



The Office of Educational Partnerships and Diversity Newsletter



Merissa Delazerda (D3), Su Young Kim (D2), Divya Kannappan (D3) and Dr. Andy Marashi prepare to provide dental screening and referral services to clients of Mercy Housing in Seattle.

ABOUT OEPD

The service mission of the Office of Educational Partnerships and Diversity (OEPD) is to improve the oral health and wellbeing of the people of the local community and the region. The OEPD team coordinates outreach programs that are especially attentive to minority and under-served populations.



Edgar Gomez (D1) and Tim Liu (D3) provide a screening exam and education for a Latina Health Fair attendee.

Dental students provide much-needed care to communities with lack of access to care and act as teachers and mentors to youth under-represented in the health professions. These community engagements have the potential to improve the oral health of under-served communities directly but also increase the number of dentists, educators and leaders within these communities in the long-term.

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Note from the OEPD Director

This is my last year as Director of the Office of Educational Partnerships and Diversity as I will be retiring this June. I will surely miss the wonderful students, faculty, staff and community partners who have made the last 14 years a wonderful journey of working together to address access to oral health care. I am also grateful for having had the opportunity to play a role with my colleagues in increasing diversity in the student body and the dental workforce. I feel confident that the students and dedicated faculty will sustain and evolve new ways of caring (and learning) for all of our communities.

Beatrice Gandara, DDS, MSD



CHPA COMES FULL-CIRCLE

Dr. Bea Gandara (center) celebrates with Nakita Brusnighan (left) and LaVera Shields (right), both D1's, who participated in the CHPA program in 2015 and 2016 respectively as high schoolers and are now first year dental students at the UW! They made time to lead hands-on activities and participate on mentor panels for this year's CHPA cohort. Fellow 2016 CHPA alumnus, Ekua Monkah, also contributed to the current CHPA cohort by sharing her experiences virtually as a first year student in the UW MPH program.



Ekua Monkah, CHPA 2016

CHPA 2023 Scholar Jie Ying Tang-

"I've learned the importance of representing my community and allowing my experiences to shape who I am to connect and empathize with patients. Furthermore, I've also learned that there needs to be more diversity in the healthcare world, which I hope I can bring."

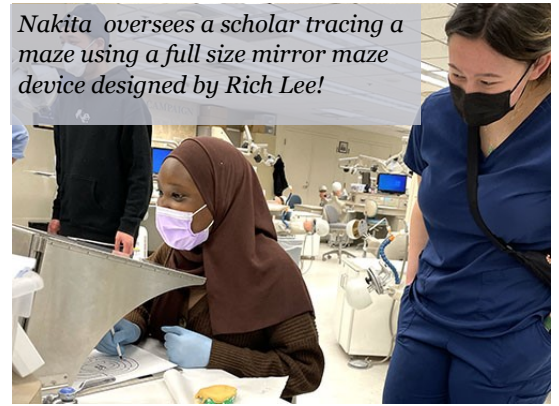
COMMUNITY HEALTH PROFESSIONS ACADEMY

The Community Health Professions Academy (CHPA) was created in 2014 by OEPD to help inspire youth grades 8-12 from underserved communities to pursue healthcare careers. CHPA currently provides information and hands-on activities to explore the health professions in a hybrid program of virtual and in-person sessions. This year, CHPA hosted 31 high school scholars from WA state for 8 Saturday sessions scheduled from January through May. Scholars learned about careers in public health, dentistry, medicine, traditional medicine, nursing, and neurotechnology. During each session, local healthcare professionals and students volunteered to participate on mentor panels to talk about their journeys to their careers. In addition to the opportunities to connect with professionals on the mentor panels, the CHPA scholars also participated in live online hands-on activities as a group with materials that were mailed to them.



Pocket size mirror mazes mailed to scholars for at home/online use.

Nakita oversees a scholar tracing a maze using a full size mirror maze device designed by Rich Lee!



While most sessions were virtual via Zoom, CHPA scholars had the opportunity to come to the University of Washington D1 Simulation Lab for a day of hands-on activities. With the help of medical, nursing, and dental student volunteers, the CHPA scholars rotated between 5 different stations; tooth waxing, manual blood pressure assessment, placing composite fillings, suturing, and taking dental impressions.



Zain Natha (D2) demonstrates tooth wax-up.



Diana Flores (D4) teaches scholars how to assess blood pressure.

