

Sanilac County Health Department

Judith L. Ferguson, R.N., M.A.
Administrator/Health Officer

Dennis A. Smallwood, D.O.
Medical Director

171 Dawson Street, Sandusky, Michigan 48471 Telephone: (810) 648-4098 FAX: (810) 648-2646

November 5, 2003

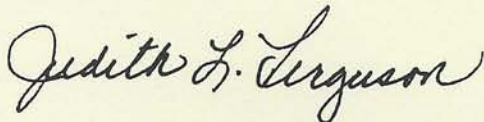
To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is being written in support of the The School Dentist services delivered by Dr. Melanie Sheils-Vergeldt. This preventive service is filling a need that is often neglected in our elementary aged children. Transportation, full schedules with school and parents working, and limited access to dentists accepting Medicaid patients are just a few of the roadblocks to dental services for children.

Written reports of the child's visit to parents as well as referrals to local dentists for additional treatment if needed are only a segment of the services offered. This is a vital service to children that may not be served otherwise.

Dr. Vergeldt worked previously with Sanilac, Huron and Tuscola County Health Departments which results in a familiarity with Thumb Area communities and school districts. This is certainly an advantage as she builds a school dentist service in this area.

Sincerely,



Judith L. Ferguson, RN, MA