

# Give Kids a SMILE

March 2014



*Tom Swenson-Bellston, DDS, volunteering at Union Gospel Mission in Saint Paul, added a little flair to his patient's treatment.*

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## 'Rocking it out' to help kids in need

"We rocked it out" is an apt description of how teams at 176 Minnesota dental clinics responded to the equally heartwarming and hectic days of Give Kids a Smile on Feb. 7 and 8.

The description was provided by Shawna McNamara, who coordinated Metro Dentalcare Richfield's event. She explained that, despite some last-minute staff illnesses, a large team scrambled to provide free treatment to 41 children. Even short handed, they saw more children than last year and increased the value of services by \$10,000.

Thousands of children benefitted from the generosity of the dental community. And parents and patients were grateful.



*Jennifer Marker Johnson, DDS, (left) and Sam Berry, RDA, with a young patient at Metro Dentalcare Richfield.*

"It means so much to me that my daughter's been able to get her teeth cleaned and sealed. It's just wonderful," a tearful mother told WCCO-TV at Union Gospel Mission's event.

## Impact of GKAS extends beyond clinical work

At the heart of Give Kids a Smile is the restoration of dental health – and happy smiles – to children who don't have access to care. But, as one of MDA's annual charitable events, it also creates a valuable forum for discussing a wide range of dental health issues.

In each of the program's 12 years, media outreach through interviews and advertising has allowed MDA spokespersons to inform Minnesotans about important topics.

During her in-studio interview at WDIO-TV in Duluth, Kara Conry, DDS,

talked about her clinic's participation in Give Kids a Smile, while weaving in messages about the state's low reimbursement rates for dentists, the importance of creating a positive dental experience for children, and her joy of service to the community. In addition, Conry appeared on KBJR-TV and Iron Range 12.

Her colleagues across the state also took time from their clinical work to visit with reporters. Teresa Fong, DDS, was featured on WCCO-TV and KARE-11, as well as Comcast Cable TV.

*Continued on page 3*

# Thank you, dentists!

## The following dentists donated their time, talents and resources to Give Kids a Smile:

Craig Adelman, Nicole Admundson, Ritu Aggarwal, Alejandro Aguirre, Michael Ahn, Monical Alley, Elizabeth Amundson, Nicole Amundson, Tiffany Andersen, Jordan Anderson, Ross Anderson, Brady Andvik, Peder Arneson, Dylan Aschman, Mark Bachman, Fouad Badr, Carol Bahnemann, Anne Balfour, Melody Baron, Paul Bartlam, Prasad Bastodkar, Munir Battikhi, Monique Baune, Nick Baylon, Robert Beattie, Tyler Beinlich, Steve Bejarano, Kathleen Bellamy, William Bellamy, Paul Belvedere, David Bengston, Mary Benson, Noah Berge, Anamaria Betterman, Steve Biorn, Don Blakeslee, Mark Bloomquist, Linda Boellert, Paul Boettner, Adena Borodkin, Satbir Brar, Bryce Bray, Corey Brenner, Brenda Brockman, Michael Brooks, Regan Brown, Shari Bruning, David Bruzek, Ashley Bryant, Roger Burke, Jodi Burth, Michael Bussa, Josh Campbell, Kathryn Cargill, Carrie Carlson, Eric Carlson, Leonard Carlson, Paul Carlson, Andrew Carrell, Lisa Cashin, Mora Cervenka, Julie Chavez, Jason Choorapuzha, Andrew Christensen, Wayne Christianson, Jack Churchill, Ethan Chute, Julie Clasen, Martin Clasen, Donald Clausen, Julie Clouse, Michael Colbert, Daniel Condon, Kara Conry, Katherine Conway, Elizabeth Cooper, Emily Cortes, Diane Crater, Adon Crook, Jennifer Culver, Ben Curtis, Geetha Damodaran, Katie Daniels, Kim Danielson, Christopher De La Mater, Steve DeKoster, Luis Delima, Adele Della Torre, Robert Derr, Jessica Desjardins, Edward Deutschmann, Thomas Dewitt, Michael Dickman, Robert Donlin, Andrew Doroschak, John Doroschak, Scott Doyle, Richard Dresser, Brock Droll, Rehka Dryer, Michelle Dunlap, Scott Durand, Megan Eakins, Kyle Edlund, Elizabeth Eggert, Amanda Elbert, Siara Elovich, Laura Eng, Gary Erickson, Jerome Erickson, Ted Erickson, Havva Ertrugrul, John Ewert, Jonathan Fabian, Benjamin Fenger, Keith Flack, Jessica Flanagan, Philip Flodin, Teresa Fong, Jodi Fonkert, Breyne Fordahl, Jeanni Foss, John Foss, Luke Foster, Jeffrey Fox, Peter Frank, Christopher French, Michael Gardner, Kathleen Gerber, Gail Gerjets, Linda Giang-Carlson, Robert Gillum, William Godmare, Maddie Goettl, Laurie Goldenberg, David Golke, Eugene Gomes, Krista Gossai, Tom Goulding, Jane Gracza, Matt Grau, Matthew Green, Ron Grothe, Jared Gustafson, John Gustafson, Patrick Haberman, Mike Hagley, Devon Halberg, Erick Hallie, Brooke Hamann, Michael Hamann, Habab Hamid, George Hankerson, Chad Hanson, Michael Hanson, Derrick Hartman, Carla Hauge, Mikkel Haugen, Gary

