

SPECIAL EDITION

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Golden
toothbrush
Awards Erie Family Health Center

Golden Toothbrush Awards + Social Media



Meet Erie patient Luis:

www.vimeo.com/12029919



Check out event photos:

www.flickr.com/riefamilyhealth



View the award winner video:

www.vimeo.com/12030021



Read more on Erie's blog:

www.riefamilyhealth.org/bpm




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spotlight

Golden Toothbrush Awards Luncheon Event Overview

Did you know tooth disease is the single most chronic disease effecting children in the United States? Or that Hispanic children have the highest rate of tooth decay in Illinois? Or that 70% of Illinois residents who have never been to a dentist are Hispanic or African-American? With statistics like this, it's daunting to think of ways you can make a difference. It would be challenging to have an impact on your own, but teaming up with Erie Family Health Center is the way to make a change. And that's just what you did.

On Tuesday, May 25, 2010 Erie hosted the second annual Golden Toothbrush Awards Luncheon at the InterContinental Chicago and raised almost \$140,000 to directly support Erie's Oral Health Program. The luncheon helped not only shed light on the challenges Erie's patients face in accessing dental care but also showed how oral health is an integral part of a person's overall health. Speaker June Thomas from Slate Magazine spoke to the audience on her oral health experience and the implications it had on her life. A video featuring Erie patient Luis captured not only the importance of oral health, but also the emotional challenges linked to not having access to dental care. Both June and Luis told their stories to an audience of nearly 300 attendees as a testament to the importance of oral health in Chicago.

The Golden Toothbrush Awards is the only fundraiser in Chicago focusing on growing and supporting community oral health. At the event Erie honored and recognized leaders who make a significant impact on the oral health of low-income communities in Chicagoland. Nominees were submitted and a committee selected a winner based on the innovative, creative and groundbreaking impact they have on providing oral health to the medically underserved communities in Chicago. The finalists were: Jason Grinter, DDS; Reshma Dhake, DDS; and Illinois Children's Healthcare Foundation. Dr. Jason Grinter was announced as the winner of the 2010 Golden Toothbrush Awards! Read more about Dr. Grinter and his achievements in providing dental care in our communities on page 2. 



ERIE FAMILY HEALTH CENTER DENTAL TEAM



THANK YOU TO
THE 2010 GOLDEN
TOOTHBRUSH
AWARD SPONSORS!





A Message from Erie's CEO and President

Dear Golden Toothbrush Supporter:

There is Erie Family Health Center's promise... the promise to be the best we can be. The promise to serve our patients for as long as they need us and to provide care to our communities. I would like to thank you for joining Erie Family Health Center at our second annual Golden Toothbrush Luncheon and for your ongoing support of our organization. These are critical times for people living without health or dental care available to them. Simply put, without all of you, we just couldn't do the work we do. We are so grateful to all of you and hope you had a great afternoon at the Luncheon. Have a wonderful summer and we hope to see you at Erie's next event premiering in early 2011! Details and more information to follow!

Lee Francis

Meet the 2010 Golden Toothbrush Winner

Jason Grinter, DDS graduated from the University at Buffalo School of Dental Medicine. He knew he was meant to serve his community and devoted over five years at Milestone Dental Clinic and is now at Illinois Masonic Hospital, where he completed his residency. Dr. Grinter expanded the Ronald McDonald Care Mobile to treat patients with special needs in five counties. Dr. Grinter works tirelessly throughout the State to advocate for improvements in access to care for all underserved individuals.

He work with the Illinois Department of Public Aid and DentaQuest and serves on the DentaQuest/HFS Illinois Peer Review Committee, as an Officer on the Board of the Academy of Dentistry for Persons with Disabilities and as a Board member of the Special Care Dentistry Association. He was directly involved in creating and implementing the Healthy Kids Healthy Smiles program, which provides access to restorative care for children identified with decay. Jason says he will not rest until every special needs patient in Illinois has access to the dental care they deserve.



FUNDER'S FEATURE

Erie Family Health Center is only as strong and the partnerships we have—especially those with local universities. Erie's Oral Health Program currently partners with the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Dentistry to prepare future leaders in community dentistry. Dental students are placed at Erie's dental centers for 30-day rotations to gain hands-on experience and a better understanding of serving low-income communities.

In the coming year, UIC and Erie will work together to increase access to oral health care for low-income families in the North Lawndale community. UIC recently awarded the Oral Health Program \$4,500 to expand its efforts at Henson Elementary School, where Erie operates one of its school-based health centers. With UIC's support, Erie will be able to link children at Henson to services at Erie Dental Health Center—Humboldt Park. Not only will Erie schedule dental visits for Henson students, Erie will help patients keep these appointments by providing free transportation to the Dental Center for children and their parents.

