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VCC MOBILE DENTAL VAN OFFERS SERVICES IN THE COMMUNITY

VISTA, CA—Vista Community Clinic has taken a big leap forward in improving patient access to dental care with the debut of its mobile dental van. The van began operations on July 14 with a visit to the Libby Lake Community Center in Oceanside.

“VCC is committed to constant improvement of services to our patient population,” said Fernando M. Sañudo, CEO of Vista Community Clinic. “The mobile dental van will greatly enhance our ability to reach those who would not ordinarily seek dental care. With portable dentistry, we are circumventing many barriers to dental care like lack of transportation. Along with providing care, we will also have the opportunity to educate families on the importance of oral health and connect them with regular dental care.”

The 29-foot van was purchased by VCC in March. Cabinets were refurbished and two autoclaves were installed to sterilize instruments. The van will be used by VCC dentists and members of the dental staff to visit schools, community centers, health fairs and other venues. They will provide critically-needed dental services including dental exams, fluoride varnish, sealants and dental hygiene instructions. VCC has also entered into partnerships to take the dental van to Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) sites and to MAAC Head Start locations in North County. Beginning September, the VCC dental van will provide services to children at Vista Unified School District and Oceanside Unified School District.
According to the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, tooth decay is the single most common childhood disease. The need for dental care is especially acute among children from low income families. They are at greater risk for not receiving preventive dental care and treatment for oral disease.

“We are so excited to offer services with our mobile dental van,” said Dr. Rebecca Cornille, Dental Director at VCC. “It will allow us to provide care to those who need it the most. Taking the van out into the community will also help us 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 mobile dental van is the latest enhancement to VCC’s comprehensive and integrated array of dental services for adults and children. Services include dental examinations, cleaning, X-rays and referrals to specialists. For dental and medical appointments, call (760) 631-5000.

**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.