NW INSPIRE HEALERS GATHERING

When Dr. Lindsey Montileaux-Mabbutt (UWSOD 21') was a 4th year dental student, she was awarded a grant from the Billy Mills Running Strong for American Indian Youth called Dreamstarters. This allowed Dr. Montileaux-Mabbutt and the Office of Educational Partnerships and Diversity (OEPD) to create outreach programs to encourage and support American Indian high school youth to pursue health professional careers at the UW School of Dentistry. Due to the pandemic shutdown, the program, initially intended to be in-person, became virtual. An in-person reunion was held for Dreamstarters on March 25, 2023 and titled the NW Inspire Healers Gathering. The event was open to all American Indian youth. This gathering was led by Dr. Montileaux-Mabbutt, now a Swinomish Dental Clinic staff dentist and OEPD.

Students from the Blackfeet, Lummi, Swinomish, Nooksack, Unangan (Aleut) and Colville tribes attended the gathering. The NW Inspire Healers Gathering took place at Swinomish Dental Clinic in La Conner, Washington.

As part of the gathering, hands-on activities were also conducted with the help of the mentor panelists, including Dr. Beau Bent (UWSOD 2016) and members of the OEPD team. Students learned how to take blood pressure, practice suturing, and placed composite fillings.



Scholars look at oral swab specimens under the microscope.



Young scholar light cures a tooth that received a composite filling.



Laura Kaysuli, a dental hygienist at the Swinomish clinic and long time collaborator in OEPD career pathways outreach, teaches blood pressure assessment.



From left to right: Dr. Bea Gandara, Jay Bowen (Swinomish), Dr. Lindsey Montileaux-Mabbutt (Lakota), and Laura Kaysuli, RDH (Pomo)

DR. LINDSEY MONTILEAUX MABBUTT (DDS, 2021)

Lindsey's dream came from the desire to increase Native dentists and Native dental students admitted to the University of Washington School of Dentistry. As the idea for this program evolved, her dream expanded to wanting to increase Native healers in all healthcare fields. By increasing Native providers, Lindsey believes we would be able to foster an environment of trust and in turn, see improved health outcomes.

DR. BEAU BENT (DDS, RIDE 2016)

Dr. Beau Bent was a mentor panelist at the NW Inspire Healers Gathering. He shared his story with students about his journey to dental school. He is a member of the First Nations tribe with the Lower Simikameen Band of the Okanagan Nation Alliance in British Columbia. He is currently dental director of the Colville Dental Clinic



MENTORING IN MATTAWA

Wahluke High School is a high school with approximately 770 students, nestled in the rolling hills in Mattawa, Washington, where most students are from agricultural backgrounds. On April 1, 2023, OEPD collaborated with the Washington chapter of the Hispanic Dental Association and Wahluke High School staff to hold a one day mini-version of our Community Health Professions Academy (CHPA). Gathering there was a way to reach students who otherwise might not be able to travel to Seattle for such an event. Twenty-two high school students participated. Volunteers lead them through activities designed to get students interested in health sciences: taking blood pressure, a suturing session, and composite placement in prepped teeth.



UW SOD and RIDE alumni Dr. Alan Lopez (2021) and Dr. Mariany Morales (2021) (above) show Wahluke students how to place composite restorations

The highlight of the day was the mentor panel featuring four healthcare professionals from medicine, nursing, dentistry and dental hygiene with opportunities for scholars to ask questions about the professions and how to achieve their goals.



Wahluke High School students on April 1, 2023

WASHINGTON STATE HISPANIC DENTAL ASSOCIATION MENTORS IN MATTAWA

The national HDA's founding members share a common commitment to improve the oral health of the Hispanic community. OEPD would like to give a special thank you to the Washington Chapter of the Hispanic Dental Association for their continuous support and partnership. Our mentors in Mattawa themselves had participated in the Summer Medical Dental Education Program as premeds or premeds and many were RIDE students while in dental school. Many of our UW alumni have become members of HDA upon graduation and continue to volunteer their time working with underserved populations or as mentors for high school pathways programs like CHPA.



(R to L) Dr. Veny Garza (DO) , Dr. Luis Acevedo (2013), Dr. Arley Medrano (2018) , Morgan Sample (2023), Dr. Monica Varela, Dr. Alan Lopez (2021), Dr. Janet Romero (2013), Dr. Richard Jimenez, Dr. Jose Mendoza (2017)

UNION GOSPEL MISSION



Front row: Dr. Phil Anderson, Serena Patel (D2), Jason Lu (D3), Juanita Banks (UGM Dental Clinic Director), Back row: Delbert Oxborrow (D2), Eleanor Herting (D1), Effy Jin (D1), Jennifer Tang (D3), Huan Nguyen (D3), and Jin Yoon, a pre dental student.

