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St. James Mercy Hospital and Fidelis Care Promote Covering the Uninsured in Hornell Schools

February 28, 2013...Hornell, NY – St. James Mercy Hospital and Fidelis Care teamed up during the month of February to promote health insurance coverage for local youth. Laura Vetter, Community Services Director at St. James Mercy, and Joe Bassage, Outreach Specialist for Fidelis Care, used National Children’s Dental Health Month as the platform for communicating with Hornell City School District teachers and parents. Youth pre-K through 2nd grade were provided information packets on dental health and health insurance coverage. Toothbrushes were also sent home with each child. In addition, teachers were given resources to promote dental hygiene and health insurance coverage for youth in their classrooms. “There is evidence that poor dental, as well as poor vision and physical health play a role in a student’s classroom behavior and attendance,” says Vetter. Bassage concurs. “Essentially, no child should be denied health insurance and Fidelis is making sure that this message is being heard.”

A coloring contest on promoting good dental health was also held in district classrooms -- students from each grade level received certificates and movie passes to the local theatre.

See pictures and caption below and attached



Coloring Contest Winners in Pre- K, Kindergarten and First grade at N. Hornell display their submissions. Front Row Left to Right: Allyson Scott, Madison Rudenauer, Rachel Holbrook and Myah Burns

Second Row Left to Right: Gage Hill, Stella Argentieri, Amaya Hoffman and Kylee Bentley

Third Row Left to Right: Barb Kramer (Principal), Joe Bassage (Fidelis Care) and Laura Vetter (St. James Mercy Hospital)



Coloring Contest Winners in 2nd grade display their submissions. Pictured Left to Right: Laura Vetter (St. James Mercy Hospital), Morgan Trudell, Will Zamora, Tyson Tigner and Joe Bassage (Fidelis Care)