



MINNESOTA DENTAL FOUNDATION

A practice of giving.



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In the Beginning...

- Incorporated in 1946 but was dormant for decades.
- A \$70,000 bequest was presented to the Minnesota Dental Association from the estate of Dr. Robert Reed, Faribault, Minnesota in 1999.



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Today's Minnesota Dental Foundation

- The Minnesota Dental Foundation was merged with the Endowment and Assistance Fund in 2001 and the surviving entity was the Minnesota Dental Foundation.
- 501(c)(3) not-for-profit public foundation.
- Managed by the Minnesota Dental Foundation Board of Directors who are approved by the Board of Trustees of the Minnesota Dental Association.



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Board of Directors

Amber Cziok
Christine David
S. Renee Dotson
Bruce Downey
Laura Eng
Angela Hastings
Mitchell Hruska

Lee Jess
Michael Kurkowski
Kirsten Langguth
Stephen Litton
Rosalie Perpich
Karl Self
Keegan Thompson
Michael Zakula

Carmelo Cinqueonce, *Ex Officio*



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Vision

The vision of the Minnesota Dental Foundation
is to eliminate unmet oral health needs
in Minnesota.



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Mission

The mission of the Minnesota Dental Foundation is to:

- Initiate and support outreach programs that provide dental services to underserved populations and communities;
- Encourage and support volunteerism within the profession; and
- Promote careers in dentistry, especially in underserved areas.



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Efforts of the MDF

- 825 different projects funded since 2002 as of December 31, 2024
- 46% of the projects in the Metro area
- 52% of the projects in outstate Minnesota
- 2% other
- 2012 assets over \$1M
- 2018 was the first year the MDF raised \$1M



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Community Grants

- Started in 2002
- Grants to non-profit clinics that participate in Give Kids a Smile
- Grants to non-profit organizations that have an interest in oral health of the underserved
- Grants to dental auxiliary educational institutions that provide care to the underserved
- Supported by the Minnesota Dental Foundation at about \$80,000 per year



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Donated Dental Services (DDS)

- Managed by Dental Lifeline Network in Denver
- Started in 2003 in Minnesota
- Became a program of MDF in 2012
- Funded by Delta Dental of Minnesota Foundation
- Dentistry for veterans, disabled, elderly & medically fragile individuals who cannot afford treatment
- Since its inception in Minnesota, 2,844 patients have received \$18 million in dental services
- 200 patients on the waiting list



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Give Kids a Smile (GKAS)

- Became a program of the Foundation in 2015
- In February 2025, 1,245 children received \$858,000 in free care by 969 volunteers
- Since inception in 2003 in Minnesota, 92,000 children received services valued at \$30.5 million in dental services by 38,000 volunteers
- Funded by Solventum (3M Oral Care), Minnesota Dental Association and Minnesota Dental Foundation



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Minnesota Mission of Mercy (MnMOM)

Mankato 2012, Bemidji 2013, Mankato 2014,
Duluth 2015, Moorhead 2016, Minneapolis 2018
St. Cloud 2022, Duluth 2024

11,331 patient encounters

7,665 volunteers

57,322 dental procedures

\$7.94 million in dental services

Delta Dental of Minnesota Foundation
is the *Signature Sponsor*



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Martha Mordini Rukavina Loan Forgiveness Program

- Taconite Assistance Area (TAA)
- Started in 2009 by Northern Minnesota Dental
- Became a program of the Foundation in 2011
- Funded by the Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board (IRRRB)
- Full-time general dental practice for at least 5 years
- To date there are 10 new dentists in the TAA
- Currently, have funding for more applicants



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Dedicated to Minnesota Dentists (DMD) Educational Loan Repayment for Service

- Started in 2015
- Up to \$200,000 of qualified educational loans
- \$2,000,000 provided by the Delta Dental of Minnesota Foundation
- Rural Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSA)
- Cities less than 15,000 population
- Full-time general dental practice for 5 years
- Big Fork, Cook, Deerwood, Ely, International Falls, Montevideo, Mora, Tyler, Walker and Warroad
- Funded by Delta Dental of Minnesota Foundation



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Retired Dentist Program

- Started in 2014
- Reimburses a retired dentist for licenses, CPR, professional liability insurance & CE
- Must provide 100 hours per year (about 1 day per month) of dental care to the underserved with no reimbursement
- 9 current participants in volunteer clinics throughout the state
- Have provided \$3.7 million in free dentistry in 6,000 volunteer hours



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Minnesota's Heroes Orthodontic Program

Started in 2015

- Free orthodontic care to children and spouses of Gold Star Families – those families who have lost a family member who served in the armed services since 9/11
- In collaboration with the Minnesota Association of Orthodontists and Smiles Change Lives
- Five children have completed treatment



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Legacy Circle

- Initiated in 2011
- For those visionaries who designate the Minnesota Dental Foundation in their estate planning
- Currently, have 27 members



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Resources

- Dues statements and prepaid dues option
- Annual fund drive in late fall
- Founders Campaign in 2002-2003
- Fundraising Events – Wall of Wine, Gala
- Memorials/honors and bequests/donations
- Legacy Circle
- GiveMN.org



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What can you do?

- Designate the Minnesota Dental Foundation in your estate planning
- Check the box on your dues statement
- Respond generously to the annual campaign
- Remember to honor or memorialize someone with a donation to the Minnesota Dental Foundation
- Cash, check, credit card or GiveMN.org



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Together, we CAN make a difference!

- Check the Minnesota Dental Foundation website at

mndentalfoundation.org



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