

## ***100G program to better dental care of retarded***

Advance Albany Bureau

ALBANY — Gov. Carey today kicked off a \$100,000 program at Maimonides Medical Center in Brooklyn to improve dental care for residents of Staten Island Developmental Center.

Speaking at the hospital, Carey said the program will for the first time provide specialized dental care to the residents. He said tooth decay is a "major problem for the severely retarded" and often leads to even greater problems for the mentally disabled.

"This grant will assure rehabilitative and restorative dental care service to a population that historically has received little dental attention," Carey said.

The governor also said the dental program was "yet another example of the commitment of this administration to bring a new dignity and level of health care to the mentally retarded and disabled citizens of this state."

The program will be run by Dr. Murray Ross, chief of dental services at Maimonides, under the supervision of the the Office of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities.

The patients include 200 residents of the Island institution, many of whom come from the Flatbush section of Brooklyn, Carey said.