

The Minnesota Dental Foundation (MDF) offers financial support and in-kind services for outreach programs that meet the mission of the MDF by providing dental services to underserved populations, by promoting dental health initiatives, or by supporting dental profession career and volunteer opportunities. The focus is on providing resources that will make lasting improvements in the oral health of Minnesotans and enhance the dental profession in the state.

Each year the MDF Board of Directors reviews applications for grants that fit these criteria. Support for programs and oral health initiatives may change each year based upon issues facing the dental profession, but the core principle of benefiting the underserved remains constant. Since 2001, the Foundation has awarded over \$25,968 in grants and/or in-kind services to fund 43 oral health initiatives

### **2005 Recipients**

In 2005, MDF gave \$8,000 in cash and/or in-kind services to 18 projects. Some of the recipients may have received assistance on more than one project. All of the funded programs help increase access to care for underserved populations or help dentists affected by Hurricane Katrina.

### **Give Kids a Smile**

The following community clinics received funding and/or in-kind support for the two-day charitable program in February that provides free preventive and restorative dental care to children from low-income families. Grant monies help defray the costs for dental supplies and oral health education materials for the children. In 2005, approximately 5,988 children were seen in 181 community clinics and private dental offices. Dental services were provided by approximately 1,600 volunteers, which included 460 dentists.

American Student Dental Association - University of Minnesota  
Apple Tree Dental - Minneapolis  
Central Lakes College, Brainerd  
Children's Dental Services, Minneapolis  
Hibbing Community College Dental Clinic  
Lake Superior College, Duluth  
Minneapolis District Dental Society & Sharing and Caring Hands  
Minnesota State University, Mankato  
Northwest Technical College, Bemidji  
NorthPoint Health & Wellness Center, Minneapolis  
Normandale Community College Hygiene Program, Bloomington  
NIP Uptown Community Clinic, Minneapolis  
Open Door Health Center, Mankato  
Salvation Army Good Samaritan Dental Clinic, Rochester  
West Side Community Health Services, St. Paul

### **Community Outreach**

This was the first year of funding projects outside of the Give Kids a Smile program.

Greater Minneapolis Crisis Nursery  
Dental offices affected by Hurricane Katrina