OHA reveals changes to annual gala

By Oral Health America Staff

Oral Health America’s Gala, held on the eve of the Chicago Dental Society’s Midwinter Meeting, will now be named the Champions for Change Gala to emphasize the organization’s mission and work. Benefitting OHA for 29 years, the gala will take place from 5:30 to 9 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 20, 2019 at Soldier Field’s iconic United Club, midway between McCormick Place and Chicago’s Loop.

OHA is introducing a new format in a new venue that reflects attendees’ desire for increased networking, an opportunity to learn more about OHA’s programs through visual communications and fresh entertainment.

The Champions for Change Gala will offer an elegant but more interactive evening, with an opportunity to reserve tables along with open seating. The program will be shorter and enhanced with a video depicting the work of OHA.

Funds raised at the gala are critical for providing services to more than 500,000 low-income children as well as education and online resources for more than 350,000 older adults and their family caregivers.

“Our gala helps shine light on the work OHA does for Americans across the lifespan. The funds raised allow OHA to continue our mission and ensure that oral health is a right, not a privilege,” said Beth Truett, president and CEO of OHA. “We are excited about the Champions for Change Gala. We’ve spent time talking with past attendees and sponsors and have incorporated their feedback to make the 2019 gala more fun and more meaningful for our guests and more impactful for OHA.”

Additionally, OHA will honor Dr. Larry Coffee, founder of the Dental Lifeline Network, with the Champion for Change Award for his dedication to bringing together 15,000 dentists to provide sponsored care for more than 100,000 adults who are aging, challenged by a developmental disability or needing oral care to qualify for a lifesaving medical procedure.

Coffee started the Dental Lifeline Network in 1974 in response to his sister’s health needs.

OHA hopes to see all of its friends, partners and donors on Feb. 20 at the Champions for Change Gala. Visit OHA’s website (oralhealthamerica.org) to learn about OHA’s innovative programs and communications efforts that promote oral health across the lifespan. Take advantage of Early Bird pricing on gala tables and tickets by visiting oralhealthamerica.org/gala or by contacting Liz Kelly at (312) 836-9900 or Liz.Kelly@oha-chi.org.

About Oral Health America

Oral Health America’s mission is to change lives by connecting communities with resources to drive access to care, increase health literacy and advocate for policies that improve overall health through better oral health for all Americans, especially those most vulnerable. Through Smiles Across America®, which serves 501,000 children annually; the Wisdom Tooth Project®, which reaches thousands of older adults; and the Campaign for Oral Health Equity, which prioritize oral health alongside other chronic diseases, OHA helps Americans of all ages understand the importance of oral health for overall health. For more information about OHA, visit oralhealthamerica.org.

Here in New York

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