

Daily Herald

In honor of National Dental Health Month, the Utah County Health Department is partnering with several local agencies to provide free dental screenings at the Tuesday evening Volunteer Care Clinic.

Volunteers will do oral health screenings to make an assessment of all patients who come to the Volunteer Care Clinic Tuesday evenings in February. Adults will be assessed, and when applicable, be given referrals to local dentists who provide low- or no-cost treatment.

Children up to age 13 will also be assessed, but they will also be given (with parental consent) a fluoride varnish to help protect their teeth. They will also be able to participate in a coloring contest for prizes from local merchants and be given free dental kits and a free fluoride prescription.

"This is mostly for the kids," said Jackie Evans-Black, health department nursing bureau director. "Early dental care is very important to life-long oral health."

The UCHD is partnering with the Volunteer Care Clinic, the Utah College of Dental Hygiene and Community Health Connect for this effort.

The Volunteer Care Clinic (which sees individuals and families living at or below the poverty line) will be the site of the dental screenings each Tuesday evening in February. The clinic is open from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Utah County Health and Justice Building at 151 S. University Ave., Provo in Room 1709. Patients are seen by volunteer medical care providers on a first-come, first-served basis.

For questions about the Free Dental Screenings, please call 851-7045. For questions on the Volunteer Care Clinic, call 812-8094.