



NEW MEXICO DENTAL ASSOCIATION

Foundation

...the heart of dentistry

The mission of the New Mexico Dental Association Foundation is to inspire benevolent dental outreach and to promote dental health in New Mexico.

Founded in 2005 as the charitable affiliate of the New Mexico Dental Association, the New Mexico Dental Association Foundation is a place where the big heart of dentistry is on display every day. Coordinator of donated dental services for hundreds of disabled or elderly New Mexicans who cannot afford dental care, administrator of the yearly Mission of Mercy event, custodian of relief funds for dentists who have practice threatening situations, and big thinker about the future of dentistry and dental care in New Mexico. The Foundation is an important new player on the public health scene in our state.

Imagine one hundred dental chairs being staffed all day long for two days by five hundred dentists, hygienists and assistants from New Mexico and other parts of the country. That's a lot of dentistry! These New Mexico Mission of Mercy events have been the largest charitable outreaches in the history of New Mexico that serves anyone who chooses to receive treatment.

The year-round outreach project of the New Mexico Dental Association Foundation is the Donated Dental Services program. One hundred and eighty New Mexican dentists from all parts of the state and 93 dental laboratories have volunteered to provide services on a pro bono basis to the elderly and disabled who cannot afford dental care. The Donated Dental Services program provides once-in-a-lifetime, major dental work. While virtually every dentist quietly and on a daily basis fills cavities and other minor services without pay, the Donated Dental Services program does the kind of expensive, long term work that would be far beyond the wildest dreams of the patients involved. Implants, full and partial dentures, and other restorative work can dramatically change patient's lives and general health. Participating dentists generally undertake one to two patients in the program each year, and contribute an average of \$3200 per case.

TOGETHER, we are helping to change lives, one smile at a time!