

THE Cavity-FREE PRESS

Delta Dental of Arizona Foundation
GIVING PEOPLE A REASON TO SMILE.

Delta Dental of Arizona Foundation (DDAZF) Newsletter
Spring 2011



Over \$222,000 Awarded in Community Grants

Delta Dental of Arizona Foundation completed their second competitive grant cycle, awarding \$222,720 to 18 organizations across Arizona working towards preventing dental diseases and promoting oral health to the most vulnerable members of our community. Recognizing the critical importance of starting young to develop healthy dental hygiene practices, the Foundation targets its resources on preventing oral disease in children, helping children without dental insurance and promoting oral health education and instruction in schools, health centers, clinics and community centers across the state.

The Delta Dental of Arizona Foundation Grants Committee, along with representatives from the Foundation Board of Directors and Executive staff

of Delta Dental of Arizona, presented the 2011 grantees their checks at an Awards Luncheon held at the Nina Mason Pulliam Rio Salado Audubon Center, at Audubon Arizona in Phoenix.

This year's grants support a broad range of preventive services, from providing oral health services to at-risk expectant and postnatal refugee women, to providing on-site, no-cost, comprehensive preventive dental services to the over 2,000 children in Phoenix's Murphy School District.

We are excited and honored to help these worthy organizations do what they do best—deliver preventive services to thousands of children throughout the state, providing healthy habits and healthy smiles for a lifetime.

Grant Awardees

Arizona's Children Association
Boys & Girls Club Greater Scottsdale
Boys & Girls Club Metro Phoenix
Catholic Charities Community Svcs.
Central Arizona Shelter Services
Chandler Regional Medical Center
Coconino County Health Dep't.
Desert Mission Dental Clinic
El Rio Health Center Foundation
Gompers Habilitation Center
Head Start State Collaborative
Homeward Bound
Hope Network
International Rescue Committee
Midwestern University/ASDA
Northern Arizona University
St. Vincent de Paul Dental Clinic
WellCare Foundation

New Delta Dental of Arizona CEO

Allan Allford (pictured left), formerly head of Via Christi Health Partners in Wichita, Kansas, has been appointed CEO of Delta Dental of Arizona as of January 1, 2011.

Prior to Delta Dental of Arizona, as CEO of Via Christi Health Partners, Allford was instrumental in developing a \$105 million community hospital; Via Christi Wound and Burn Care Center; a 60,000 square foot medical office building; and Anatomic Imaging, a multi-site diagnostic imaging operation.

A graduate of the University of Kansas, Allford previously worked as managing director of Koch Industries, the largest privately held company in the United States who owns and operates several global companies in core industries. Allford is also a certified public accountant.

"Allan Allford will guide our team through its next phase of sustained growth and profitability," said board chair Dr. Wesley Harper. "With his long and successful career in health care, we know we can count on Allan's strong leadership skills."



Donna Martin of Boys & Girls Club Metropolitan Phoenix (left) receives a grant check from Allan Allford, newly appointed CEO of Delta Dental of Arizona, and Grants Committee Chair Susan Fry.

Tooth Fairy Visits Children's Museum of Phoenix



Delta Dental of Arizona Foundation partnered with the Children's Museum of Phoenix this February to celebrate National Children's Dental Health Month. For the third year in a row, the museum hosted daily interactive health activities for all visitors of the museum throughout the month of February.



Sarabelle Toothington the Tooth Fairy teaches children about oral health at the Children's Museum of Phoenix. Children look on (left) as Sarabelle brings her tooth puppets to life.

Sarabelle Toothington, the Delta Dental of Arizona Foundation Tooth Fairy, delivered oral health puppet shows to children and their parents throughout the month.

During the Tooth Fairy's interactive puppet show, "The Adventures of Bitesize Bucky," kids learned karate moves which are used to fight "Bacterula," an evil puppet character who leaves pieces of herself on "Old Sage" the Wisdom tooth and "Raymond" the first molar cousin. They also sing Happy Birthday to "Bitesize Bucky" when he is born into the lower mouth cave, and join in a jazz song, "You Brush Your Teeth" using imaginary tooth brushes as they sing.

Back by popular demand were "Smile Bags" featuring toothbrushes, toothpaste and fun facts about dental health, which were offered to all visitors of the Museum. For more information and a calendar of Museum events, please visit www.childrensmuseumofphoenix.org.



Thank You, Tax Credit Donors!

Thanks to our generous Working Poor Tax Credit donors, over \$18,000 was raised for the Foundation (an increase of 34% from last year!). 100% of these funds will go towards supporting oral health programs across Arizona!

We thank you for your commitment to our mission and hope you continue your support in 2011!

Arizona Launches Head Start Dental Home Initiative

Tooth decay disproportionately affects our most vulnerable children, particularly those from low-income families and certain racial groups. The incidence of Early Childhood Caries (ECC) is a major concern for all dental professionals and educators working with young children.

To address this significant early childhood health problem, dedicated professionals in Arizona launched the Head Start Dental Home Initiative. Spearheaded by three Arizona dentists, Dr. Rick Chaet, Dr. Kirk Robertson and Dr. Marc Auerbach, a collaborative planning group included the Arizona State Office of Head Start, Arizona Head Start Association, ADHS - Office of Oral Health, AHCCCS, Catholic Charities Westside Head Start,

Delta Dental of Arizona Foundation, First Things First, and NACOG.

