

On The Road Again: Lincoln County

February 5, 2009

by Mary Daly, Program Manager, Tooth Taxi

The Tooth Taxi kicked off the month of February with three site visits last week, all in the spirit of National Children's Dental Health Month. After a stop in Lincoln City to screen students, we headed to Newport and parked the Tooth Taxi at Sam Case Elementary School, where it was sunny and 70 degrees! Lincoln County involved all the schools in their district, bringing us patients from 11 schools.



OEA Board Member **Mary Lou Beck** (r) observes treatment aboard the Tooth Taxi during it's Lincoln County visit.

Dr. Keith Harcourt, a retired physician and a member of the Lincoln Community Health Council, came by the Tooth Taxi to personally thank us for coming to Lincoln County. Dr. Harcourt expressed the concern and need for dental services in Lincoln County.

Volunteers last week were **Geneva Alvord**, dental assistant and **Mary Lou Beck**, OEA Board member. Thank you to Mary Lou for sharing her beach home accommodations with us!

The Newport News also visited the Tooth Taxi. Click the following link for the Newport News article: Say ahhh - Newport News, February 6, 2009

Lincoln County School District Stats



- 107 students screened
- 22 students treated in the van
- \$22,315 value of free dental services provided

On Friday February 6, the Tooth Taxi was parked at the Capitol steps in Salem for Give Kids A Smile (GKAS). **Dr. Joni D. Young** from Salem and her assistant, **Molly Eisele**, volunteered in the van, along with Geneva Alvord who assisted Dr. Heringer. **Jodi Loper** and **Elisa Scofield** from the Salem Boys & Girls Club kept us busy with kids needing dental treatment.

The majority of the day was cool and rainy, but we still had a good turnout of visitors to the Tooth Taxi.

Dental Professionals

- **Patrick Braatz**, Executive Director, Oregon Board of Dentistry
- **Harvey Wayson**, Investigator, Oregon Board of Dentistry

We discussed opportunities for dentists who need to fulfill community service requirements to volunteer on the Tooth Taxi.

- Dr. Cedric Hayden of Hayden Family Dentistry
- Steve Petruzelli, Willamette Dental Group
- Dr. Jennifer Frankel, Salem GP, with her family who was visiting from out of state.
- Brett Hamilton, Oregon Dental Association
- Dr. Weston W. Heringer III, Salem Pediatric dentist
- Jessica Minahan, Dental Health Coordinator for Salem-Keizer public schools
- Western Oregon University Health majors who are creating a video for the Salem Boys & Girls Club that is about dental health. Dr. Heringer also demonstrated proper brushing and flossing on a patient for the video.

Government Visitors

- Rep. Tobias Read (D - Beaverton)
- Rep. Bill Kennemer (R - Oregon City)
- Rep. Scott Bruun's (R - West Linn) wife Allison
- James Sager, current representative to the Governor as senior policy advisor for K-12 education, and former OEA president.
- Rick Berkovian, Director of Committee Services for the Oregon Legislature
- Joan Katowich, administrator for PEBB & OEBC
- Mike Swaim, former mayor of Salem

General Visitors

- High school students from France
- McKenzie Scofield, U of O student who is interested in hygiene school and volunteering on the Tooth Taxi.
- Aaron, photographer and communications rep from Salem-Keizer public schools
- Nancy Heringer
- Koin TV, Channel 6, who ran a short piece on the Friday evening news

Tooth Taxi Supporters



The Salem Boys & Girls Club thanks Tooth Taxi and Give Kids A Smile! volunteers.

Thank you to all the Tooth Taxi supporters who staffed the front table and visited us on Friday:

- OEA Choice - Steve McNannay, Mary Lou Beck, Jim Jobes, Holly Spruance
- DFO - Charlie LaTourette, Judy Edgerly

Salem Give Kids A Smile (GKAS) Stats

- 45 Girls & Boys club members screened the week before
- 15 students treated in the van
- \$8,218 value of free dental services provided.

On Saturday February 7, the Tooth Taxi participated in the Children's Health Fair at Lynch View Elementary School in Portland. The health fair was sponsored by Multnomah Dental Society (MDS). The Tooth Taxi provided support while care was provided by MDS members, **Dr. Patricia DeMasi** and **Dr. Alireza Saber**. The Tooth Taxi was joined by two MTI dental vans which gave Dr. Heringer and I the chance to meet MTI program managers and give them a tour of the Tooth Taxi.

Summary

Tooth Taxi, September 2008 - February 7, 2009

- 1109 students screened
- 306 students received oral hygiene education in the classroom
- 523 students treated in the van
- \$332,501 value of free dental services provided

Next week on the road: Coos Bay, Madison Elementary School