Union Gospel Mission Dental clinic, where all the care is delivered by volunteer providers, has been and is one of our most active clinical outreach sites, largely due to

the clinic director Juanita Banks. The collaboration began about 10 years ago, with UW SOD Class of 2014 alumni Jean-Paul Banh and Laura Benca as the first dental student leaders, who had both worked with Juanita in their pre-dental years. Under careful faculty supervision, dental students provide exams, restorative dentistry, extractions to homeless individuals in the downtown Seattle area. Student leader Kelvin Ha (D4) facilitated dental student/faculty participation with multiple weekday evening sessions over the Fall quarter, before handing off the lead duties to Delbert Oxborrow (Class of

2025) in the Spring Quarter, who together with several dental student session leaders organizes students from all classes to provide care.

TEETH AND TOES CLINIC AT MARY'S PLACE

On Friday, November 11, 2023, UW medical students and dental students went to Mary's Place to conduct a Teeth and Toes Clinic. At this event, oral health screening and education, oral care packets, and topical fluoride application were offered to women served at Mary's Place in downtown Seattle. Referrals were made to nearby community dental clinics for necessary treatment. The medical and nursing students washed and inspected patients' feet and provided foot home care packets with new pairs of socks. In addition to care, the Teeth and Toes clinic emphasizes interprofessional collaboration between dental, nursing, and medical students at the University of Washington.

SPECIAL SMILES AT THE SPECIAL OLYMPICS

The Special Smiles dental student team screened more than 75 athletes at the Special Olympics Spring Games in Tacoma, WA, on June 10. They provided OHI, fluoride varnish application and fabricated mouthguards for more than 30 athletes. This collaboration has been going on since 2018 when the National games were held in Seattle.



Ena Shepard (D1) and Kevin Godinez (D2) examine a client at Mary's Place.



Elliott Willis (D3) and Su Young Kim (D2) examine a Special Olympics athlete under guidance of Dr. Kim Espinoza

MEDICAL TEAMS INTERNATIONAL DENTAL VANS FACILITATE ON-SITE CARE!

CONNECT CASINO ROAD

On Saturday, October 1, 2022, OEPD collaborated with Medical Teams International (MTI) and Connect Casino Road to provide dental services in a one-day event. Led by UW Hispanic Student Dental Association student leaders, Marlene Gonzales and Trevor Millward, dental student volunteers were able to provide diagnostic assessments with radiographs, restorative treatment, cleanings, fluoride application, and oral-health instructions for both adults and children. Connect Casino Road is an organization located in one of the most racially diverse neighborhoods of Snohomish County. It collaboratively works with 25-cross-sector service providers, with dental services being in high-demand.



Dr. Luis Acevedo (UW DDS 2013, left) gives feedback to Savannah Schumacher (D3) and Delbert Oxborrow (D2) on an MTI van at Connect Casino Road.

UNIVERSITY DISTRICT STREET MEDICINE



Front row: Madelyn Yeh (preudent), Isabelle Huang (D4); 2nd row: Ryan Axtell (D3), Savannah Schumacher (D3), Bitia Fathipour (D3), Elizabeth Saxe (D3) and Emma Fitzgerald (D3)

Elizabeth Gregory Home (EGH) is a non-profit organization founded in 2001, providing refuge and hope for hundreds of homeless and at-risk women, or women-identifying people in the Greater-Seattle area. EGH helps with providing immediate needs such as food, clothing, hygienic services and personal hygiene-products, and a day shelter.

Our students, along with the support of Medical Teams International (MTI) and under the student leadership of 4th year dental student Isabelle Huang and faculty attending Dr. Phil Anderson, were able to successfully provide dental services such as diagnostic assessments with radiographs, restorative and dental hygiene

On Sunday, November 20, 2022, service included treatment, dental referrals and oral-hygiene instructions to a total of 10 women at EGH.

ST. MARY'S COPTIC ORTHODOX CHURCH

On Saturday, December 12, 2023, the UWSOD Middle Eastern Dental Association (MEDSA), accompanied by Dr. Ali Sadr and Dr. Ivy Lin, attended a service event with Medical Teams International in Lynnwood at Saint Mary's Coptic Orthodox Church. Dental students and faculty proceeded with restorative and urgent dental work to patients, including fillings and extractions.

