



On the road
to good oral health



THE DENTAL
FOUNDATION
OF OREGON

2008 Annual Report



THE DENTAL
FOUNDATION
OF OREGON



A disturbing truth

We don't like to talk about it, but Oregon children have among the worst oral health in the nation. Over 56 percent of children 6–8 years old have serious dental decay, and the numbers are significantly higher for low-income families. Educators estimate that nearly 5,000 children experience dental pain in our schools every day, limiting their ability to learn and live a healthy life. In fact, dental infection can lead to very serious health conditions and even death.

The disturbing truth is that dental disease is rampant among a whole generation of Oregon children, and it is nearly 100 percent preventable. Poverty and lack of education are real barriers, but community apathy allows this tragedy to continue. How many more will suffer before we find the collective will to give all children the dental care they deserve?

It's time to stand up for children's oral health.

TO FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS,

2008 was an outstanding year of accomplishment for The Dental Foundation of Oregon (DFO). We implemented our first state-of-the-art mobile dental clinic – the Tooth Taxi – which is providing free dental care and oral health education to Oregon's neediest children in schools throughout the state. An innovative partnership with the OEA Choice Trust and The ODS Companies, the Tooth Taxi will deliver more than \$1 million in free care annually.

Launched in the fall of 2008, the Tooth Taxi is already helping make a difference in the lives of children, such as Destiny, a ninth-grader from Estacada who got a new smile just in time for her soccer awards ceremony and photo session. We are pleased to feature Destiny's story and a few others from early Tooth Taxi visits in this report.

We did not escape the economic downturn in our investment portfolio, but we remained committed to supporting nonprofit dental programs, distributing \$75,000 in community grants to 17 organizations that provided free dental services to more than 20,000 people. Since 1982, we have given nearly \$1 million in community grants and helped more than 250,000 low-income Oregonians get much needed dental care.

As the charitable arm of the Oregon Dental Association, we are very grateful for the dental professionals who volunteer their time in local clinics and serve on the Tooth Taxi. Their support is critical to our success, and they understand that supporting DFO helps many more people than they can as individuals in their offices.

We are also very thankful for the foundations, corporations and individuals who support us with financial and in-kind contributions. **Your support, particularly during these difficult economic times, is critical to our continuing efforts to help improve the oral health of Oregon's neediest children.**

Thank you for helping us make a real difference in 2008.



Patrick Nearing, D.M.D.
President of the DFO Board



Charles LaTourette
Executive Director



Going where **the need is**

Recognizing that far too many children were not getting the dental care they needed, the Dental Foundation of Oregon embarked on its first effort to deliver direct dental care to children with the launch of the Tooth Taxi in September 2008.

This state-of-the-art mobile dental clinic is the result of a unique partnership among the Dental Foundation of Oregon, OEA Choice Trust and The ODS Companies. The van delivers free dental care and oral health education to low-income children in schools with the help of a full-time pediatric dentist and staff, as well as the extraordinary support of schools and volunteer dental professionals.

What is so unique about the Tooth Taxi is that it spends up to a week at a school providing preventive services such as screenings and cleanings, fluoride

treatments, dental sealants and oral health education — and it also delivers a full-range of restorative services including fillings and crowns, which will make a huge difference for children for many years to come.

The following brief stories demonstrate the Tooth Taxi's power to help more than 3,000 children and deliver over \$1 million worth of free dental care annually. But most important, they show how the Tooth Taxi is helping to change lives.



Meet the Tooth Taxi team



Dr. Weston W. Heringer, Jr.
Pediatric Dentist, Board Certified



Mary Daly,
Program Manager



James Olcott,
Tooth Taxi Assistant

Stepping into the Tooth Taxi



A young girl was being treated on the Tooth Taxi while her mother sat in the waiting area.

The child seemed distracted and kept looking at her mother. Finally, she looked up at the dentist and said, "My mom has a toothache too." Our volunteer dentist Dr. Cynthia Marshall agreed to look at the mom, and took care of her dental pain, providing extractions and restorations. In Lebanon, the Tooth Taxi delivered \$22,368 in free dental care and made one little girl and her mother very happy. It is this kind of commitment and service that leaves a positive mark in the communities we serve.

One little boy had never been to a dentist. To help relax children during difficult treatments, movies are played on the Tooth Taxi flat panel TV screens. While having a baby tooth pulled and a crown put on one of his permanent molars, this Woodburn, Oregon, boy watched the movie "Cars." After the treatment he commented, "It was a pretty good show, and it feels funny when they take off your tooth." The Woodburn visit, which treated predominantly Hispanic and Russian children, provided screenings to 91 students and delivered \$22,170 in free dental care to 26 children. Staff members estimate they have seen the movie "Cars" 149 times.

Destiny didn't like her picture being taken. A ninth grader and soccer player from Estacada High School, she was thrilled to be treated on the Tooth Taxi by volunteers Dr. Corinne Schenk and her assistant Megan Hedrick. Their work included extensive treatment on her front teeth. Destiny told the school coordinator that now she would be able to smile for the camera Monday night when she takes the stage for the soccer awards program. That's what we call a Tooth Taxi "goal!"