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**Twenty-one community-based clinics hosted events:** Apple Tree Dental in Fergus Falls and Hawley; Central Lakes College in Brainerd; Century College Dental Clinic in White Bear Lake; Children's Dental Services in Minneapolis; Community Dental Care in Rochester; Community Dental Care in Maplewood; Community University Health Care Center in Minneapolis; Dakota County Technical College in Rosemount; Good Samaritan Dental Clinic in Rochester; Lake Superior College Dental Hygiene in Duluth; Minneapolis State University, Mankato; N.I.P. Community Clinic in Minneapolis; Normandale Community College in Bloomington; NorthPoint Health and Wellness Center Dental Clinic in Minneapolis; Rice Regional Dental Clinic in Willmar; Saint Cloud Technical College; Sharing and Caring Hands Dental Clinic in Minneapolis; St. Joseph's Community Dental Clinic in Park Rapids; Union Gospel Mission in Saint Paul; University of Minnesota - School of Dentistry in Minneapolis.



# Thanks to volunteers and sponsors, more than 1 million hear dental messages

## *From page 1*

Todd Tsuchiya, DDS, taped an interview for WCCO-AM. Daniel Osdoba, DDS, appeared on KEYC-TV in Mankato. Jeannie Foss, DDS, who practices in Baxter, was interviewed on statewide MNN News. And the list continues.

ADA News sent a reporter to Saint Paul to feature the Give Kids a Smile event at the Union Gospel Mission.

"When we think of Give Kids a Smile, we think of a clinical setting, where thousands of children in need get dental care," says MDA President Michael Perpich, DDS. "But the reach of the program really extends beyond the walls of the participating clinics and into homes, vehicles, office buildings and even the state capitol. It gives the dental profession a very credible way to talk to people about health, volunteerism and public policy."



**Kara Conry, DDS, (right) talks with Brittany Falkers on air at WDIO-TV in Duluth.**

Advertising further extends that reach, thanks to GKAS sponsors **3M ESPE Dental Products, HealthPartners and the Minnesota Dental Foundation.** With a statewide TV and radio campaign, much of which is greatly enhanced because of the generosity of the participating stations, it's safe to say that more than a million Minnesotans heard about Give Kids a Smile.



**Renee Johnson, RDH, coordinated with 29 volunteers at Rice Regional Dental Clinic in Willmar to care for 67 children.**



**Mark A. Bloomquist's dental clinic in Spicer provided free care for 20 children.**



**These students were part of a 387-person team of volunteers, including 30 dentists, at the University of Minnesota - School of Dentistry. The clinic performed 116 exams and 101 cleanings, administered 248 sealants and 120 fillings -- to name a few free services -- on Feb. 8. Students (at right) also took on entertainment and activity projects to keep the young patients smiling.**



G I V E K I D S A S M I L E 2 0 1 4

# Smiles by the NUMBER

*176 clinics hosted events and 11 additional clinics provided 'Smile Factory' (after care) services. Thanks to each and every volunteer who made this event a success!*



4,773 children



469 dentists



2,533 total dental  
professionals



\$1.7 million monetary  
value



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