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## National Rural Health Association announces partnership with DentaQuest Foundation

The National Rural Health Association (NRHA) today announced that it will partner with the DentaQuest Foundation for the creation of a National Rural Oral Health Initiative.

The National Rural Oral Health Initiative is the combined effort of NRHA and the DentaQuest Foundation to highlight best practices and to improve the oral health disparities in rural America through policy, communications, education and research activities. As oral health issues have long impacted those living in rural communities, the activities included in this initiative are designed to enhance access to quality oral health care.

"We want to identify strategies that engage and establish oral health care as part of primary care," said Alan Morgan, NRHA chief executive officer. "The DentaQuest Foundation is the perfect partner for this first-ever national, rural-focused oral health initiative. The DentaQuest Foundation has a longstanding commitment to improving oral health for the rural population through fostering collaborations, raising awareness, and supporting solutions."

"NRHA looks forward to leveraging our national and grassroots partnerships as we launch the National Rural Oral Health Initiative to bring attention, education and action to address rural oral health disparities," Morgan said.

The national initiative will highlight rural oral health care best practices, enhance research, advance policy, and provide technical assistance for communities in need.

## **About the DentaQuest Foundation**

The DentaQuest Foundation is the leading U.S. philanthropy focused solely on oral health. The Foundation is supporting the development of the Oral Health 2020 network, a group of partners committed to working collectively at the national, state, and community levels to eradicate dental disease in children and improve lifelong oral health. The DentaQuest Foundation is the philanthropic arm of DentaQuest. To learn more, visit dentaquestfoundation.org. Follow the DentaQuest Foundation on Twitter, <a href="@OralHealth2020">@OralHealth2020</a>, or visit the Facebook page.

## **About the National Rural Health Association**

The National Rural Health Association is a nonprofit organization working to improve the health and well-being of rural Americans and providing leadership on rural health issues through advocacy, communications, education and research since 1978. NRHA's membership is made up of more than 21,000 diverse individuals and organizations, all of whom share the common bond of an interest in rural health.