

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 \$212,790 in grants and/or in-kind services to fund 234 oral health initiatives

2011 Recipients

In 2011, MDF gave \$42,435 in cash and/or in-kind services to 43 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 to build a sustainable oral health workforce in Minnesota.

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 2011, 5,678 children were seen in 189 community clinics and private dental offices. The value of the services provided was approximately \$2,500,000 by 2,675 volunteers, which included 522 dentists.

American Student Dental Association - University of Minnesota
Apple Tree Dental - Fergus Falls
Apple Tree Dental - Hawley
Apple Tree Dental - Rochester
Apple Tree Dental - Minneapolis
Central Lakes College, Brainerd
Children's Dental Services, Minneapolis
Dakota County Technical College, Rosemont
Lake Superior College, Duluth
Minneapolis District Dental Society and Sharing and Caring Hands
Minnesota State University, Mankato
NIP Community Dental Clinic, Minneapolis
Normandale Community College Hygiene Program, Bloomington
Northern Dental Access Center, Bemidji
Northwest Technical College, Bemidji
Rice Regional Dental Clinic, Willmar
Salvation Army Good Samaritan Dental Clinic, Rochester
Sharing & Caring Hands, Minneapolis
Southside Community Health Services, Minneapolis
St. Cloud Technical College Foundation
Valley Community Health Centers, Grand Forks

Community Outreach

A number of community-based clinics and outreach programs provide critical dental services to children and adults who otherwise would not have access to oral health care.

Caring Hands Dental Clinic/West Central Dental Resources, Alexandria
Children's Dental Services, Minneapolis
Community Dental Care, Maplewood

Dental Lifeline Network (Donated Dental Services program), State-wide
DoorStep Healthcare Services, Minneapolis
Greater Minneapolis Crisis Nursery
Just Kids Dental/Lake View Memorial Hospital, Two Harbors
Lifetrack Resources, St. Paul
Minneapolis - tornado damage to North Minneapolis, delivered to NorthPoint
Minnesota Mission of Mercy
MDA/Head Start Dental Examination Project, State-wide
Open Door Health Center, Mankato
Project Homeless Connect, Minneapolis
Red River Valley Dental Access Project, Fargo
Ronald McDonald Care Mobile, Twin Cities
Smiles Change Lives, State-wide
St. Joseph's Community Dental Clinic, Park Rapids
Union Gospel Mission, St. Paul
Westside Dental and Helping Hand Dental Clinics, St. Paul

Allied Dental Education Programs

The following organization in Minnesota received a grant in 2011 to help with resources to assist with educating dental auxiliaries while providing care to the underserved.

Community Dental Care, Maplewood