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**Photo Op and Media Advisory**

**Centro is site of special visit by UCare Tooth Care  
25 uninsured youths to receive free dental care aboard  
“dentist’s office on wheels”**

**WHEN:** Wednesday, June 10, 2009, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

**WHERE:** [Centro Cultural Chicano](#),  
1915 Chicago Ave. (at  
Franklin Ave.),  
Minneapolis

**DETAILS:** [UCare Tooth Care](#) is a fully equipped 37-foot Winnebago – a “dentist’s office on wheels” – that brings quality dental care to UCare members in Minnesota who have limited access to dental services.



[UCare](#) is partnering with Centro to address oral health disparities and raise awareness of the issue of dental access for the uninsured.

- This mobile dental unit will provide dental cleanings and check-ups at no cost to 25 uninsured children 1-17 years of age who were selected by Centro for this care.
- These youngsters and their families will receive informative materials in English and Spanish about the importance and techniques of good dental health. They also will be referred to a local community dental clinic for future care.
- Faculty and supervised dental and dental hygiene students from the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry staff the mobile dental unit and will deliver the dental care.
- UCare Tooth Care first rolled down Minnesota roads in August 2002 through a partnership between UCare and the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry. UCare is the first health plan in Minnesota to own and operate a mobile dental unit.

**ELIGIBILITY:** Just the 25 children selected by Centro to receive these services on June 10.

**SPOKESPEOPLE:** Dr. Paul Schulz, University of Minnesota School of Dentistry faculty (prior to June 10)  
Roxana Linares, Education Director, Centro  
Ghita Worcester, Senior Vice President, UCare

**BACKGROUND:** **UCare** ([www.ucare.org](http://www.ucare.org)) is an independent, nonprofit health plan providing health care and administrative services to more than 175,000 members. UCare partners with health care providers, counties, and community organizations to create and deliver innovative health coverage products for:

- Individuals and families enrolled in income-based Minnesota Health Care Programs, such as MinnesotaCare and Prepaid Medical Assistance Program.
- Adults with disabilities and Medicare beneficiaries with chronic health conditions.
- Minnesotans dually eligible for Medical Assistance and Medicare.
- Medicare-eligible individuals throughout Minnesota and in western Wisconsin.

UCare addresses health care disparities and care access issues through its UCare Fund grants and a broad array of community initiatives.

**The University of Minnesota School of Dentistry**, the state's only dental school, is dedicated to education, research and service to benefit the profession and the communities it serves.

**Centro** is a multifaceted social service agency and community meeting place that has served the Latino community in Minneapolis for more than 30 years. It's a center where Latinos may gather and celebrate their individual history, culture, and traditions.

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