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PINELLAS COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

May 3, 2010

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Dental Clinics for Homeless Staffed by Volunteers

Volunteers came together on May 1 to screen 75 homeless and uninsured adults for basic dental services as part of *Pinellas Smiles*. The event was a follow-up to January's Project Homeless Connect, which provided more than 700 homeless people with screenings and other social services. Patients will return for dental services on May 8.

This homeless dental clinic is the first of its type in south Pinellas. Grant funds were provided by Bon Secours St. Petersburg and more than 50 volunteers from the Pinellas County Health Department, St. Petersburg Free Clinic, Sathya Sai Center of Tampa Bay, Pinellas County Coalition for the Homeless, St. Anthony's Health Center, the City of St. Petersburg and the Prescription Shop donated their services.

The dental screening clinic was held at the Pinellas County Health Department, 205 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. St. N., St. Petersburg. Adults who are homeless will return for basic dental care on May 8. (Basic services include cleanings, one extraction or one filling. Complex dental issues will not be addressed.)

Additional homeless dental clinics may be scheduled, depending on volunteer manpower and funding. For information, call the St. Petersburg Free Clinic, (727) 692-4455 or go to StPetersburgFreeClinic.org.

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