

May/June 2025

# *the* Nugget

## Service from the Heart

Inside: 2024 Foundation Annual Report



# Get Ready For Our UPCOMING EVENTS

May is Foundation month! This is the time of year when we celebrate all the good that the SDDS Foundation has done and is doing in our community. The May/June **Nugget** always has the Foundation Annual Report in it and we try to fill it with all the warm and fuzzy stories that tug at our hearts. We love hearing and sharing what our members are doing, especially when it involves the betterment of our community. Join us as we celebrate all the good that our members do and support the Foundation this month and every month!

**May 7, 2025**

**Dentists Do Broadway - Parade**

Wednesday • 7:30pm show

**May 9, 2025**

**Swing For Smiles Golf Tournament - Foundation Fundraiser**

Friday • 7am–3pm

**May 13, 2025**

**General Membership CE Meeting**

Tuesday • 5:45–9pm

Hilton Sacramento Arden West

**Member Price:** \$89 early (ends 4/29)

\$99 regular (begins 4/30) / \$109 late (begins 5/11)

**Non-Member Price:** \$218

**The Clear Straight Story** (3 CEU, Core)

Presented by Mark H. Holt, DDS, MS

Partially Sponsored by TDIC

*This will be Cathy's last meeting, which will also include Board Elections and Foundation Night.*



View all CE Courses & Events  
online with this QR code.

**May 21, 2025**

**SDDS Member Mixer - Zócalo Roseville**

Wednesday • 6–7:30pm

Sponsored by Bank of America and BPE Law Group

**May 28, 2025**

**Continuing Education**

Wednesday • 6:00–8:30pm • SDDS Classroom

**Member Price:** \$99 early (ends 5/7) / \$119 regular (begins 5/8)

**Non-Member Price:** \$238

**DIY Study Club – Bring Your Case!** (2.5 CEU, 20%)

**June 10, 2025**

**Harassment Prevention Training**

Presented by California Employers Association (CEA - SDDS Vendor Member)

**For Employees**

Tuesday • 11am–12pm • Live Webinar\* • 1 CEU, Core

**Member Price:** \$49 early (ends 5/20) / \$69 regular (begins 5/21)

**For Supervisors**

Tuesday • 11am–1pm • Live Webinar\* • 2 CEU, Core

**Member Price:** \$69 early (ends 5/20) / \$89 regular (begins 5/21)

**June 26, 2025**

**Dental Day with the River Cats**

Thursday • 6:45–9:30pm

*\* Does not qualify for AGD credit*



**\$25 per ticket**  
Tickets available at [sdds.org](https://sdds.org)!

Join us for  
**Dental Day**  
with the **River Cats!**

**THURSDAY, JUNE 26, 2025**

Bring your staff, family, and friends to enjoy a fun night out of baseball at our own Sutter Health Park.



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## Nugget Editorial Board

Carl Hillendahl, DDS; *Editor-in-Chief*  
Amanda Chen, DDS • Bryan Judd, DDS  
Ramsen Warda, DDS • Peter Yanni, DMD  
Ranna Alrabadi; Student Representative

## Editors Emeritus

James Musser, DDS  
William Parker, DMD, MS, PhD  
Bevan Richardson, DDS

## Awards

### International College of Dentists (ICD)

2024 • Special Citation Award  
2023 • Special Citation Award  
2022 • Humanitarian Service Award  
2022 • Special Citation Award  
2022 • Overall Newsletter, honorable mention  
2021 • Platinum Pencil, *honorable mention*  
Outstanding use of graphics  
2021 • Special Citation Award  
2020 • Platinum Pencil  
2020 • Golden Pen, *honorable mention*  
Article / series of articles of interest to the profession  
2020 • Special Citation Award  
2019 • Special Citation Award  
2019 • Golden Pen, *honorable mention*  
2018 • Humanitarian Service Award  
2017 • Special Citation Award

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# It's Time For... SDDS ELECTIONS

## NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING & ELECTIONS

Elections will be held at the **May 13, 2025** General Meeting

On behalf of the 2025 SDDS Leadership Development Committee (LDC), we are pleased to present the following slate of candidates for election for the 2026 term, as well as the CDA House of Delegates.

