

NORTH CHARLESTON DENTAL OUTREACH



Ministry Focus:

North Charleston Dental Outreach (NCDO) exists to provide quality dental services to our low income neighbors all while respecting the dignity and worth of every individual. Quality delivery of care is rendered in a compassionate, safe, clean and professional environment while adhering to standard infection control and good clinic practices. Our goals are:

Sustain comprehensive dental services, such as preventive and restorative

Improve the oral and systemic health of the patients accessing care

Serve no to low income, uninsured and underinsured living in North Charleston

Incorporate dental and medical patient education

Offer mentoring opportunities for dental residents and students at the Medical University of South Carolina and Trident Technical College dental hygiene students

Strategies for Sharing the Gospel in this Ministry:

NCDO strives to minister to our patients while awaiting dental services. While strive to evangelize and share the Good News. We frequently pray with and for our patients and listen to them and their life challenges. We offer our patients a goody bag containing oral hygiene aids and patient education pamphlets, but also containing a prayer card or small Bible. Our waiting room has various religious materials as well.

Each tooth saved is an opportunity to improve health outcomes and improve the life trajectory for those seeking treatment. The opportunity exists to restore a tooth, restore a smile, restore self-esteem, increase confidence and, possibly, increase employment outcomes. Those who present with a full smile and healthy gums are more likely to be hired than those not smiling because they are ashamed of their mouths and bad breath. Statistics support that toothaches are the main reason for leave from work and loss of production.

Financial Needs:

We just completed construction of a new dental clinic whose costs exceeded \$550,000.

We installed computers and digital software in our clinic for the first time ever-over \$20,000

We outfitted three of our six treatment operatories with new dental equipment at a cost of almost \$60,000.

We hope to outfit the remaining three rooms with new equipment also.

We hired new staff to operate the clinic 4 days weekly.

Total amount to sustain our clinic annually: \$300,000

Prayer Needs:

1. To raise funds towards all above costs incurred and to sustain going forward
2. For our patients to receive the Good News and find a church to call home if needed
3. For our Executive Director, Dr. Bill Sasser, our staff and all our volunteers, including all students/residents

Short-term Mission Opportunities: Yes No

Work towards finding/donating religious materials, such as bookmarks, prayer cards, Bibles, pamphlets etc. for our patients.

