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**Photo Opp and Media Advisory**

**UCare Tooth Care to visit Centro**

***30 youths to receive free dental care aboard mobile dental unit***

**WHEN:** Wednesday, July 16, 2008, between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

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

**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.

- This mobile dental unit will visit **Centro** to provide dental cleanings and check-ups at no cost to 30 uninsured children 1-17 years of age who were selected by Centro for this care.
- These youngsters and their families will receive informative materials about the importance and techniques of good dental and oral health. They also will be referred to a local community dental clinic for future care.
- [UCare](#) is partnering with Centro to address oral health disparities and raise awareness of the issue of dental access for the uninsured.
- Faculty and supervised students from the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry staff the mobile dental unit.
- 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 30 children selected by Centro to receive these services.

**SPOKESPEOPLE:** Dr. Paul Schulz, University of Minnesota School of Dentistry faculty (prior to July 16)  
Roxana Linares, Education Director, Centro  
Renae Froemming, Delegated Business Services Director, UCare

**Media interviews: Call Deanne Probst at 612-676-3630.**

**BACKGROUND:** **UCare** ([www.ucare.org](http://www.ucare.org)) is an independent, nonprofit health plan providing health care and administrative services to more than 145,000 members. UCare partners with health care providers, counties, and community organizations to create and deliver innovative health coverage plans 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.

**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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