

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



4108 Park Road, Suite 300
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www.AmericasToothFairy.org

**LOCAL CHILDREN RECEIVE ORAL CARE PRODUCTS FROM RICE COUNTY
EARLY CHILDHOOD DENTAL NETWORK AS PART OF NATIONAL SMILE DRIVE
CAMPAIGN**

Northfield—Did you know that tooth decay is the most common chronic untreated disease in America, making it difficult for millions of children to eat, focus in school, and smile? One reason for the prevalence of decay is the lack of basic oral care products in many low-income homes.

To address this significant problem locally, the Rice County Early Childhood Dental Network (ECDN) will again hold a Smile Drive in both Northfield and Faribault. Community members are invited to donate new and unopened child toothbrushes, toothpaste, floss, and mouth rinse. Donation locations are KYMN Radio in Northfield and the Community Center in Faribault. Marked boxes will be available at each location from now until Friday, March 8th. Last year the group collected close to 300 dental items and would love to surpass that goal this year.

The donated items will be delivered to both the Northfield and Faribault food shelves, and Northfield and Faribault Community Schools. Other organizations in either community who wish to receive a portion of the donated goods can contact Ellen Haefner, Rice Co. Early Childhood Dental Network Coordinator, at 507-664-3654 or ehaefner@northfieldschools.org.

About America's ToothFairy

Since its inception in 2006, America's ToothFairy has distributed more than \$19 million in donated products, educational materials and financial grants to improve oral health outcomes for children and youth in need. For more information, visit AmericasToothFairy.org.

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