"This event is special to us because despite the weather condition, faculty and students made it through and helped a lot of patients with urgent needs. The highlight of the day was service, whether it was through patient care, driving some patients to the site, or even shoveling some snow to pave the way for patients. It was indeed an incredible service-oriented day!"

-Bishoy Galil (D2)



Dr. Bea Gandara, Autumn Tsosie, Bishoy Galil (D2), Rebecca Ochoa (D2), Pavly Galil (D1), Christina Kim (D3), Dr. Ali Sadr, Tina Wang (D3), Rusul Noori (D3), Dr. Ivy Lin and our awesome MTI van manager!

HEALTH FAIRS

Health fairs provide education, screenings and referrals for health care services for communities that face barriers such as low income, language, time and transportation issues. This spring 2023, UW dental students contributed their knowledge and skills in 3 health fairs, performing dental screening examinations, oral health education, topical fluoride application and referrals.

IRAQI/ARAB HEALTH BOARD HEALTH FAIR, REDMOND, WA. MAY 13, 2023

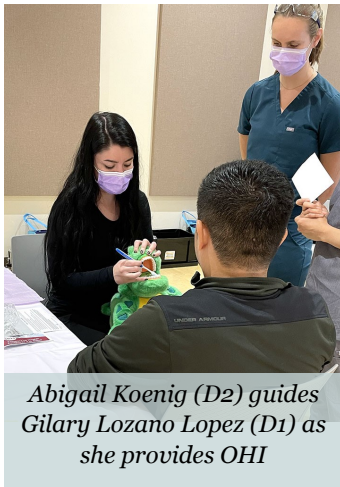
Led by Juman Al-Haddad (D2) with careful coordination of the dental student volunteers according to their skill set, the group successfully screened and referred 34 fair attendees under the guidance of Dr. James Newman and Dr. Andy Marashi.



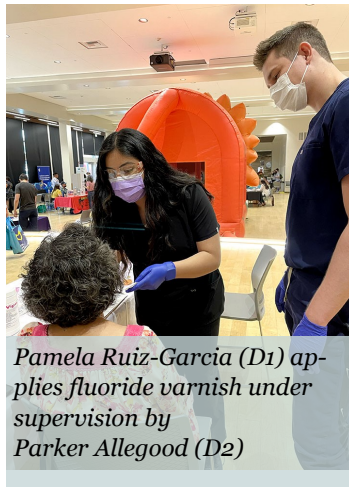
Kimia Masbough (D2), Dr. James Newman, Juman Al-Haddad (D2), Zahra Ali (D1) and Sarah Lynch, OEPD program manager

MERCY HOUSING AT OTHELLO COMMONS, MAY 20, 2023

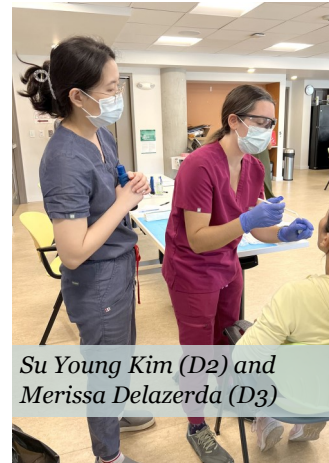
A new partnership with UW medical students began at a health screening fair at the Mercy Housing complex in the UW Othello Commons in Seattle. With Husky Smiles student leader Divya Kapponen (D4) at the helm, and Dr. Andy Marashi precepting, students provided screening and referral services for patients from underserved communities residing at the housing.



Abigail Koenig (D2) guides Gilyar Lozano Lopez (D1) as she provides OHI



Pamela Ruiz-Garcia (D1) applies fluoride varnish under supervision by Parker Allegood (D2)



Su Young Kim (D2) and Merissa Delazerda (D3)

LATINA HEALTH FAIR, SOUTH PARK MAY 20, 2023

One of UW SOD's longest collaborations (over 10 years) with a community health fair is the annual Latina Health Fair this year held at the Sea Mar Community Health Center in the South Park area of Seattle. UW affiliate faculty member Dr. Luis Acevedo (UW DDS 2013), current president of the Washington Chapter of the Hispanic Dental Association (HDA) and Dr. Bea Gandara provided clinical oversight.

Faculty Highlight: Dr. James Newman

Dr. Newman is a familiar and friendly presence to UW dental students doing clinical outreach. He has overseen students consistently at Union Gospel Mission, Husky Smiles, and Husky Health Bridge, among others, since 2014.

