

THE Cavity-Free PRESS

DELTA DENTAL OF ARIZONA
FOUNDATION
Giving people a reason to smile 

Spring 2012

Birthday Edition

2012 Grant Awardees

- Arizona Association of Community Health Centers
- Arizona's Children Association
- Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Scottsdale
- Central Arizona Shelter Services
- Chicanos Por La Causa
- CHW Foundation – East Valley
- Coconino County Health Department
- Desert Mission Children's Dental Clinic
- El Rio Health Center Foundation
- Esperanca
- Homeward Bound
- International Rescue Committee
- Legacy Foundation Chris Town YMCA
- Maggie's Place
- Maricopa County Oral Health Leaders, Advocates, and Resources (MOLAR)
- Midwestern University/American Student Dental Association
- Native Health
- Northern Arizona University Foundation
- NORAZ Poets
- River Cities United Way
- Southwest Autism Research & Resource Center (SARRC)
- Southwest Human Development
- St. Vincent de Paul Dental Clinic
- Sun Life Health Centers
- WellCare Foundation



Foundation Board Member Felix Durazo presents check to Marty Eckrem of Coconino County Health Department

Over \$302,000 Awarded in Community Dental Grants, Equipment and Supplies

Delta Dental of Arizona Foundation completed its third competitive grant cycle, awarding \$285,000 in grants and over \$17,000 worth of oral health supplies to 31 organizations across Arizona. Recognizing the critical importance of beginning at birth to develop healthy dental hygiene

practices, the Foundation targets its resources on preventing oral disease in pregnant mothers, children, and youth; helping those without dental insurance, and promoting oral health education and instruction in schools, health centers, safety net clinics and community centers across the State.

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Delta Dental of AZ Foundation Celebrates 15 Years of Giving People a Reason to Smile!

In celebration of our 15th Birthday, the Foundation has launched a bright new logo, symbolizing our continued efforts at making Arizona smile! For 15 years, Delta Dental of Arizona Foundation has been committed to improving oral health across the State, for individuals and communities, with emphasis on underserved and uninsured populations. Since 1997, the Foundation has focused its resources on promoting oral health and preventing dental disease in pregnant mothers, children, and youth through age 18.

Unlike many nonprofit organizations, through Delta Dental of Arizona Foundation, 100% of contributions received are used for programs and services in the community (not administrative costs). This support allows donors the satisfaction that every penny they contribute is used entirely for programs that serve children and youth.

In the past decade, the Foundation has given back more than \$4.5 million to the community to combat oral disease in Arizona.

Special thanks go out to the Foundation's board of directors and staff for their enthusiasm, and endless dedication to the Foundation's mission.



\$302,000 Awarded in Community Dental Grants *continued from front page*

The Delta Dental of Arizona Foundation presented the 2012 grantees their checks at an Awards Luncheon on March 8th. This year's Awards Luncheon celebrated the 2012 Community Grant Recipients and the Delta Dental of Arizona Foundation's 15th Birthday!

Through the Foundation's statewide community outreach, organizations from across Arizona were encouraged to apply for funding. Receiving a maximum of \$15,000 per organization, the grants support a broad range of preventive services, from providing chew tobacco prevention education to rural areas of Northern Arizona through **Coconino County's Tobacco Prevention Program**, to providing essential dental equipment to operate the new community dental clinic at the **Legacy Foundation Chris Town YMCA** in Phoenix, where the Grants Luncheon and Birthday Celebration was held this year. (Complete list of grantees, on front page.)

The Foundation is excited and honored to help these worthy organizations do what they do best — deliver preventive oral health services to thousands of children throughout the state, promoting healthy habits and smiles for a lifetime.

April Lewallen,
CEO of
Chris Town
YMCA
with Kendis
Muscheid,
Foundation
Board
Member



Thank You Tax Credit Donors!

Thanks to our generous Working Poor Tax Credit donors, nearly \$18,000 was raised for the Foundation in 2011. 100% of these funds will go towards supporting oral health programs for children and youth across Arizona! For their contribution, donors receive a dollar-for-dollar tax credit, up to \$400.

We thank you for your commitment to our mission, and hope you will continue your support in 2012!

For more information on how to designate your Arizona tax dollars to go to the Foundation and receive a dollar-for-dollar tax credit, visit our website or call 602-588-3922.

The Foundation Gets Social

It is the Foundation's goal to serve as an incubator for promoting oral health throughout the state of Arizona. Sharing the stories of grantees and partners encourages communication and collaboration, something the Foundation feels is a strength in this ever-changing economic climate.

