FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 17, 2014

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Vista Community Clinic Launches A+ Teeth Dental Health Screening Program in VUSD Schools

VISTA, CA—Vista Community Clinic, in partnership with Vista Unified School District, has launched the A+ Teeth Dental Screening Program at six VUSD schools. The clinic’s dentists and dental staff are currently visiting the schools to offer dental screenings, sealants, fluoride varnish and dental hygiene instructions.

“Good dental health begins with education and what a perfect setting to reach out to those in our community who need us the most,” said Dr. Rebecca Cornille, Dental Director at Vista Community Clinic. “We are able to identify potential dental problems early and apply preventative sealants to permanent molars to protect them from decay. This is also a great way to connect children who might not have a dentist with a dental home so that they can receive comprehensive dental care on a regular basis.”

The program is open to all students whether they have dental health insurance or not. Upon receiving dental services, each student receives a dental report card with information on the findings of the visual examination and suggestions for follow-up care. A Vista Community Clinic care coordinator works with families of children who need follow up dental work. The A+ Dental Screening Program will continue through May and resume when the new school year begins in the fall.

“Recently, we had the pleasure of having the A+ Teeth Dental Health program at our school,” said Erin English, principal of Foothill Oak Elementary School in Vista. “The program was
flawless. Each detail was thoughtfully implemented. The staff was gracious and sensitive to our population. This will be a program that I hope will become part of what we do every year.”

According to the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, about 25 percent of the nation’s children have 80 percent of the cavities. Those at risk for dental disease include children of recent immigrants; children from poor families; and children with special needs including chronic health conditions. Dental problems such as tooth pain are a leading cause of school absences. Children with pain tend to be distracted and unable to focus on classroom learning.

About Vista Community Clinic: With five locations in the cities of Vista and Oceanside, Vista Community Clinic provides high-quality, low-cost healthcare to more than 57,000 uninsured and low- to moderate-income members of the North County community. One in four Vista residents and one in eight in Oceanside receive care from Vista Community Clinic. For more information, please call (760) 631-5000 or visit www.vistacommunityclinic.org.