Shelby, Carrie’s mother. “We’re not a family that takes handouts, and we’re thankful that we still have our jobs. But with pay-cuts and several kids in the house, we couldn’t afford braces for Carrie. Smiles Change Lives was the miracle we needed to help Carrie find her true smile,” adds Carrie’s mother.

When asked how she would celebrate Valentine’s Day this year, Carrie remarked, “Well, I’ve got a date to the Sweetheart Dance for the first time. I can’t wait to pose for the pictures and show off my perfect teeth!”

Dentists, counselors, nurses and teachers are encouraged to nominate a child for this program. Interested families may view program guidelines and download an application at www.smileschanglives.org/apply or by calling (816) 421-4949.

“Smiles Change Lives serves families at varying income levels. For more information on financial qualifications, please visit www.smileschanglives.org/qualify.

(Source: Vocus/PRIWEB)

‘Smiles Change Lives’

“I love to smile now. It’s just automatic,” exudes Carrie, a recent Smiles Change Lives (SCL) program alumna.

“Nothing helps working families try -true. Finally, we found a program that connects caring orthodontists with children in need. With nearly 400 orthodontic providers, and more joining each day, SCL is seeking applicants who meet the following criteria:

• Ages 11–18 with good oral care
• Family income at or below 200 percent of federal poverty level
• Crooked teeth and/or misaligned jaws.

“We’re not a family that takes handouts, and we’re thankful that we still have our jobs. But with pay-cuts and several kids in the house, we couldn’t afford braces for Carrie. Smiles Change Lives guidelines, and got Carrie assigned to a wonderful orthodontist near us for a very reasonable price.”

With more than 900 immediate openings nationwide, SCL is a national nonprofit organization that connects caring orthodontists with children in need.

Recently, the SCL guidelines, and got Carrie met the Smiles Change Lives qualifications, and got Carrie accepted into the program.

Carrie’s school counselor noticed she was struggling in school and was developing issues with her self-esteem so she recommended Smiles Change Lives to Carrie’s family.

“It was almost too good to be true. Finally, we found a program that helps working families trying to make ends meet,” shares Shelby, Carrie’s mother.

“Carrie can now laugh and smile with confidence. She no longer worries about showing my crooked teeth, but this new smile has given her a new sense of self-esteem and a nursing career, Carrie attributes her confidence and positive outlook to a dental transformation that began three years ago.

“I used to shy away from cameras and didn’t smile or raise my hand in class. I really hated showing my crooked teeth, but now she’s showing off her teeth at every opportunity. I really hated showing my crooked teeth, but now she’s showing off her teeth at every opportunity.

“I was almost too good to be true. Finally, we found a program that helps working families trying to make ends meet,” shares Shelby, Carrie’s mother. “We applied to the program, found out that Carrie met the Smiles Change Lives guidelines, and got Carrie assigned to a wonderful orthodontist near us for a very reasonable price.”

An orthodontist, dental hygienist, and a general dentist to determine its cause of the problem.”

The AGD has made these and other oral health tips available on its website for the public, located at www.KnowYourTeeth.com. This site is the AGD’s source of consumer information on dental care and oral health.

Its goal is to provide reliable information in a format that is easy to use and navigate, and to provide the tools that will help consumers of all ages to care for their teeth and other aspects of oral care.

The site answers important dental health questions, offers the latest information on current dental treatments and tips for first-rate oral hygiene and can help visitors find qualified dentists near where they live or work.

(Source: Academy of General Dentistry)

Tell us what you think!

Do you have general comments or criticism you would like to share? Is there a particular topic you would like to see more articles about? Let us know by e-mailing us at feedback@dental-tribune.com. If you would like to see a change to your subscription (name, address or to opt out), please send us an e-mail at database@dental-tribune.com and be sure to include which publication you are referring to. Also, please note that subscription changes can take up to 6 weeks to process.

‘utensils or straws.

White says that college stu- dents are more prone to developing mononucleosis, due to a lowered resistance and living in close quarters with other students. “People can look as healthy as can be, but you have no idea what kind of diseases they are carrying,” says White. “To protect yourself, know the person you are kissing.”

If you’re still in the mood — and you and your partner are healthy — stealing some smooches may benefit your oral health by increasing saliva production. Saliva helps to wash away food particles and cavity-causing bacteria. It also protects teeth from neutralizing harmful acids.

Another important considera- tion when it comes to kissing is how to keep your breath in minty- fresh condition. White shares these tips to get fresh breath:

• Avoid spicy foods, such as onions and garlic, and coffee. These foods and drinks can be detected on a person’s breath for up to 72 hours after digestion.

• Brush and floss your teeth at least twice a day. Remember to brush the tongue, cheeks and the roof of the mouth.

• Chew sugar-free gum after meals to wash away food particles that get stuck between teeth and cause bad odors.

If you’re still in the mood — and you and your partner are healthy — stealing some smooches may benefit your oral health by increasing saliva production. Saliva helps to wash away food particles and cavity-causing bacteria. It also protects teeth from neutralizing harmful acids.

Another important consideration when it comes to kissing is how to keep your breath in minty- fresh condition. White shares these tips to get fresh breath:

• Avoid spicy foods, such as onions and garlic, and coffee. These foods and drinks can be detected on a person’s breath for up to 72 hours after digestion.

• Brush and floss your teeth at least twice a day. Remember to brush the tongue, cheeks and the roof of the mouth.

• Chew sugar-free gum after meals to wash away food particles that get stuck between teeth and cause bad odors.

“If these methods don’t alleviate bad breath, members of the public should make an appointment with a general dentist to determine its source,” says White.

“If your dentist believes that the problem is caused internally, such as an infection, the dentist may refer to a family physician or a specialist to help remedy the cause of the problem.”

The AGD has made these and other oral health tips available on its website for the public, located at www.KnowYourTeeth.com. This site is the AGD’s source of consumer information on dental care and oral health.

Its goal is to provide reliable information in a format that is easy to use and navigate, and to provide the tools that will help consumers of all ages to care for their teeth and other aspects of oral care.

The site answers important dental health questions, offers the latest information on current dental treatments and tips for first-rate oral hygiene and can help visitors find qualified dentists near where they live or work.

(Source: Academy of General Dentistry)