Tooth Taxi volunteers 2008 (launched September 2008)

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Jim Jobes
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Ann Nguyen
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Jennie Vu
Jennifer Wilkeson
Dr. Henry C. Windell, D.M.D.
Louisa Woodworth

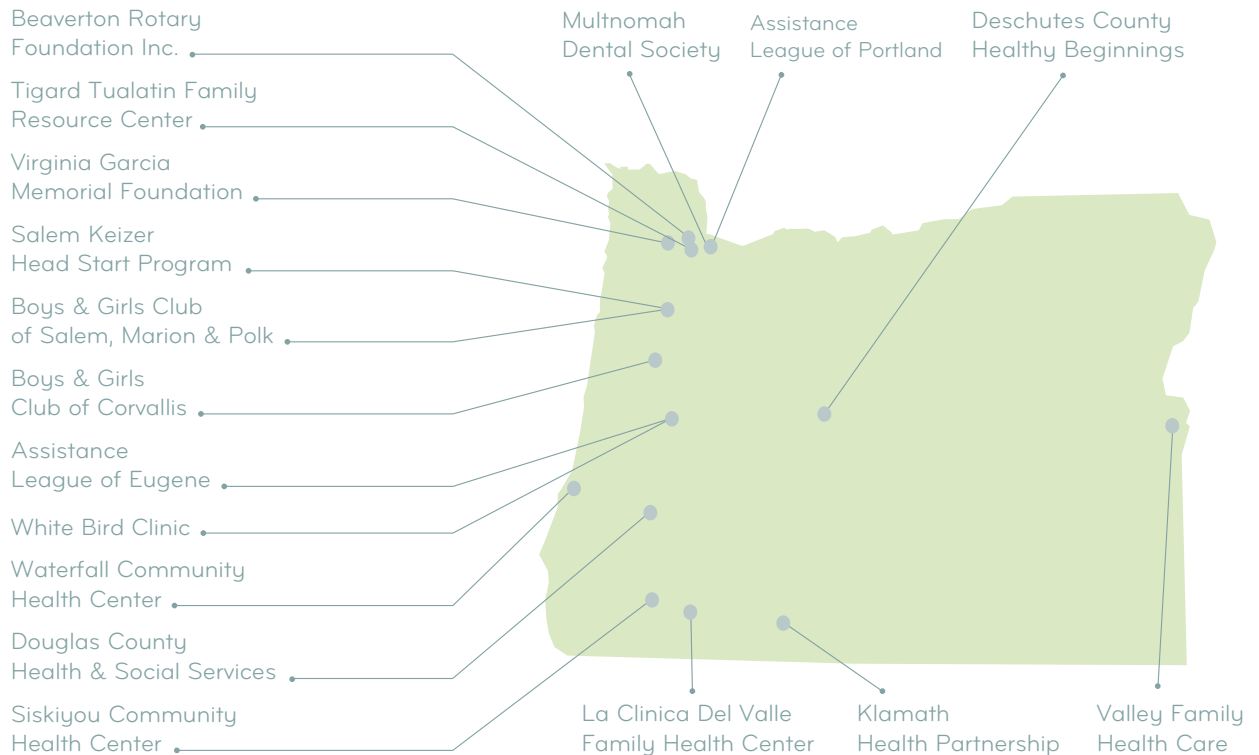
If you are interested in volunteering on the Tooth Taxi, contact Mary Daly at **503-329-8877** or visit www.smileonoregon.org/tooth_taxi to see when the Tooth Taxi is coming to your community.



DFO grants reach far and wide

Since 1982, DFO community grants have supported hundreds of nonprofit dental programs in communities throughout the state, helping more than 250,000 low-income individuals get much-needed dental care. We have distributed nearly \$1 million in grants and helped provide the platform upon which Oregon dentists have generously volunteered their time and expertise to help those less fortunate.

2008 Grant Distribution



In 2008, \$76,812 was granted to 17 organizations helping more than 20,000 individuals get dental care.

Here are a few examples of the wonderful programs supported in 2008.

Hug a Bear helps in Eugene

Five-year-old Tammy had been suffering with a toothache and crying off and on for several nights when her mother brought her into the Assistance League of Eugene Children's Dental Center. She was terrified when the doctor told her that he was going to have to pull the badly decayed tooth, but then the dentist spoke to her in soothing tones and handed her a Hug a Bear stuffed bear – "guaranteed to guard against pain." Later Tammy was heard saying, "Hug a Bear worked. I didn't feel a thing!" With a grant from DFO and many volunteer dentists in Lane County, the Assistance League of Eugene Children's Dental Center helps put healthy smiles on hundreds of children like Tammy every year and delivers more than \$300,000 in free dental care annually.



