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the smile sheet

THE DENTAL FOUNDATION OF OREGON NEWSLETTER

Fourth annual Chip! for Teeth raises \$44,000

The DFO held its fourth annual Chip! for Teeth golf tournament on May 30 at Riverside Golf and Country Club, raising more than \$44,000, a \$6,000 increase from the 2007 event.

“This year’s tournament was a huge success,” said Judy Edgerly, DFO Executive Assistant. “We had 27 teams participating — and thanks to our

Turn to GOLF, page 5 ►

DFO Tooth Taxi brings bright smiles to Sweet Home

By Christopher S. Hawley

Following its unveiling at Pioneer Courthouse Square on Aug. 27, the Dental Foundation of Oregon (DFO) Tooth Taxi headed out to Sweet Home, Ore., where it spent the week at Foster Elementary School.

A total of 48 children were screened on Monday and 15 were scheduled for treatment on Tuesday. For about one-third of the children who visited the Tooth Taxi during the week, it was their first visit to the dentist.

“Our expectation was that [in the course of the screenings] we would see kids with the most neglect,” Mike Goger, D.M.D. and Tooth Taxi

volunteer dentist said. “We certainly saw some with advanced, rampant decay to the point where they’re going to have some teeth removed. We saw others with moderate decay that will have some fillings placed. Then there were half a dozen or so who looked spotless and simply received fluoride varnish.”

A BUSY DEBUT

The DFO worked tirelessly with support from OEA Choice Trust and The ODS Companies to make the vision of bringing dental care to children in need throughout the state a reality.

Turn to TOOTH TAXI, page 4 ►

The Tooth Taxi hits the road

“If you build it they will come,” is a line from the movie “Field of Dreams.” That is exactly what is beginning to happen with the Tooth Taxi project.

The Dental Foundation of Oregon’s (DFO) dream of a mobile health clinic began three years ago in response to Oregon’s high rate of dental decay and lack of access to dental care. In Oregon, 22 of the 36 counties have a shortage of dental professionals. Through a partnership with The ODS Companies and the OEA Choice Trust, the Tooth Taxi program was established to address both issues.

The program includes the Tooth Taxi, a mobile health clinic that travels to schools to provide direct dental care and oral health education to thousands of children throughout Oregon. The Tooth Taxi is a state-of-the-art dental clinic — and with the help of OEA Choice Trust, Oregon school doors will open, allowing us to provide dental care on site to those who need it most.

The Tooth Taxi was unveiled on August 27 at Pioneer Courthouse Square, in downtown Portland. Hundreds of people passed through the van to see the most modern dental equipment and view the kid-friendly graphic exterior. Members of the press and media were also present for the inaugural ceremonies. The van was built by American Dental International and the exterior graphics were designed by SPUNK Design Machine of Minneapolis.

Mary A. Daly, program manager, Dr. Weston W. Heringer,

Jr., pediatric dentist for the clinic and Peggy Wallis, dental assistant, put the Tooth Taxi into action in early September at two Head Start programs. The first took place in Independence and the second in Milwaukie, Ore. During the two visits, 39 children were screened; received oral health education and 18 received dental services. In all, more than \$10,000 in dental treatment was provided.

In late September, the Tooth Taxi officially began in Sweet Home, Ore. for its first full week. We are pleased and honored that Dr. Mike Goger, dentist and DFO board member, and Amy Berg, dental assistant, were able to volunteer on the Tooth Taxi for the entire week to help provide care. Melissa Cheek, dental hygienist, provided oral health education in the classrooms.

We know that it takes a whole community to help provide the best dental care to our children. The Tooth Taxi program needs volunteers. We not only need dental volunteers on board the taxi but donations to keep the van rolling down the highways and into the schools. Please help if you can. For more information on how you can help improve the oral health of Oregon’s children, please contact Mary Daly at Mary.Daly@SmileOnOregon.org.

“The Tooth Taxi is a state-of-the-art dental clinic — and with the help of OEA Choice Trust, Oregon school doors will open, allowing us to provide dental care on site to those who need it most.”



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

Help the Tooth Taxi to keep moving

The Dental Foundation of Oregon, along with OEA Choice Trust and The ODS Companies, invites you to join us in our mission of improving oral health for Oregon’s children. The Tooth Taxi needs volunteer dentists,

hygienists, dental assistants and others to help care for patients.