Facebook is a great channel for learning about what is going on in our community and sharing ideas, while **Twitter** is the spot to get fun tidbits and oral health tips for all ages.

Get connected with
the Foundation on
Twitter today!



@DDAZFoundation

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The Tooth Fairy Celebrates at the Children's Museum of Phoenix

Delta Dental of Arizona Foundation partnered with the Children's Museum of Phoenix to celebrate the Foundation's 15th Birthday. For the fourth year in a row, the Museum, with support from Delta Dental of Arizona Foundation, hosted daily interactive health activities for all visitors of the Museum; this year throughout the entire month of March, celebrating the Foundation's 15th year in operation.

Geared for children and families, the museum engages the minds and imagination of children through hands-on exhibits, arts, crafts and entertaining and educational puppet shows with the ever popular Delta Dental of Arizona Foundation "Tooth Fairy," Sarabelle Toothington.

This year, Sarabelle brought her dramatic talents to children through a new puppet show called **Bucky Meets the Tooth Wizard** from **The Adventures of Bitesize Bucky** series. Also back by popular demand were "Smile Bags" featuring toothbrushes, toothpaste, floss,



and fun facts about dental health, which were distributed to all visitors of the Museum.

All oral health celebration activities,



events, and give-aways, presented by Delta Dental of Arizona Foundation, were free with paid admission into the Museum.

"The Foundation is thrilled to celebrate our 15th Birthday with our friends from the Children's Museum. Our partnership of four years has brought awareness of the importance of oral health to families with young children." said Dr. Sandi Perez, Vice President of Communications and Community Benefit for Delta Dental of Arizona.

"This month is an especially exciting time for us to reach families, celebrating 15 years of educating and teaching good dental hygiene habits, in a fun way. We share with families the importance of starting at an early age to take care of their teeth and mouth for a lifetime of healthy smiles."

Foundation Celebrates St. Patrick's Day by Raising Money for Kids!

Delta Dental of Arizona Foundation, with the help of a squad of shamrock-studded volunteers, raised over \$16,000 for essential dental services and programs for Arizona children through St. Patrick's Day events at both Rosie AND Seamus McCaffrey's Irish Pubs in Phoenix. The events were held on Saturday, March 17 (but of course!), from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. featuring hours of live music and dancers, raffles and other fun giveaways, with corned beef and cabbage served up all day.

McCaffrey's St. Patrick's Day events have been a Phoenix favorite for over a decade, and this is the second year in a row that proceeds from Rosie McCaffrey's Irish Pub were donated to the Foundation. This is the first year with Seamus's and the Foundation is thrilled to form this yearly partnership with both McCaffrey's Pubs! This year, part of the proceeds from BOTH events were donated to the Foundation. The party kicked off with a live radio remote, with mention of the Foundation throughout the all-day broadcast. This air time provides the Foundation with a unique opportunity to enlighten the radio audience about its mission, the importance of oral health care, and the Foundation's work in the community.



Volunteers Mike Mendoza and Lauren Hanthorn, dental students at Midwestern University, join Alisa Diggs, Foundation Board Member, for a photo opportunity

REGISTER NOW!

7th Annual Delta Dental of AZ Foundation

Golf4Smiles Tournament

Friday, May 11, 2012

All proceeds benefit essential dental services and programs for thousands of children in Arizona.

Join us at Grayhawk Golf Club for an Unforgettable Golf & Giving Experience!

For complete information and to register, visit or call: www.Golf4Smiles.org 602-588-3922

DELTA DENTAL OF ARIZONA
FOUNDATION

Giving people a reason to smile ★

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Where Does The Green Go?

Tooth decay is completely preventable, yet it is the number one childhood disease, five times more common than asthma or hay fever. Recognizing the critical importance of starting as young as possible to develop healthy dental hygiene habits, the Foundation targets its resources on preventing oral disease in children and youth, supporting programs for dental sealants, fluoride varnish applications, dental referrals when needed, dental supplies distribution, and providing oral health instruction to children, parents, educators and health professionals across Arizona.

With the support of our donors, through such activities as the **Golf4Smiles Tournament** and the **Working Poor Tax Credit Campaign**, the Foundation is able to provide assistance to children, statewide, through such programs as the dental clinics at St. Vincent de Paul in Phoenix, NAU Department of Dental Hygiene in Flagstaff, and El Rio Health Center in Tucson; as well as educational programs at the Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Scottsdale, Coconino County Tobacco Prevention Program, to name just a few.



Dr. Snyder teaches brushing at St. Vincent de Paul's dental clinic



Dental screening and fluoride event at El Rio Health Center