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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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VALLEY HEALTH OFFERING FREE PRENATAL DENTAL SERVICES
*Valley Health partners with Foundation for the Tri-State Community
to offer free dental services to Cabell and Wayne County prenatal patients*

HUNTINGTON, W.Va. - Valley Health, in partnership with the Foundation for the Tri-State Community, is now offering for a limited time free dental cleanings and restorative work for qualifying pregnant woman who reside in the counties of Cabell or Wayne.

Oral health problems that are left unaddressed during pregnancy can affect the mother and indirectly her unborn baby. Pregnant women should visit their dentists every six months for regular appointments and address any oral or dental issues.

"We are so pleased to be offering this important program," noted Dr. Andrea Kelly, Valley Health dental director. "During pregnancy the body's hormone levels are increased which can lead to increased gingival inflammation. Evidence suggests that dental disease can be transferred from mother to unborn child. It is more important than ever for women to maintain good oral hygiene and get regular dental checkups when they are expecting."

Valley Health's dental services are available to women through referral from their Ob/Gyn provider on a first come/first serve basis until grant funds are exhausted, or until June 30, 2010, whichever comes first.

To qualify for free dental care, prenatal patients must be 18 years of age or older, a resident of either Cabell County or Wayne County and have evidence that they are without any type of dental insurance.

Valley Health offers dental care in the counties of Cabell and Wayne at Valley Health – Westmoreland located at 2908 Auburn Road in Huntington and at Valley Health - Fort Gay on 3329 Bridge Street in Fort Gay. Valley Health also operates dental clinics in Harts and Cedar Grove for qualifying candidates who find those locations more convenient to their workplace.

For more complete information about Valley Health services and locations, please visit www.valleyhealth.org or contact Lanie Masilamani, health care administrator, at 304-525-3334. To make an appointment, call the Valley Health center nearest you.

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Valley Health is an integrated network of 28 primary health care centers and public health programs in southwestern West Virginia and southern Ohio that serves more than 68,000 patients each year. The Valley Health medical staff includes doctors, dentists, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, nurses and midwives. Valley Health centers offer services including family practice, internal medicine, pediatrics, Ob/Gyn, dentistry, psychiatry, pharmacy services, laboratory services, X-rays and ultrasounds. For more information about Valley Health,

contact Lanie Masilamani, health care administrator, at 304-525-3334 or visit www.valleyhealth.org.

Foundation for the Tri-State Community is the community foundation serving northeastern Kentucky, southern Ohio, and southwestern West Virginia. Its offices are located in Huntington and Ashland. The Foundation's mission is to improve the quality of life in the communities it serves by encouraging, raising, administering and distributing gifts for charitable, educational, cultural and scientific purposes. For more information about the Foundation or its services, contact Mary Witten Wiseman, president, at 606-324-3888.