**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**



# TMF Health Quality Institute to Lead Oral Health Project for Texas Nursing Homes

**Austin, Texas –** **June 1, 2023** – TMF Health Quality Institute has been awarded funding by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission to conduct the Smile Proud: Improving Oral Health Among Texas Nursing Home Residents project.

The Smile Proud project focuses on improving daily oral hygiene to positively influence the oral health-related conditions among Texas nursing home residents, including the detection of oral cancer, reduction of oral health-related emergency room visits, reduction of incidents of oral health infections and reduction of the occurrence of serious illness, such as pneumonia.

Beginning June 1, TMF-registered dental hygienist consultants will facilitate trainings to improve nursing home team members’ knowledge and skills to support oral care for residents in long-term care communities. Previous Smile Proud initiatives in Texas and other states have proven successful with hundreds of nursing homes participating to improve care for their residents.

About TMF Health Quality Institute

TMF Health Quality Institute focuses on improving lives by improving the quality of health care through contracts with federal, state and local governments, as well as private organizations. For more than 50 years, TMF has helped health care providers and practitioners in a variety of settings improve care for their patients. Visit [www.tmf.org](http://www.tmf.org) for more information.

**Media Contact:**

Emilie Fennell
Director, Communications and External Relations
TMF Health Quality Institute
512-334-1649

emilie.fennell@tmf.org