Shining Smiles – Dental education tool kit for Douglas County schools

Kids call him “Nemo,” but his real name is FinnZfish. He’s a 19-inch animal teaching aid with his own toothbrush and mirror, and teachers use him to help preschoolers learn about good oral health. Created with help from DFO and the Umpqua Dental Society, the Douglas County Public Health Department’s Shining Smiles dental education tool kits inspire early childhood dental education and “brushing play” at 11 local preschools and child development programs. FinnZfish is providing hundreds of low-income children in Douglas County with a fun way to learn about the importance of good oral health.

Happy Smiles Dental Prevention Program – Medford

La Clinica del Valle Family Health Care Center was founded in 1988 to serve the primary and preventive healthcare needs of the migrant and seasonal farm worker community in Jackson County, Oregon. In response to the increasing need for oral healthcare, the clinic created the Happy Smiles Dental Prevention Program to provide dental health education and oral health supplies to 5,000 Hispanic children in the greater Medford area.

Healthy Beginnings – Deschutes County

Grant funds from DFO helped expand the successful Healthy Beginnings comprehensive dental screening and oral health education program for low-income children in Deschutes County. With the help of the Deschutes County Health Department, volunteer dentists and community partners, the program held 14 screenings reaching nearly 500 children and their parents.

“Thanks to DFO for helping make our screenings a reality,” said Holly Remer, Executive Director, Deschutes County Health Beginnings.

“We have been able to provide more preventive care and oral health services to children in our community thanks to the support of The Dental Foundation of Oregon.”

-BRENDA JOHNSON, R.N., M.B.A., CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, LA CLINICA



THE DENTAL FOUNDATION OF OREGON

Investing in our Children

In 2008, the Foundation granted \$76,312 to 17 different non-profit dental programs throughout Oregon, helping over 20,000 people get much needed dental care and oral health education. You can read about several of the 2008 grantees in this annual report.

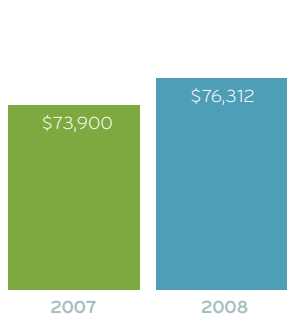
While 56.5% of grant funds were targeted to clinical care, many grantees also included an education component in their programs recognizing the importance of long-term preventive care for children.

Since 1982, DFO has granted nearly 1 million dollars to community dental programs and helped over 250,000 individuals in cities and towns across the state.

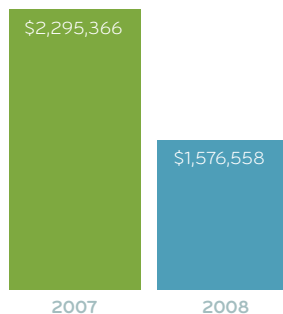
2008 was a difficult year for our investment fund as it experienced declines consistent with the overall economic market. The foundation invests in a fund under the management of the Oregon Community Foundation (OCF).

Support and revenue, including contributions and grants, special events and investment income was \$351,296 in 2008 and costs for fund-raising, community grants, investment expenses and general management was \$232,312.

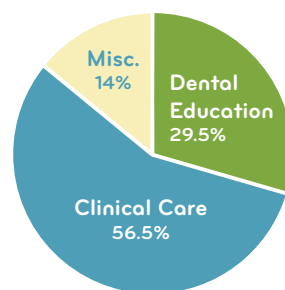
2008 grants awarded



Investment fund growth



DFO grant distribution





The Dental Foundation of Oregon 2008 donor list

This list reflects donations received January 1, 2008, through December 31, 2008.

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– Bobbi Combs
– Vanessa Nehrkorn
– Kelsey Palmer
– Bethany Spence
For professional
services rendered
– Kent S. Zerr, D.M.D.*

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*For all you do for the foundation
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*In honor of your 50th
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*For all you do for the foundation
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*Thank you for your presentation
and dedication to the dental
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*Thanks for all you do for us
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Karleanne Rogers

*You are the best
– Beau Currie*

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Ten Pas joins the DFO board



Bill Ten Pas, D.M.D.

The board of directors welcomed Bill Ten Pas, D.M.D., to the board in 2008. Ten Pas was elected to a three-year term vacated by Weston W. Heringer, Jr., D.M.D., who resigned from the board to take on his new duties as the Tooth Taxi's full-time dentist.

Ten Pas is Senior Vice President of Dental Services for The ODS Companies. He was a practicing dentist for more than 25 years in Corvallis, Oregon, and has held key leadership roles with the ODS Board of Directors (Chairman and Vice Chairman), Oregon Dental Association (President), Oregon Academy of General Dentistry, American Dental Association (President, Trustee) and the Corvallis School Board (Chairman). Ten Pas volunteers regularly on the Tooth Taxi and is actively involved in many community organizations. He lives with his wife Kathy in Portland.

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“What an amazing service the Tooth Taxi has been. Parents have told me stories and wept and shouted excitedly as they’ve explained what has been done for their children on the Tooth Taxi.”

*CAROLE DOWSETT, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL,
NORTH LAKE SCHOOL DISTRICT*



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