# **News Release**



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# TEAMSMILE & PROJECT L.I.F.T. HELP 300 SMILES AT FREE YOUTH DENTAL CLINIC Carolina Panthers players, TopCats cheerleaders and Sir Purr to visit patients

**Nov. 17 2014 – (Charlotte, NC)** – Project L.I.F.T. understands there is a direct correlation between oral health and academic success, which is why they have partnered with TeamSmile to perform dental surgeries on 300 students on Nov. 18 from 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at Friendship Missionary Baptist Church.

## Join TeamSmile and Project L.I.F.T. for the clinic's media tour at 9:30 a.m.

L.I.F.T. hosted the first NC M.O.M. pediatric dental clinic in February. Students received cleanings and sealants then; however, some needed extractions, root canals, fillings and other dental surgeries. These students have been referred to Charlotte's first TeamSmile Dental Clinic.

TeamSmile uses a sports driven, fun environment for kids to enjoy dental care leading students to self advocate to parents for continued treatment of smiles. "Chaired by local dental professionals Matt, Megan and Adrian Lineberger, TeamSmile is operated with the help of local dental professionals and volunteers. The goal is to provide immediate needed dental care, dental hygiene education and a public awareness that improving smiles, improves scores," said Kellie Reneau-Jardan TeamSmile program director.

Carolina Panthers players, TopCats cheerleaders, Sir Purr, music and more will be at the event to cheer students on and hold hands to get through procedures. "Going to the dentist can be a nervous experience when you are a child. Our hope is to give these deserving children an extra reason to show off their terrific smiles," said Riley Fields, Panthers' director of community relations.

#### **Appearance Schedule**

10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Sir Purr

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. TopCats cheerleaders

"Project L.I.F.T. is committed to serving the whole child. We've partnered with a number of healthcare groups and agencies to respond to the ever-increasing social, emotional and physical needs of our students. Oral health was identified as a major area of concern, as dental problems negatively affect school attendance and performance. It is our goal to help these families find permanent dental homes for long-term care, but TeamSmile and our volunteers have stepped up to respond to immediate needs," said Susan Norwood, Project L.I.F.T executive coordinator.

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#### **About TeamSmile**

TeamSmile is the nation's premier advocacy group that partners oral health professionals with professional athletic organizations to provide life-changing dental care to underserved children in our communities. <a href="www.teamsmile.org">www.teamsmile.org</a>

### About Project L.I.F.T.

A bold, innovative and unconventional organization to transform education in Charlotte's west corridor schools.