Dr. Newman had a very good experience in dental school on an externship when he went to work at the VA hospital in Martinsburg, West Virginia. Since then he has seen the value of students working in an environment outside of the dental school setting. When it comes to working with the students on outreach, he says "I feel they genuinely want to help the patients. They are always looking to do something else for them."

His final thought on students doing volunteer outreach?

"It has been a great addition to their clinical training, and students should take advantage of it."

Acknowledgements

Thank you to the many community members, faculty, students, staff and our colleagues in the Health Sciences that make UWSOD community outreach possible! We also thank ARCORA Foundation, Aseptico and Seattle King County Dental Society for their support over the years, as well as all the private donors.

Ways to support UWSOD Community Outreach:

Donate online to the Access to Care Fund:

<http://www.dental.washington.edu/oepd>

Become an affiliate faculty member!

Contact Dentistry Advancement for other giving methods: uwsod@uw.edu

AMERICORPS

AmeriCorps is the federal agency for national service and volunteerism. AmeriCorps provides opportunities for Americans of all backgrounds to serve and address the nations most pressing challenges, and improve lives of communities. AmeriCorps mission is to improve lives, strength communities, and foster civic engagement



AMERICORPS MAKES AN IMPACT

Over the past 11 years, AmeriCorps members have supported the work of our dental students and faculty in developing and sustaining volunteer community outreach activities. Throughout their service, AmeriCorps members gain valuable skills, along with quantifiable professional and educational benefits. Their experiences have had a lasting impact on the members and the communities they serve. Our AmeriCorps members serve one year terms and upon completing, have gone on to enter healthcare and other professional schools. We thank the AmeriCorps program and sponsors for their placement to work with our students.

MEET THE 2022-23 AMERICORPS MEMBER

Autumn Tsosie serves as a 2022-2023 AmeriCorps member for the Office of Educational Partnerships and Diversity. She grew up on the Navajo Nation from a community in Rock-springs, NM. She is a pre-dental graduate from the University of Northern Colorado, where she earned her Bachelors degree in Biology and minor in Chemistry. She spent her undergraduate years as a mentor for first-year American Indian students and was the President of the American Indian Student organization where she helped to coordinate service outreach projects. As an AmeriCorps member, she continued this work in Washington state. In her free time, she is a silversmith and enjoys creating jewelry from scrap into pleasing creations. She likes to spend time outside and hang out in the sun.



If you know of anyone 18 years or older who is interested in becoming an AmeriCorps member, please share this link:

<https://my.americorps.gov/mp/listing/viewListing.do?fromSearch=true&id=118860>

MEET THE REST OF THE OEPD STAFF



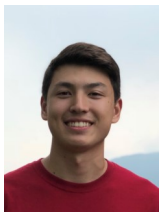
Dr. Beatrice Gandara

Dr. Beatrice Gandara is a graduate of the University of Southern California School of Dentistry in Los Angeles, California. She earned a Masters Degree in Oral Medicine at the University of Washington School of Dentistry. She serves as the director of the Office of Educational Partnerships and Diversity and is a Clinical Associate Professor in the Department of Oral Medicine.



Sarah Lynch

Sarah is originally from Virginia, and graduated from the University of Mary Washington with a degree in Psychology. Unsure what she wanted to next, she moved to the Seattle area as an AmeriCorps member to work in senior housing. After several years in social services, and public health, she is now program manager in OEPD. When she is not in the office, she can be found curled up with a good book or out swing dancing on Capitol Hill.



Jonathan Lang

Jonathan graduated from Haverford College in Philadelphia where he played collegiate basketball and graduated with a degree in Psychology. He was born in Alabama but has grown up most of his life in Seattle, WA. Jonathan enjoys playing sports, hiking with his dogs, and is pretty good at chess. He will be starting UW dental school this year and also served as an AmeriCorps member in OEPD in 2021-22.



Nelly Aramburo-Ramirez, RDH, MSDH

Nelly is a registered dental hygienist and is part of the OEPD team and helped with CHPA and clinical outreach. Nelly also works in private practice and has more than 10 years of experience working in dentistry. She graduated from Lake Washington Institute of Technology Dental Hygiene Program in 2017, and also acquired a Master of Science degree in Dental Hygiene from Eastern Washington University. In her spare time, Nelly enjoys watching movies, reading as many books as she can, and traveling around the world with her family and friends.