

# New Health Department Initiative Targets Children's Dental Health

The Volusia County Health Department, in an effort to increase access to dental care, is considering implementing a school based dental sealant program. We will be targeting 2<sup>nd</sup> grade children starting with Title One Schools which have the highest percentage of children who are on free and reduced lunch.

We appreciate the support of the Volusia/Flagler Dental Association Board.

If you have any questions please contact Jo Ann Weatherwax, Dental Program Director for Volusia County Health Department at 386-274-0899.

“Pit and fissure sealants can be used effectively as part of a comprehensive approach to caries prevention on an individual basis or as a public health measure for at-risk populations.” *A report of the American Dental Association Council on Scientific Affairs, March 2008.*

In the United States “an estimated 51 million hours of school per year are lost because of dental-related illness.” *National Maternal and Oral Health Resource Center.*