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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Bethel Family Health Center now offers Dental Hygiene Services

BETHEL – Bethel Family Health Center is pleased to announce the start of a Dental Hygiene Services program for children age 20 or younger, beginning September 11.

Sharon Smith-Bouchard, Independent Practice Dental Hygienist, will provide dental hygiene services to patients 20 and younger, twice a month. Dental hygiene services include cleanings, sealants, preventive care, fluoride varnish treatments, temporary protective restoration, and referrals.

Although tooth decay is largely preventable, it remains the most common chronic disease of children aged 6 to 11 years and adolescents aged 12 to 19 years. Tooth decay is four times more common than asthma among adolescents aged 14 to 17 years.

Bethel Family Health Center is committed to holistically treating each patient. With that goal in mind, the Health Center has made marked commitments to the integration of behavioral/mental health services, assistance services and now, dental hygiene services.

"Everyone here at Bethel Family Health Center is excited about this new program," said Dianna Milot, Practice Manager, "There is a real need for dental hygiene services in Maine, and our program is available to anyone age 20 and under in the greater community, including MaineCare recipients, and that is something we are very proud of."

All insurances will be accepted, and financial assistance is available for people without health insurance. The program will not replace existing relationships that patients have with area dentists, rather, it will offer an option to those who find it hard to access dental care because of cost or distance.

People wishing to make an appointment should call 207-824-2193. Bethel Family Health Center is located at 32 Railroad Street in Bethel. www.BethelCHC.org

Bethel Family Health Center is a practice of HealthReach Community Health Centers, a system of eleven federally qualified health centers in Central and Western Maine. Dedicated providers deliver high quality healthcare to citizens in over 80 rural communities. To ensure access for everyone, HealthReach accepts major insurances, Medicare and MaineCare. In addition, uninsured and underinsured patients have access to an Affordable Care Program and assistance with applications for other programs that help with health care and medication costs. A private, non-profit organization celebrating 38 years of providing care, HealthReach is funded by patient fees, grants and individual donations.

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Attached Photo: Bethel Family Health Center.jpg