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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**(Dr. Sam E. Cigno of Cigno Dental Care) Is Hosting a Free Day of Dentistry to Covenant House Missouri (CHMO) through the *Dentistry From The Heart* initiative**

**St. Louis, MO – March 30, 2010** – A local, community dentist for over 30 years, Dr. Sam E. Cigno is out to change lives by offering free smiles to young people from **Covenant House Missouri**, who are in need of dental work, as he hosts an event for Dentistry From The Heart (DFTH) on May 7, 2010 in partnership with Covenant House Missouri. This event is exclusive to teens from **Covenant House Missouri** and they will be provided **free dental care on that day** and embark on a solid foundation of dental hygiene and care across a lifetime.

**Covenant House Missouri (CHMO)** is a non-profit organization that empowers homeless, runaway and at-risk youth to live independently and become contributing members of our community. With open doors and open hearts, CHMO gives homeless teens hope and the opportunity to break the cycle of chronic homelessness and unemployment. St. Louis has the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest percentage of children living in poverty.

The media is invited to join, Dr. Sam Cigno and his team of professionals and volunteers to help these aspiring youths of Covenant House Missouri in need of dental work – treating patients in need of fillings, extractions and cleanings. This will be the first annual Dentistry From The Heart initiative for Dr. Sam E. Cigno and Cigno Dental Care located at 12000 Bellefontaine Rd., in Spanish Lake.

Dentistry From The Heart is a national non-profit organization with a simple mission – making people smile. Founded in 2001 by Dr. Vincent Monticciolo in New Port Richey, Florida, DFTH was created to aid those in need, including the growing population of under-insured Americans. Over 100 million Americans lack dental insurance, and over 29 percent of adults have untreated cavities. Without events like DFTH, dental care simply isn't an option for many of the uninsured. To date, DFTH has helped more than 25,000 patients and provided over \$5.5 million in dental care.

“**Covenant House Missouri** is near and dear to my heart and their mission has remained constant--to give all our kids the unconditional love and respect they may have never felt, and to help them reach their potential. What better way to provide confidence than through a healthy and bright smile. These children do not have the means for basic dental care. Dentistry From The Heart is my way of giving back to the community, and helping people who are in need of dental work,” said Dr. Sam E. Cigno.

The event will take place on Friday, May 7, 2010 at Dr. Cigno's office, Cigno Dental Care in St. Louis, MO, from 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. To learn more about this specific event or about Covenant House Missouri and their mission efforts, please visit the following websites: [www.cignodentalcare.com](http://www.cignodentalcare.com); [www.covenanthousemo.org](http://www.covenanthousemo.org) or Dentistry From The Heart's national website at [www.dentistryfromtheheart.org](http://www.dentistryfromtheheart.org).

**Dentistry From The Heart** is a registered non-profit organization that offers free dental work for people who need it. Dr. Vincent Monticciolo founded the organization as a means to give back to the community and address the growing number of people without dental insurance. In the past seven years, Dentistry From The Heart events have contributed over \$5.5 million in free dentistry and helped over 25,000 patients across the country.