



The Smile Report

Highlighting Our Impact on Arizonans' Health & Well-being

2022, Edition 3

Delta Dental of Arizona Celebrates 50 Years

For more than 50 years, Delta Dental of Arizona has believed that every Arizonan deserves a healthy smile.

Celebrating 50 years of
**Smile
POWER**



Smile Power In Action

As the foundation for Delta Dental of Arizona, a not-for-profit dental service organization, it's our mission to improve lives by promoting optimal oral health. Through volunteerism, investments in community oral health programs and connecting with business partners and oral health experts--we make this mission a reality.

Visit our anniversary page to learn more about our milestone year in business and how our work in the community has helped more than 2 million Arizonans live happier, healthier lives.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Commemorating 50 Years in Business - CEO Day of Service at St. Vincent de Paul



Jocelyn and Michael Jones, president & CEO, with Dr. Rich Higgs, board chair (center)

During a recent CEO Serve event at the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in Phoenix, more than 30 Delta Dental employees and board members came together to commemorate 50 years in business and support the critical work of St. Vincent de Paul.

Dentists from the Delta Dental board provided screenings and fluoride varnish to nearly 100 local children while employees served 284 people at the evening meal.

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Be the Reason Somebody Smiles

To keep Smile Power moving through our community and in honor of our 50th anniversary, we developed Smile Power positive affirmation cards. These cards are filled with positive quotes to brighten your day.

Be the reason someone smiles today by downloading these positive affirmation smile cards and hand them out to share a smile!

[DOWNLOAD](#)



Changes to Delta Dental 2023 Grant Guidelines

Guidelines for applicants have expanded for the 2023 grant cycle to include non-dental programs, specifically nutritional access programs such as food banks, after-school and weekend food programs for children, and senior delivery programs.

In addition, for the first time, dental programs for underserved adults will now be considered for funding along with dental programs for underserved children and seniors.

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Grantee Spotlight: Tooth BUDDS

Poor oral health can negatively affect how a young mouth develops and leads to more than 50 million school hours being lost each year.

The members of the Delta Dental of Arizona Foundation board work diligently throughout the year to help support programs that provide dental services and education to children directly in schools, primarily those schools with a high level of children in the national school lunch program, including the programs like Tooth BUDDS.



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Delta Dental Funds Special Needs Continuing Education Credits for Dental Professionals



Increasing Health Equity Through Education

Delta Dental is proud to fund special needs continuing education credits for dental professionals through the **Center for Persons with Disabilities Presentation Series**. This professional development program, funded by Delta Dental, builds awareness of the barriers to equitable oral health for individuals with disabilities and develops competency to provide oral health care to this vulnerable population.

[Learn More >](#)

Delta Dental Institute and AADOCR Announce Oral Health Equity Research Award

Supporting Research That Advances Recommendations for Oral Health Equity in Underserved Populations



The Delta Dental Institute (DDI) and the American Association for Dental, Oral, and Craniofacial Research (AADOCR) announced two new Oral Health Equity Awards to support research that advances recommendations for greater oral health equity in populations that lack access to dental care and improves oral health literacy for underserved populations.

The two awards will be conferred in the form of unrestricted research grants. Award winners will be announced at the 52nd meeting of the AADOCR, and 47th meeting of the Canadian Association for Dental Research (CADR), March 15-18, 2023, in Portland, Oregon, USA. [Learn More](#) >

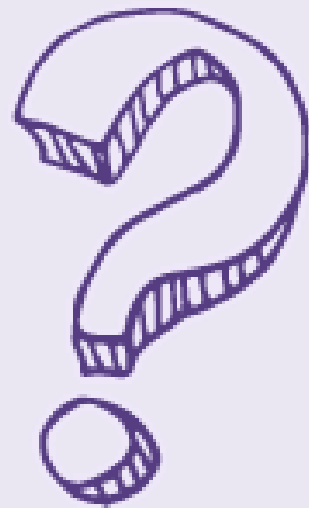
Have an event or project that could use some volunteers?

We're always looking for ways to connect our employees with more volunteer opportunities. If you have an event or project you'd like help with, email our grants coordinator, Espie Jauregui-Echeveste at ejaturegui@deltadentalaz.com. We'll be happy to feature your next opportunity on our company intranet!

POP QUIZ TIME

Question: Using something other than dental floss, like your fingernails or cutlery is fine to remove food and plaque from your teeth?
True or False.

Answer: False. While 63% of Americans admit they know better than to use unsafe, unsanitary and ineffective items to "floss" it's important to make sure you're using real floss, flossing tools or an electric flosser.



GET THE
FACTS

Volunteers
make a difference
at Desert Mission
Food Bank!

HONORHEALTH
DESERT MISSION FOOD BANK



Volunteer Spotlight:

**Shannon Bagge,
DDAZ Account Executive**

Meet Shannon Bagge, sales team account executive and three-time volunteer this year alone!

"It feels good to give back, you never know how much a touch, a smile, a kind word can make a difference in someone's life, it's the simplest act of kindness," said Shannon.

Shannon Bagge (center) volunteering at Desert Mission Food Bank, 2021

Board Member Spotlight:

**Dr. Melanie Hull, Board Member
Delta Dental of Arizona Foundation**

Dr. Melanie Hull has practiced general dentistry for over 20 years, seeing patients of all ages. In 2018 she joined the Delta Dental of Arizona Foundation board, where for the past five years, she's assisted with grant proposal review and is looking forward to her sixth round this year.

"I've enjoyed my five years on the Delta Dental of Arizona Foundation board working to improve the oral health of the underserved throughout the state," said Dr. Hull.

"We work every year to expand oral health education and improve access to dental services in all corners of Arizona. As a dentist, providing care to underserved patients and learning about the needs in our communities has been extremely rewarding."

[Learn More >](#)



DELTA DENTAL OF ARIZONA
FOUNDATION

Our mission is to improve lives by promoting optimal oral health.

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