a national event sponsored by the American Dental Association, will be offered in Pocatello on February 26-27, 2010. Local dental professionals will provide eligible Pocatello and Southeast Idaho children who are preschool age through 3rd grade an opportunity to receive dental exams and treatment at no cost.

This event is targeted toward families that have no dental insurance, or who are underinsured. WIC income guidelines establish the criteria needed for a child to receive services; however, families **DO NOT** need to be on WIC to participate in the event. Unlike years past, **proof of income** (e.g., pay stub, last year's taxes or eligibility for Medicaid and/or food stamps) **is needed to participate**.

Children attending the 'Give Kids a Smile Day' event, located at the Idaho State University Dental Hygiene Clinic, 999 Martin Luther King Drive (Building #37), will receive a dental exam, x-rays, dental cleaning, and preventive treatment (fluoride varnish and sealants), as well as home care instructions. In years past, restorative treatment such as fillings, pulpotomies, and extractions were provided on-site at the event. However, this year, to better serve more area children, arrangements for restorative treatment services will be referred to off-site Pocatello-area dentists who are donating their time and services at no-cost. "Changing the way we provide services at 'Give Kids a Smile' allows dental hygiene students as well as area dentists an opportunity to provide more needed dental services to area children," says Karla Luedtke, Southeastern District Health Department dental hygienist.

Families that have children in need of dental services and that fit the eligibility guidelines are encouraged to make an appointment as soon as possible. The Southeastern District Health Department will be making appointments for the 'Give Kids a Smile' event. Please call Dana Solomon at 239-5256 to make an appointment. Appointment times on Friday, February 26th will be from 4:00 to 7:00 pm; on Saturday, February 27th, the times will be from 9:00am through noon. If you have questions regarding the event, call Karla Luedtke at 478-6314; leaving a voicemail message if needed.

Income Guidelines for Services:

Number of Household Members*	Maximum Gross Household Income	
	Per Month	Per Year
1	\$1,670	\$20,036
2	\$2,247	\$26,955
3	\$2,823	\$33,874
4	\$3,400	\$40,793
5	\$3,976	\$47,712
6	\$4,553	\$54,631

*For each additional individual, add \$577/month or \$6919/year
**One pregnant woman counts as 2 household members.