



The Children's Oral  
Health Institute

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Beth Tfiloh School Site of GKAS Day Mentoring Program

**February 3, 2023** (Pikesville, Maryland). The Children's Oral Health Institute (COHI) provided for another admirable presentation of the *Middle School to Dental School™ Mentoring Initiative* on Give-Kids-A-Smile Day (GKAS). Maryland State Dental Association (MSDA) leaders, Dr. Joanne Rief and Dr. Winifred Booker tag teamed to deliver the program at the Beth Tfiloh Dahan Community School. Dr. Rief who led the planning of *Middle School to Dental School* for the Baltimore County Dental Association, stated, "The program was undeniably a tremendous success. Some 190 5<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> students were absolutely thrilled to receive their white doctor's coats with the COHI's, "I can become a dentist," logo. They loved the stethoscope, dental anatomy mouse pad, and sway bag filled with dental hygiene items. I would be most pleased to see this program with such great potential to inspire youth further expand throughout Maryland." Rabbi Yehuda Oratz, Principal of the Beth Tfiloh Middle School and Dr. Zipora Schorr, Director of Education were pleased to see the cheerful reactions of the children.

Dr. Booker said, "Nearly thirty volunteers across dentistry demonstrated that they are invested in the future of the oral health care profession in our state. This was a true, boots on the ground collaboration by the MSDA components to help ignite dreams through *Middle School to Dental School* on *GKAS Day* in Maryland. We want very much for middle school students to begin considering careers in dentistry, and today this was mentoring to this end at its finest."

Drs. Booker and Rief were joined on stage by Baltimore County Dental Association members Dr. Monica Matson, president of the component, Dr. Brenda Shah, member and also, chair of the MSDA Foundation's GKAS Day Committee and orthodontist, Dr. David Ross. Volunteers from three other MSDA components included Baltimore City Dental Society president, Dr. Bill LeBoe, the Anne Arundel Dental Society and the Carroll County Dental Society. The Baltimore County Continental Societies Inc members again proved to be key volunteers during the event. Sponsors present included Schiff & Associate's, Allen Schiff and DC Dental's Michael Daniel.

Learn about the *Middle School to Dental School™* Mentoring Initiative at [www. mycohi.org](http://www.mycohi.org).



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