A CULTURE OF SERVICE

OEPD Team

Under Access to Care mission, the Office of Educational Partnerships and Diversity aims to improve oral health and well-being of people. We build infrastructure to support dental student participation in underserved community outreach and increasing workforce diversity in the oral health professions. Outreach events include free oral health education, and dental screening and treatment. AmeriCorps members, students, faculty, and staff join forces to accomplish their endeavors of providing care. Together, we provided over $20,000 in dental services in Winter Quarter. Please enjoy our student leads' reflection on their respective events, showcasing their effort and hard work.
Community Health Professions Academy (CHPA) is an enrichment program that provide career guidance and support for underrepresented high school students in Washington State. The program consists of 8 Saturday sessions in which healthcare professional students, faculty and OEPD AmeriCorps members volunteer their time to provide hands-on experiences. During each session, local healthcare professionals and students talk about their journeys to their professions. Scholars also learn about preparing for a health professional career and the wide variety of ways to promote health in their communities.

Session 1: Welcome Day! & Public Health
Scholars played 20 Questions game to figure out our panelists careers.

Session 2: Dental Day
Scholars rotated between four different stations; tooth waxing, scaling, drilling, and composite, learning dental skills from UWSOD Dental students.

Session 3: Nursing Day & WISH Lab
Scholars learned how to take vital signs from Nursing students, and handled a Code Blue in the WISH Lab.

Session 4: Medical Surgery Day
Scholars learned how to suture pig feet, sheep hearts, and cow tongue.
NORTHWEST CAREER AND TECHNICAL ACADEMY
Nousha Panahpour Eslami DDS Candidate, 2021

I decided to be a student lead for Safe Harbor Free Clinic/Northwest Career and Technical Academy because I had the chance to organize and plan its "behind the scenes" elements as an AmeriCorps member prior to starting dental school. Thus, being able to not only take part in the event as a provider, but continue its organization "on the front lines" as a student lead, holds a very special, full-circle place in my heart, and is amongst the highlights of my dental school experience.

TET IN SEATTLE
Johnny Le DDS Candidate, 2021

This was the inaugural outreach event for the SouthEast Asian Student Dental Association. As part of the annual Vietnamese New Year celebration at Seattle Center, we were able to provide over 50 oral health screenings, apply fluoride, as well as see a handful of patients on the MTI van. The SouthEast Asian community has a long history of healthcare disparities compared to other groups, so it was extremely rewarding to give back. As a Vietnamese person myself, and as President of SEASDA, I couldn't be more proud of my team for helping plan such an amazing first event.

CHIEF SEATTLE CLUB
Jacqueline Bollinger DDS Candidate, 2022

On Martin Luther King Jr. Day several of us dental students teamed up with the medical and nursing schools to provide dental screenings and foot care. From the dental perspective, this experience is a great way to work with other health care providers, learn about people with a wide variety of backgrounds, and practice skills we learn in the classroom (especially as a 1st or 2nd year). It is a great reminder as to why a lot of us chose this profession. I always look forward to every Teeth and Toes event and am thankful that we have the faculty and resources to hold them.
CASA LATINA
Estela Gomez Licea DDS Candidate, 2021

Casa Latina has been my sanctuary since my first year of dental school. As a new student, I did not know how much I could contribute to meet the needs of my community, but when I arrived for the first time to the day laborer center, I immediately felt at home while speaking to the patients. At that moment I knew I could learn so much from the patients in this center, who prioritized speaking to us instead of obtaining a daily job. Their willingness to confide in us and work together to best meet their needs is something that keeps me passionate about serving them and all others who lack the resources to access oral health care. This event has inspired me to pursue a leadership position and has now blossomed into an interprofessional event, with medical student joining us during our screening events. It has been greatly gratifying to be directly involved in this transformative event and hope to continue to be involved beyond my dental school years.

MARY'S PLACE
Bahara S Naimzadeh DDS Candidate, 2021

I recently had the privilege of volunteering at Mary's Place in White Center which was an experience I will likely never forget. The patient I was able to treat left a lasting impact on me that I will cherish forever. During the screening process, she was very apprehensive about treatment and told me that she suffers from severe anxiety and depression. After completing her treatment, she was so thankful that she became visibly emotional, which almost brought me to tears myself. She told me that it was the best experience she has ever had at the dentist and thanked me over and over for a procedure that to me seemed routine. It was in that moment that I really understood the impact that we can have on our patients. It is such a privilege to be able to work in these outreach events and provide care to those who need it so badly. I look forward to future opportunities to work with the underserved as it is truly these experiences that remind my why I chose this noble profession to begin with.
UNION GOSPEL MISSION
Robert Rosenthal DDS Candidate, 2021

The Union Gospel Mission Dental Clinic is one of the treasures of Pioneer square. It sits quietly tucked away at the intersection of second Ave and Washington street. But it also sits at the intersection of two great UWSOD traditions: care for the underserved and dental education. UGM is my favorite volunteer site. At UGM we get to work one-on-one with faculty to treat patients that are glad to have their oral problems addressed. The pre-doc students usually congregate after clinic and walk to the light rail. We hop off at pioneer square, where delicious jimmy johns sandwiches await, and then we see one or two patients before wrapping up around 9:00pm. The procedures range from surgical extractions to pulp caps and everything in between. One of my favorite parts of the experience is the gathering of so many different groups of people. There are pre-dental students exploring their future, amazing UGM staff and assistants, generous affiliate faculty, pre-doctorate students, and of course the UGM patients, who candidly share their stories and generously provide us with invaluable learning experiences. Thank you, donors, for making this excellent volunteer experience possible!

