FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GIVE KIDS A SMILE DAY BENEFITS CHENEY STUDENTS

CHENEY, WA (February 7, 2014) - Cheney students will be participating in the 5th annual, “Give Kids a Smile Day” on February 7th through the generous donation of local Cheney dentists. Students from Westwood and Cheney Middle School will benefit from free dental screenings, cleanings, fillings and more for those uninsured and without a dentist.

Dr. Stockton, Dr. Gibbs, Dr. Ridl, and Dr. Roconnova will be donating their offices’ time and over $20,000 in services. Some of the young people who will be benefiting from this program have not seen a dentist in over 2 years and are in need of multiple fillings.

Dr. Ridl is proud to give back to local children in need through this nationwide event for fifth year. “We provide necessary dental treatment to children in the community whom have not been able to benefit from routine dental care.”

Students will be transported from school to participate in this event through the coordination and support of Communities In Schools of Spokane County. Communities In Schools has full-time Site Coordinators placed within these schools who were able to identify those students in need of these free services and work with their families to identify their needs.

Alise Mnati, Site Coordinator at Westwood Middle School, is excited to be able to provide transportation and be with her students during “Give Kids a Smile Day.” “No child should have barriers in accessing basic needs such as dental care and that’s why Communities In Schools is part of this day that keeps students healthy and puts smiles on their faces.”

About Communities In Schools of Spokane County
Since 2008, Communities In Schools of Spokane County has been part of nationwide affiliation of local, autonomous organizations dedicated to surrounding students with a community of support, empowering them to stay in school and achieve in life. Locally Communities In Schools of Spokane County is working in 20 schools, in the most challenged neighborhoods in Spokane, Cheney and Central Valley. Currently serving over 4,000 students and their families, Communities In Schools of Spokane County provides a variety of needed resources for students including mentoring, afterschool programming, basic needs, and parent engagement programs. It has been shown through an independent evaluation to be the nation’s only dropout prevention organization proven to both increase graduation rates and reduce dropout rates. To learn more about Communities In Schools of Spokane County visit www.Spokane.ciswa.org.

About Give Kids a Smile Day
The American Dental Association began the Give Kids A Smile program in 2003 as a way for dentists to join with others in the community to provide dental services to underserved
children. The program initially began as a one-day event in February, but has since grown to local and national events year-round. Dentists and other team members volunteer their time, and services, to provide screenings, treatments and education to children throughout the United States. Each year, approximately 450,000 children benefit from more than 1500 events, all because of the efforts of 40,000 or more annual volunteers.