If you’d like to volunteer or learn more, contact Mary A. Daly, Tooth Taxi program manager, at 503-329-8877 or Mary.Daly@SmileOnOregon.org.

Donations are also needed to keep this program running.

You can donate online at www.SmileOnOregon.org or send your donation to: DFO, P.O. Box 2448, Wilsonville, OR 97070.

DFO distributes more than \$76,000 in 2008 grants

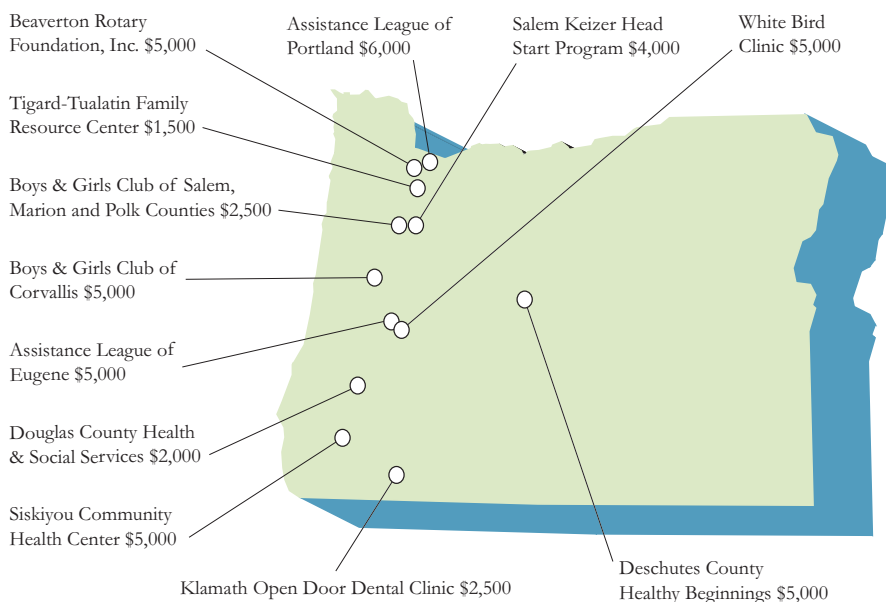
The Dental Foundation of Oregon (DFO) awarded \$76,312 in grants to various programs throughout the state during 2008.

The grant committee strictly evaluated applications against the foundation's newly adopted mission of improving oral health for Oregon's children. Specifically, grant applicants are judged using the following criteria:

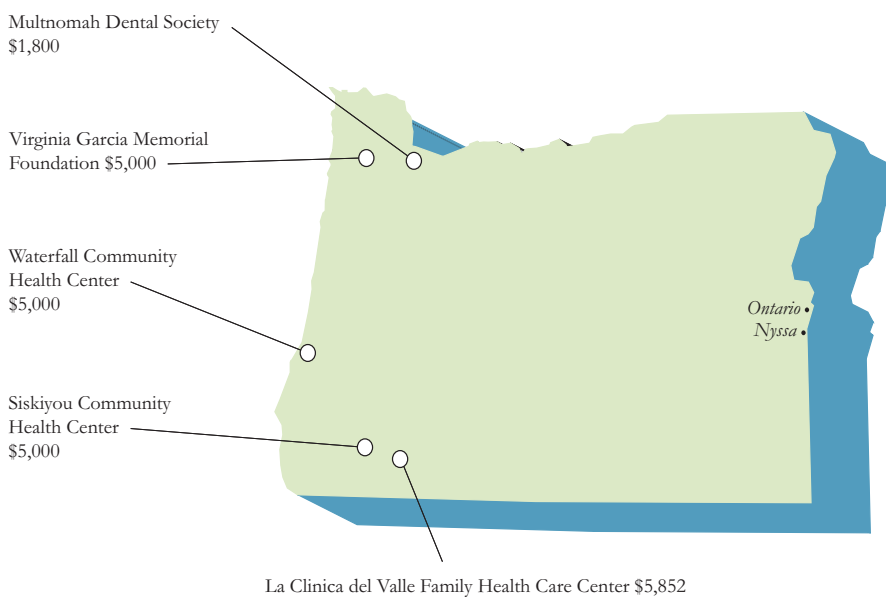
- They provide emergency dental care for children who are disadvantaged and do not have access to care.
- They prevent dental disease through support of programs that provide dental health education to the community and to assist children and low-income families to access dental healthcare.

