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Grant Money Awarded!

The Memorial Medical Center Auxiliary in Las Cruces in February 2006 granted the DDS program \$15,000 to be used to defray lab costs for Las Cruces DDS patients. The Foundation will now be able to cover 100% of the lab costs for treatment donated by dentists in Las Cruces.

In addition, Las Cruces DDS-participating dentists may request follow-up home dental supplies for patients to be able to maintain the dental work that was donated to them.

In the past, the Auxiliary raised money to be put back into the then non-profit hospital, but since the hospital has since been sold to a private corporation, the Auxiliary – as a 501(c)3 organization – found it necessary to disburse their proceeds to other 501(c)3 organizations. The Foundation submitted an application and was granted well over the amount requested.

Dr. Ken Abraham, Our Newest Board Member

Dr. Ken Abraham has graciously filled the need for a director from the West Central District. He has been a long-time supporter of the DDS program, actively participating since 1999. Thank you, Dr. Abraham!

2006 Mentor Dinners

The 2nd Annual Mentor Dinner jointly hosted by the Foundation, the NMDA and the UNM Pre-dental Society, held in January in Albuquerque, was well attended. Table sponsorships and two corporate sponsors, Patterson Dental Supply and HPSC, helped defray the costs of the event. Proceeds from the event were divided between the Foundation and the UNM Pre-dental Society.

A similar dinner hosted by the Southwest District Dental Society was also held in Las Cruces in April. Twelve pre-dental students from NMSU, along with twelve dentists, attended the successful event.

Dentistry From The Heart

This past February Dr. Jean Claude Wilcox, along with Dr. Lionel Candelaria and Dr. Paul Dunn, sponsored what they called “*Dentistry From the Heart*”. This was a one day attempt to meet acute dental needs of any Albuquerque area patient who could not otherwise afford dental treatment. Dr. Wilcox’s staff, numerous other volunteers and the above mentioned dentists spent the day serving 94 patients and didn’t leave the office until each and every one had been seen! Their advertisement in the newspaper for this service was well received! Dr. Wilcox’s hope is that this can become an annual event and he welcomes all dentists who would like to help him in February 2007.

Dr. Wilcox and Dr. Candelaria both participate in the Donated Dental Services Program and this was just one more example of the amazing breadth of generosity exhibited by our DDS dentists!! A heartfelt thank you to all of you who give so much!

DDS Patient Expressions of Gratitude...

“I always wondered what it would be like to have great teeth and to smile with confidence. I figured that for me it would just be a dream that would never come true. Thanks to Donated Dental Services my dream did come true. I get so many compliments....and have much better confidence in myself. From the bottom of my heart I say to you, thank you very much for making this all happen.” Chris G.

Mission Statement

The mission of the New Mexico Foundation for Dental Health, Research and Education, A Public Charity, is to provide opportunities for the advancement of benevolent dental outreach and treatment programs by creating alternative funding resources. The Foundation is also committed to the advancement of dental health in New Mexico by creating research and educational opportunities for the achievement of clinical excellence resulting in an increased access to dental health care for the population of New Mexico.

Foundation Purpose #4:

To educate and instruct the general public by any useful medium in the methods of proper dental disease prevention and management, and concerning the latest developments in dental health subjects which would be useful and beneficial to the public or to a community thereof.

From President, Ron Johnson

When I was elected to be the President of the New Mexico Dental Foundation I was honored. I had volunteered in the NMDF's primary program, Donated Dental Services, for two years and appreciated what it brought to New Mexico. I believed in dental philanthropy as all of you also do. I, though, am only a small part of this Foundation. On the first page of this newsletter you will find the names of all the other board members from around the state of New Mexico who serve alongside me. Please seek them out and share with them your visions for what this Foundation might evolve into. With all of our collaborative ideas we will be able to meet New Mexico's dental needs in a much greater way.

I personally see that this Foundation will enable all of us in the dental profession (dentists, dental assistants, and hygienists) to come together with other medical professionals to serve our state's citizens. I believe that this Foundation can transcend the politics of individual associations in benefiting all New Mexicans. I expect to see dental gaps bridged as we study and deliver care to those who would otherwise not be served. The Donated Dental Services Program is currently the cornerstone of our Foundation and I believe that this is exactly the model we can use as we move forward to implement other philanthropic Foundation programs.

The UNM Medical School has a reputation of being the best in the country in training students for rural medicine. In the absence of a dental school here in New Mexico, my vision for the Dental Foundation would be for it to also serve as a vehicle for copying the medical school's lead in paving the way for excellent preparation for young dental students to practice in rural communities. With proper endowment, our Foundation could be a catalyst and financial resource to encourage and train students in rural dentistry here in New Mexico.

Please share your visions for this Foundation with your local Foundation board member. I would challenge each of you to also share your resources and

give generously to your New Mexico Dental Foundation. You can designate a specific use for your gift or make a general donation. Your check can be mailed to NMDF, PO Box 16854, Albuquerque, NM 87191. The Foundation is a 501c3 corporation for tax purposes.

Web Site Startup

The NMDF website is up and running!! You can access the most recent information about YOUR Foundation online at www.nmdentalfoundation.org. The Donated Dental Services application can be downloaded from this site. In the future it will also be possible to donate to the Foundation directly through the website.

DONATED DENTAL SERVICES YEAR END REPORT As of 6/30/06

- \$292,367 worth of dentistry was donated by New Mexico dentists
- \$24,263 worth of dental laboratory services was donated
- 93 disabled or elderly New Mexicans completed comprehensive dental treatment
- 139 dentists are currently participating in the DDS Program
- 51 laboratories are currently participating in the DDS Program.

Generous A-dec Donation!

Charles Schumacher in Farmington was looking for some extra hand pieces to use for the Give Kids A Smile Day event at San Juan College. He contacted board member, Robert Lehm, at Patterson Dental Supply. Patterson and A-dec worked closely on this inquiry, and A-dec ultimately offered to donate 12 hand pieces to the Foundation! The hand pieces were used by San Juan College for their GKAS event in February 2006, and now they are available to use at similar events throughout the year. If you are interested in borrowing them, please contact Nancy at the Foundation.