The Office of Educational Partnerships and Diversity supports teaching and learning initiatives that promote improvements in oral health care access and reductions in oral health disparities. These university-community partnerships allow sharing of each partner’s expertise and resources, creating mutually beneficial opportunities for learning, workforce development, and care of the community.

Teeth and Toes Clinic at Mary’s Place North

The long-standing partnership with Mary’s Place, a women’s shelter located in downtown Seattle, has expanded with the shelter’s new second location in Shoreline. This shelter is focused on serving whole families that are experiencing homelessness. The dental students teamed up with the medical and nursing students in February to provide oral screenings, urgent care and foot care to the women and children at the new site.

Third year Tony Yan and fourth year Monique Luu apply fluoride varnish with the help of the child’s mother.

Fourth year student Brandon Kanetani uses a NOMAD radiograph device, donated by Seattle King County Dental Foundation, prior to care on the Medical Teams International dental van.

Second year dental student Amelia Skifstad holds the light and teaches medical student Jamie to apply fluoride varnish.

Upcoming Events

July 16
Migrant Farm Worker Health Fair in Skagit Valley

July 19
SMDEP Dental Simulation Lab

July 23
Migrant Farm Worker Camp, Mt. Vernon, WA

August 6
Migrant Farm Worker Camp, Mt. Vernon, WA

August 13
Migrant Farm Worker Camp, Mt. Vernon, WA

Health Sciences Inter-Professional Geriatric Screening Clinic

On January 29th, 10 dental students participated in a UW Health Sciences inter-professional community health fair at the Magnuson Community Center for low-income individuals. This was a joint effort between the schools of Nursing, Pharmacy, and Dentistry, spearheaded by fourth year dental student Tim Cousin and pharmacy student Arianne Duong.

Dental students participate in a pre-event huddle to discuss the goals of the event before screening patients.

*Photo shown above was taken during a team building activity at Dental Academy on March 5th, 2016. More information about the program can be found inside the newsletter.*
Dental Academy

Dental Academy 2016 is a 7-session enrichment program geared toward local high school students from underrepresented communities interested in pursuing careers in medical and dental fields. The Dental Academy scholars had the opportunity to hear from local dentists and physicians about their journey to becoming health care providers. They also participated in hands-on exercises with dental students and faculty inside of the D1 dental simulation laboratory. The scholars also worked in small groups led by dental student mentors on oral health education presentations to bring awareness about oral health to their communities.

Dr. Terry Maresca leads the scholars on a hike to identify traditional medicinal plants utilized by Native Americans

Presenters on February 27th from left: Dr. Kendra Farmer (UW SoD ’13), Dr. Rolanda Ward (UW SoD ’11), faculty member Dr. Bea Gandara, Dr. Marcus Rhodes (UW SoD ’13), and faculty member Dr. Micah Nicholson (UW SoD ’13)

On March 5th, the Dental Academy Scholars were able to gain hands-on experience when they visited the Oral Medicine Dental Urgent Care Clinic. The scholars rotated through several stations, which included radiology, anatomy of the skull, dental scaling, and drilling of ivorine teeth.

Fourth year dental student David Shin shows scholar Boyani how to position an anesthetic syringe

Second year dental student Kramer Wagner assists scholar Celestina as she uses a dental handpiece for the first time. Recent graduate Austin Messina guides her tooth preparation

Fourth year dental student David Shin shows scholar Boyani how to position an anesthetic syringe

Dr. Jessica Bremerman, UW SOD graduate 2011, shows the progression of childhood caries to scholars Noel and LaVera

Third year dental student Tony Yan helps scholar Michelle take radiographs of a skull

Fourth year students Monique Luu and David Shin show a scholar the location of placement of local anesthetic
SMDEP Students at the Rainbow Health Fair

The students in the Summer Medical and Dental Education Program have arrived at the University of Washington. This program welcomes 80 students who have finished their first or second year of undergraduate studies at the University of Washington or from other institutions around the country. These students are interested in pursuing careers in medicine or dentistry, and this 6-week program offers a variety of academic and career experiences that will support their career preparation. On Saturday, June 25th, the OEPD welcomed 7 of the SMDEP scholars to help table at the Rainbow Health Fair. This fair was held at All Pilgrim’s Church on Capitol Hill during the Pride celebration weekend. The students taught OHI to fair attendees. The Medical Teams International (MTI) dental van was also present at this event. Four dental students and faculty member Dr. Micah Nicholson (UW SoD class of 2013) provided care for 6 hours during this event.

Hygienist James Lovelace demonstrates proper brushing technique to the SMDEP scholars so that they are able to teach the attendees of the fair.

Dental Care for Youth at New Horizons

On the evening of May 17th, 3 dental students and 1 faculty member from the University of Washington School of Dentistry provided dental care on the Medical Teams International van at New Horizons Ministries shelter in Belltown. New Horizons has been working to end youth homelessness in Seattle and King County since 1978. New Horizons Ministries offers services and programs designed to help youth transition out of street life by connecting them with opportunities. They connect volunteers and service providers in our community to youth in need.

To the left, fourth year students Jared Karstetter and AJ Morrow provide care for a New Horizons client under the watchful eye of faculty member Dr. James Newman.
Please support the students’ work in the community!
You can support our outreach programs through the Access to Care Fund:

ONLINE:
https://www.washington.edu/giving/make-a-gift/
source_typ=3&source=dncare

Payroll deduction option, go to uw.edu/uwcfd and use the code 1480919 OR

By check to: Access to Care,
UW School of Dentistry Box 357137
Seattle, WA 98195

Doctor for a Day, Harborview Medical Center

On Sunday, January 24th, 2 dental students participated in Doctor for a Day which was a day-long program put on by UW Network of Underrepresented Residents and Fellows (NURF) to promote health professions with high school students. Forty-five students from local high schools participated in a composite restoration workshop and mirror tracing activity.

Seoul Girls’ School Visit

In February, the Seattle Girls’ School (SGS) 6th grade class learned about oral health from Dr. Kendra Farmer. SGS is a middle school located within the Central District in Seattle with the goal of empowering young women. Dr. Farmer, who graduated from the UW SoD in 2013 and completed pediatric dentistry specialty training at UCLA, gave a presentation to these students about her pathway to dentistry and how they can keep their mouths healthy. Dr. Farmer, a Franklin High School alumnus, was assisted by OEPD and AmeriCorps team member CeCe Johnson, a Garfield High School alumnus. They both displayed home-grown girl power!

Native American Pathways

In March, staff in the OEPD teamed with Jim LaRoche and his crew from the OMAD (Office of Minority Affairs and Diversity) at their career fairs at the Yakama Reservation and in Forks, WA to present information to high school students about pursuing a career as a dental professional. The students were also able to try interactive activities involving tracing using a mirror and learning about acidic content of popular beverages.

These projects were supported by private donors. They were also sponsored by NobleCause, made possible by an anonymous donor within the GiveWell Community Foundation and Organized by Noblehour.com, a volunteer management tool that promotes a culture of civic engagement and charts meaningful, measurable acts of goodness.