Note: the grant awarded in Idaho this fall to Valley Family Health Care will be used in two of the organizations' Oregon clinics, which are located in Nyssa and Ontario.

SPRING 2008 GRANT DISTRIBUTION



FALL 2008 GRANT DISTRIBUTION



IDAHO GRANT RECIPIENT
Valley Family Health Care \$5,160



Dr. Weston W. Heringer, Jr. works with a student from Foster Elementary School as Holly Spruance, marketing representative for OEA Choice Trust, observes.

Thanks to the months of work and planning, the Tooth Taxi's first day of treatment was brisk. The staff juggled treating children and greeting numerous visitors, often stopping to explain procedures and field questions from the media.

School nurse Joan Pappin, R.N., coordinated the logistics of the Tooth Taxi's visit and escorted students between the classroom and the van. Pappin said she was pleased with the way the prescreening process worked.

"I think everything worked as I thought it would," Pappin said. "The category fours rose to the top right away and we were able to get them seen immediately."

A SUCCESSFUL FIRST DAY

At the end of the day, the Tooth Taxi personnel felt very good about what had been accomplished.

"Things went great," Goger said. "From a clinical standpoint, I didn't see any chronic infection today, which is good. I think what amazed me is that, for the amount of decay that's present in these kids' teeth, I didn't see a single child who complained of a toothache — and some of the decay I saw has been going on for quite awhile."

Dr. Weston W. Heringer, Jr., D.M.D. and pediatric dentist for the clinic, agreed. "We had a great day," he said. "Part of what appeals to me about this job is that every day is going to be a new adventure."

Peggy Wallis, extended function dental assistant, said she enjoys the adventure and excitement that comes from dealing with the unexpected.

"We're going to be doing something different, going

different places and seeing different people," she said. "It's not like being in an office where it's easy to get into the same old routine day after day. Out here, you have to be flexible and just sort of go with the flow. I enjoy that, and I would encourage any dental assistant who is feeling a little burned out in their job to volunteer with us."

MOVING FORWARD FOR MORE SMILES

Program Manager Mary A. Daly also sees immense potential in the future of the Tooth Taxi.

"I think it's going to help us make a real difference," she said. "The Tooth Taxi is a 38-foot roving billboard for oral health. In addition to helping underserved children, it can provide so many positive messages about the importance of good dental care. With the support of dental professionals, I know we can change the results of the next Smile Survey. We can provide education to kids about oral hygiene. We can plant the seed about the importance of a healthy mouth and a positive experience at the dental office. It's something we can all get excited about."

Heringer summed it up well. "Life should be an adventure," he said. "The Tooth Taxi is going to be an adventure for our sponsors, our patients and for everyone who volunteers aboard this van. I've been a dentist for 28 years, but I've never been more excited to be practicing dentistry than I am right now."

generous sponsors, we had more than \$10,000 worth of cash and prizes to give out throughout the entire day.”

Among the biggest prizes of the day were two unrestricted airline tickets donated by Southwest Airlines and \$1,000 in cash sponsored by Consani Seims, Ltd. That prize was won — and donated back to the DFO — by Michael P. Naughton, D.M.D., and his teammates, Cindy Fletcher, Scott R. Neish, D.M.D., and Dennis L. Simonsen, D.M.D.

The golf winners with the lowest gross score for the day included Jay M. Wylam, D.M.D.; Patrick M. Nearing, D.M.D.; Donald “Chip” Paluska, Jr., D.M.D.; and Richard L. Haglund, D.M.D. The prize for lowest net score went to Kenneth L. Peterson, D.M.D., Robert Peterson, Mark Holzgang and Richard Bogumil. “The success of this event is really due to the wonderful golf teams and our generous sponsors,” Edgerly



Teri Barichello, D.M.D., takes a swing during the 2008 DFO Chip! for Teeth golf tournament.

said. “Without their participation, none of this would be possible. We are so appreciative of all the support from the dental and business community.”

