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## ***Media Release***

### **Teeth Group Shows Heart**

1300SMILES Ltd Managing Director Dr. Daryl Holmes has revealed that a solution to the public dental waiting list crisis is being ignored by State politicians.

Responding to today's Townsville Bulletin report about the public dental waiting list crisis, Dr Holmes revealed that he has for years been lobbying State and Federal members with a solution.

He said, "I believe dentists in private practice can make a significant difference to this problem. I have offered to allow public patients to be treated in our surgeries, where there is available capacity, funded by Queensland Health. I have written to and met with State and Federal members, and Queensland Health Department public servants, but so far nothing has happened. The Queensland Government has said that no funding is available."

Dr Holmes said, "We will shortly have 22 practices in Queensland, and we could put a serious dent into the problem, which is State-wide, in a relatively short space of time."

Dr Holmes also offered to personally examine the man whose plight was highlighted by the Townsville Bulletin, Mr Cedric Haycock, at no cost to him. He said, "I invite Mr Haycock to contact me, and I also invite the State Government to reconsider the proposals which I have put forward and to contact me. A State election will not be far away, and I expect that this will be a serious issue for both of the major parties."

**ENDS**

For enquiries contact 1300SMILES Ltd on 07 47 201 300 or [md@1300smiles.com.au](mailto:md@1300smiles.com.au)