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For Immediate Release**Allison Cusick Named Executive Director of
Delta Dental of Colorado Foundation**

DENVER – October 28, 2016 – The Board of Directors of Delta Dental of Colorado Foundation (DDCOF) is pleased to announce Allison Cusick, MPA as the new Executive Director. A public health professional with 18 years of nonprofit and oral health leadership experience, Cusick currently serves as the Senior Program Officer for DDCOF.

"We chose Allison because of her strong philanthropic experience and significant knowledge about the Foundation," said Terry Koele, board chair. "The Board has great confidence she will continue the meaningful work of the Foundation."

Cusick's background uniquely positions her to assume the role as DDCOF's third Executive Director. She has worked on Foundation projects since 2012 and became a full-time staff member in 2014. Cusick's significant achievements for the Foundation and Delta Dental of Colorado include:

- Designing and implementing six strategic initiatives and grant programs with budgets totaling over \$2 million annually, including the launch of the Colorado Medical-Dental Integration project.
- Managing over \$2.1 million in company community benefit projects including the University of Colorado Dental School's Heroes Clinic.
- Partnering with company leaders to develop critical new projects including the first Child Health Plan Plus outreach project, which saw a 3% increase in utilization in 2015.

Since 2009, Allison has held leadership positions with two Delta Dental Plans Association member foundations. Prior to joining DDCOF, Cusick worked for Washington Dental Service Foundation as a program manager for Children & Senior's Initiatives. During that time, Cusick supervised a team of six professionals. Her team developed and executed systems and policy strategies to improve oral health, by identifying opportunities and building partnerships.

"I am honored to work with the Board of Directors and staff to move the Foundation into its next chapter. Our mission is to ensure that children don't suffer from cavities, which are for the most part preventable. There is still much work to be done to spread this important message and I'm proud to be part of it," said Cusick. "The Foundation will continue our work to be strategically innovative. Our obligation to improve the health of our communities will continue to drive our efforts through our grants."

Cusick is active within the nonprofit community, serving on the board of directors for Bright By Three Colorado. She has a master's degree in public administration from Seattle University and a bachelor of science degree in health promotion and education from Oregon State University.

"Allison's work with Delta Dental of Colorado and other member associations across the country complements her proven leadership with the Foundation. Her knowledge of our mission and experience with our partners will serve to make this transition smooth. There is no one better aligned to continue our important work," said Barbara Springer, current Executive Director.

Cusick will take over from Barbara Springer in December 2016. Both will spend time over the next month preparing for the transition.

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About Delta Dental of Colorado Foundation

Delta Dental of Colorado Foundation's (DDCOF) mission is to improve the state's oral health by eradicating childhood tooth decay. Over the past 15 years, the Foundation has been solely funded by Delta Dental of Colorado. DDCOF's initiatives have included educational programs targeting low-income, high-risk families; support of dental health education for medical and dental students as well as providers; and opportunities to teach good dental habits and cavity prevention among pregnant women and children. As a 501(c)(3) organization, the Foundation works to make good dental health a community priority. A core belief is that, because dental disease is almost 100 percent preventable, efforts to improve oral health will result in a healthier Colorado overall. To learn more about Delta Dental of Colorado Foundation, please visit www.deltadentalcofoundation.org.