The 2009 golf tournament is scheduled for Friday, May 29, at

Riverside Golf and Country Club. For more information on how you can participate in the event, please contact the DFO at Foundation@SmileOnOregon.org or 503-594-0880.

Meet the mastermind behind DFO branding: Spunk Design Machine

The Dental Foundation of Oregon (DFO) is making a bold statement throughout the state, thanks in part to Spunk Design Machine, a Minneapolis-based design agency. For more than 12 years, Spunk has created identity systems and materials for a wide variety of clients, including Target, Best Buy and General Mills.

In 2007, Spunk took on the DFO as a pro-bono client. Together, Spunk and the DFO created a brand that encourages Oregonians to “Smile On” and achieve better oral health.

SAVE THE DATE!



CHIP!
FOR TEETH

Friday, May 29, 2009

Riverside Golf and
Country Club in
Portland

Help give Oregon's children something to smile about

Join the DFO's Give A Grin campaign today!

The DFO's Give a Grin Campaign is a simple and effective way for your business to help put an end to premature tooth decay by donating the proceeds from one day of work. Our official campaign is held every

“ *Nearly two of every three Oregon children in first, second and third grade already have had a cavity, according to the 2007 Smile Survey. More than half of those children have untreated decay.* ”

fall, but you can participate any day of the year.

Whether you're a dentist or a dietician, accountant or architect, skilled trade worker or social worker, all Oregonians are invited to participate in Give a Grin. If you and your office chooses to participate, let your patients or clients know that the fees for your

services that day will be donated to help children without access to dental care.

All participants will receive a receipt for their tax-deductible donation to the DFO. For more information, contact the foundation at 503-594-0880 or Foundation@SmileOnOregon.org.



GIVE A GRIN PLEDGE CARD

To participate in the Give a Grin campaign and help brighten the smiles of Oregon children in need, please fill out this pledge card and mail it to: DFO, P.O. Box 2448, Wilsonville, OR 97070-2448. You can also sign-up by sending an e-mail to Foundation@SmileOnOregon.org with the requested information.

Name: _____

E-mail: _____

Business: _____

Phone: _____

Contact name: _____

Date to Give a Grin: _____

Address: _____

Number of participants: _____

Approximate donation: _____

Frequently asked questions about the Tooth Tax

What is the Tooth Tax?

The Tooth Tax is the project of the Dental Foundation of Oregon (DFO), in partnership with the OEA Choice Trust and The ODS Companies.

What are requirements for treatment?

An up-to-date medical history signed by a parent or legal guardian and a signed permission slip from a parent or legal guardian.

Which students can receive this treatment?

Students who are enrolled in the free or reduced lunch program, students without dental insurance, and those with acute need are eligible to receive care on the Tooth Tax.

What are the age limits?

We will treat students in kindergarten through 12th grade who meet the other requirements, regardless of age.

What type of treatment will you provide?

The Tooth Tax will provide basic dental care, including exams, cleanings, sealants, restorations and extractions.

Are you equipped to handle acute dental needs?

Yes.

What are the qualifications of the professionals on the van?

The van is overseen by a dentist licensed in the state of Oregon.

What if the student needs follow-up care?

We will provide a phone number to call for a referral.

What if the student needs an antibiotic or fluoride?

The need will be determined by the treating dentist. Antibiotics and fluoride will be handed out on a limited basis. No narcotics or pain medication will be available or will be prescribed from the van.

What if the student has dental insurance?

Preference will be given to the uninsured, those on the free and reduced lunch program and those with acute pain.

Where will the patient files be kept?

All files will be electronic records.

Will there be an educational/prevention component program with the van?

Yes, we will work closely with you to develop a program that fits your school's needs. This may include communication via assembly or in-class activities.

What if I have further questions?

Please contact Mary A. Daly, Tooth Tax Program Manager, at 503-329-8877 or Mary.Daly@SmileOnOregon.org.

Thank you to our donors

We would like to thank the following companies and individuals for their generous contributions. This list reflects donations received from January 1 through September 30, 2008.

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HUMANITARIAN \$25,000

The ODS Companies
OEA Choice Trust
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Oregon Dental Association

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\$5,000 +

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Provided for care rendered
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*Thank you for your presentation
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You are the best
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