



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 110<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

---

---

## *House of Representatives*

Honoring Community Smiles for 60 Years of Service

-----

The Honorable Ileana Ros-Lehtinen  
of Florida

In The House of Representatives

*Thursday, March 29, 2007*

Madame Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize a wonderful volunteer organization in my congressional district, Community Smiles/Dade County Dental Research Clinic. Community Smiles was established by a group of dedicated dentists in 1946 as the Dade County Dental Research Clinic. Their guiding principles are to provide: quality dental care to the underserved, post-doctoral education of dentists, and training dental assistants for certification and lifetime career opportunities.

Community Smiles is a non-profit, community center that treats indigent populations in need of care. This clinic is celebrating their 60 years of committed volunteer service to Miami-Dade County, during which thousands of patients have been treated pro bono. A remarkable record! The service this prestigious organization provides is invaluable to our community.

In 2006, more than 2,400 disadvantaged patients received services from 138 dentists, including major reconstructive treatment. As they begin a new year, they are ready and prepared to continue to treat an increasing number of patients with the best healthcare service possible.

I would especially like to recognize the current president, Dr. Robert Perdomo III, for his leadership and dedication, and the immediate past two Presidents, Dr. Armando Paz & Dr. Shari Witkoff. Their unwavering pursuit of excellence has been an inspiration to the entire organization. It is their passion, talent, and service to the community of South Florida that makes our lives richer and Florida stronger.

Once again, I would like to thank Community Smiles/Dade County Dental Research Clinic for their continued commitment to the promotion of dental care. I congratulate Community Smiles on its achievement and service to the community.