The launch of this effort was held on Friday February 25, 2011 at the Marriott Buttes Resort. Attended by more than 70 early childhood educators, dentists, dental professionals, public health leaders and medical providers, participants drafted regional plans including strategies for increasing the number of Head Start students across the state with a dental home.

According to Dr. Chaet, "Establishing a 'Dental Home' means that your child's oral health care is delivered in a comprehensive, continuously accessible, coordinated and family-centered way by a licensed dentist. This definition, adopted by the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry (AAPD), clearly

stresses the importance of early oral health care. This initiative will focus the attention of the dental and health care professionals, early childhood educators, and hopefully the community, on getting young children to the dentist."

Additionally, the establishment of the Dental Home will include referral to other dental specialists when the pediatric or general dentist cannot provide the needed care.

If you are interested in working with Head Start students and their families or need more information about the upcoming regional meetings, please contact the Arizona Head Start State Collaboration Director at amy.corriveau@azed.gov.

MOLAR: More than you think.

For central Arizona dental providers and residents, molar is no longer just a tooth located in the back of the mouth. MOLAR is a newly formed group of providers and concerned social service agencies that are committed to addressing the oral health issues in their community. They recently organized a coalition using an acronym for Maricopa County Oral Health Leaders, Advocates, and Resources.

The mission of MOLAR is to advocate, educate, and communicate for greater access to oral health care for everyone in Maricopa County.

It is not news that Arizona's oral health arena has ever widening gaps in service delivery and access to care. With recent reductions and exclusions to AHCCCS coverage, many of our most vulnerable citizens go without routine checkups and treatment. Their

untreated, preventable infections frequently create social and financial burdens for their families and support networks.

Attend a Meeting

MOLAR meetings are hosted at the Maricopa County Department of Public Health — Office of Oral Health on the second Friday of every other month (Feb/Apr/Jun/Aug/Oct/Dec). Work groups meet regularly in between to discuss oral health issues focused on children, seniors, and individuals with a developmental disability.

For information on upcoming meetings or to be included in e-mail updates, contact:

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Coalition Coordinator
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Everybody loves a toothbrush!

American Indian Oral Health Summit

April 21-22nd at Ft. McDowell Radisson Resort marks the American Indian Oral Health Summit in Arizona. This first ever of its kind collaborative, proactive event includes Tribal leaders, dental health professionals, urban and rural stakeholders as they examine and develop strategies to address the oral health needs of Indian communities across the state. A foundation will be laid by speakers discussing the current state of oral health, systems of care, opportunities and challenges presented by the Affordable Health Care Act and the Indian Health Care Improvement Act. Effective strategies and models of care delivery will be presented. These topics will lead to planning for stakeholders to remove barriers and improve oral health in tribal communities. Keynote speeches by Dr. George Blue Spruce, the first American Indian dentist and Congressman Paul Gosar, DDS of Arizona's 1st District in Northern Arizona are just a few notable hallmarks of the Summit. For more information and to register please visit: www.azda.org/goto/OHS.

About the Foundation

The mission of the Delta Dental of Arizona Foundation is to improve oral health for Arizonans, particularly the underserved and uninsured.

In 1997, Delta Dental of Arizona established the **Delta Dental of Arizona Foundation**. Unlike many nonprofit organizations, through Delta Dental of Arizona Foundation, 100% of contributions received are used for programs and services in the community (not administrative costs). This support allows donors the satisfaction that every penny they contribute is used entirely for programs that serve children.

With the Foundation's support:

Grants to 26 organizations totaling over \$393,000 were awarded in 2010-11 for essential dental programs for children;

42,000 children and families visited the Children's Museum in Phoenix for dental supplies and educational dental shows by the Tooth Fairy and Molar Man;

Over 100,000 toothbrushes & dental supplies were provided to nonprofits, clinics, and schools;

Through the Foundation's Varnish Today, Vanish Decay Program, over 1,500 children in the Peoria Unified School District received a dental screening, fluoride varnish application, oral health instruction and dental supplies. Parents and teachers received instruction and teaching tools as well.

Board of Directors

Allan Allford	Keith Gauzza	Xavier Ortega
Karen Berrigan, DMD	Don Henninger	Sandi Perez, Ph.D.
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Delta Dental of Arizona Foundation

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Glendale, AZ 85306

www.deltadentalaz.com/foundation

6th Annual Golf Tournament

Friday, May 13, 2011

Join Delta Dental of Arizona Foundation
at Grayhawk Golf Club for an
UNFORGETTABLE GOLF AND GIVING EXPERIENCE!

For additional sponsor information and to sign up, visit:

www.golf4smiles.org

A Golfer's Paradise!

From the moment Grayhawk Golf Club opened in 1994, it soared to the top of Arizona's must-play list on the wings of the Gary Panks and David Graham-designed Talon course. Its esteemed counterpart, the Raptor course, designed by Tom Fazio, opened a year later. Since then, both courses have set the standard, ranking:

"Top 100 You Can Play in the U.S." – Golf Magazine

"Best in the State" – Golf Digest

"100 Best golf Shops" – Golf World Business

"Top 10 Public Access Courses in AZ" – Golf Week

All proceeds benefit essential dental services and programs for thousands of children in Arizona.

www.deltadentalaz.com/foundation