A VERY QUEER HEALTH FAIR
Dan Walker DDS Candidate, 2021

A Very Queer Health Fair was an interprofessional health and wellness fair that provided free services and resources to the LGBTQ+ community. Dental students were able to work alongside other health professionals and community organizations, provide dental services to a community that is often overlooked and forgotten, and also learned information about cultural humility through a required training. Overall the impacts were felt widely by the community and we are so proud that Dentistry was leading the charge!
HUSKY SMILES
Ashley Huynh DDS Candidate, 2022

One of the main goals of Husky Smiles is to provide dental care and education to pediatric patients in the greater-Seattle area. Working with children and their families help make us a better provider not only with pediatric patients but with the general community as well. It teaches us the importance of preventative care, earning the trust of your patient, and providing a positive dental experience. My most impactful experience was volunteering at 425 Dental where we provided thousands of dollars of dental treatment to children who might not have been able to get treatment elsewhere. Additionally, it was rewarding to be part of the support system and education team for the parents and kids on how to take good care of their dentition and prevent future decay.

HUSKY HEALTH BRIDGE
Justin Kahng DDS Candidate, 2022

Husky Health Bridge was founded in 2017 by a group of first year dental students at the UWSOD after identifying a major lack of dental care and resources in homeless encampments, especially in Tent City 3 which was then located on the UW campus. Since then, Husky Health Bridge has partnered with several other organizations to provide free dental services to not only the homeless, but to vulnerable seniors and other marginalized populations.

I choose to serve with Husky Health Bridge because I am able to serve particularly vulnerable populations that cannot access essential dental care. Nothing is more gratifying to me than serving our patients and developing genuine empathy for their personal circumstances. It is amazing how even something as simple as a cleaning or an anterior restoration can have such a tremendous impact on their lives. We are incredibly grateful for all the generous donations we have received. Rest assured that the donations are making a true and tangible difference in the lives of those who are able to be treated through Husky Health Bridge.

Since its inception, Husky Health Bridge has:
- Partnered with 3 NGOs
- Partnered with 7 faculty sponsors.
- Donated $136,290 of treatment
- Run 36 clinics
- Donated 1500+ hours
- Worked with 116 student volunteers
- Treated 253 patients
Running Strong for American Indian Youth® believes in the dreams of young American Indians: creating stronger communities, overcoming poverty, and building a better tomorrow for themselves and their families. Lindsey Montileaux Mabbut, a third year dental student, in collaboration with the OEPD, were awarded a Dreamstarter grant to work closely with local Native American Tribes in Washington State to encourage Native American high school youth to pursue health professional careers.

DREAMSTARTER
Lindsey Montileaux Mabbut DDS Candidate, 2021

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD
Annually, Health Sciences schools and UWMC pay tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. through a celebration, honoring his life and legacy. The tribute acknowledge students, faculty, staff, and community members whom engaged in community service and volunteerism through Community Service Award. Awarded individuals exemplify (1) commitment to addressing community needs, particularly communities of color and low income, (2) development and implementation of significant programs to improve human condition, and (3) outstanding efforts to protect and empower all individuals. Estela (D3) was one of the recipients of the community service award.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND CONTRIBUTIONS

Supporters

SUCCESS IS TRULY MEASURED IN HOW FAR YOU CAN GO AND NOT THE NUMBER OF BIG WINS IN A SHORT AMOUNT OF TIME.

Estela Gomez Licea and her family
Photo Credit: Steve Steinberg
Please Support Us!

Our dental students provide oral exams, cleanings, preventative care, restorative and surgery, as well as oral health education and referrals.

A Very Queer Health Fair
AVQHF screened and provided treatment 16 patients valued at $9,414 *

Casa Latina
Casa Latina event screened 12 patients and provided treatment valued at $2,771 *

Mary’s Place
Mary’s Place Clinic treated 7 patients and provided treatment valued at $3,666 *

Northwest Career and Technical Academy
NCTA Clinic treated 7 patients and provided treatment valued at $3,712 *

Teeth & Toes - Chief Seattle Club
The Teeth & Toes screened 13 patients and provided treatment valued at $2,655 *

Tet in Seattle
Tet in Seattle crew screened over 50 patients and provided treatment valued approximately at $5,115 *

Our Community Partners

Casa Latina
Chief Seattle Club
Hispanic Dental Association
Mary’s Place
Medical Teams International
Mexican Consulate
Northwest Career and Technical Academy
Safe Harbor Free Clinic
Union Gospel Mission

Donate Online to the Access to Care Fund
dental.washington.edu/oepd/

Donate with a Check
Access to Care
UW School of Dentistry Box 357137
Seattle, WA 98195

Other Giving Methods
Contact Dentistry Advancement: uwsod@uw.edu

*Private practice estimate

We have ceased all of our outreach events to comply to CDC and WHO COVID-19 recommendations. We will resume our outreach events as soon as permitted.