The LDC Committee is tasked with guiding the future of SDDS by evaluating and nominating leaders for our organization. The committee met in the first quarter of 2025 and considered a very strong slate of candidates. We are pleased to report that the outlook is good with the following members listed below being nominated. SDDS is only as good as its volunteers and we appreciate all who give back to our organization. Hope to see you all at the May GM!

*Ash Vasanthan, DDS, MS (Chair of the Leadership Development Committee)*



## SOCIETY SLATE OF NOMINEES

### SDDS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

#### To be Elected:

President: Jeffrey Sue, DDS  
President-Elect/Treasurer: Craig Alpha, DDS  
Secretary: Chirag Vaid, DDS  
SDDS BCR Rep: Volki Felahy, DDS (2nd term)

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### To be Elected (for 2026-2027 term):

Andrea Cervantes, DDS (2nd term)  
Joel Whiteman, DDS (1st term)  
Rosemary Wu, DMD, MS (1st term)

#### Continuing (2025-2026 term):

Diana Fat, DDS  
Eric Grove, DDS  
Kart Raghuraman, DDS  
Cherag Sarkari, DDS

### DELEGATES TO THE CDA HOUSE

#### To be Elected for the 2025-2026 term:

Guy Acheson, DDS  
Margaret Delmore, MD, DDS  
Eric Grove, DDS  
Bryan Judd, DDS  
Kart Raghuraman, DDS

#### Continuing:

Nima Aflatoon, DDS - Executive Committee  
Craig Alpha, DDS - Executive Committee  
Chirag Vaid, DDS - Secretary-Elect  
Lisa Dobak, DDS  
Volki Felahy, DDS - SDDS BCR Rep  
Michael Payne, DDS, MSD  
Cherag Sarkari, DDS  
Jeffrey Sue, DDS - Executive Committee  
Ash Vasanthan, DDS, MS

## FOUNDATION SLATE OF NOMINEES

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### To Be Elected:

Carl Hillendahl, DDS (3rd term)  
Bryan Judd, DDS (2nd term)  
H. Wesley Yee, DDS (2nd term)  
Nima Aflatoon, DDS (SDDS Past President, 2026)  
Chirag Vaid, DDS (SDDS Secretary, 2026)

#### Continuing (through 2026):

Lisa Dobak, DDS  
Volki Felahy, DDS  
Greg Heise, DDS  
Kevin Keating, DDS, MS  
Michael O'Brien, DDS

### SDDS CURRENT BYLAWS - CHAPTER VI - ELECTION PROCEDURES

**Section 10. NOMINATION BY COMMITTEE:** The Board of Directors shall appoint a Leadership Development Committee to nominate qualified candidates for election to all offices including Secretary, President-Elect/Treasurer, the BCR Representative, Directors, and Delegates.

**Section 20. ADDITIONAL NOMINATIONS:** Any active or retired Member in good standing who meets the qualifications of the office he/she is seeking may be nominated by filing with the Secretary at least 30 days prior to the annual meeting a written nomination signed by at least ten (10) active or retired Members in good standing.

# "Service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on earth."

— Muhammad Ali



By **Nima Aflatooni, DDS**  
2025 SDDS President

As dentists, we are incredibly fortunate to belong to a profession that changes lives and uplifts communities. It is with immense pride that I read through the many stories of our colleagues and friends who have made a meaningful difference through the Sacramento District Dental Foundation's (SDDF) Smiles for Kids and Smiles for Big Kids programs. I am proud of the SDDF and the profound impact it continues to make in the Sacramento community.

SDDF is truly the heart of the Sacramento District Dental Society (SDDS). Established in 1969, it relies on direct support from SDDS and simply would not exist without it—or without the generosity of our members. If you're not yet a member of the Foundation, I encourage you to consider joining.

Our collective impact on the community is powerful. Yet it's organizations like SDDF that enable us to deliver care in a coordinated and meaningful way. Through Smiles for Kids, nearly 600,000 children have received care from more than 1,000 doctors, totaling over \$16 million in donated services. Smiles for Big Kids has served over 200 individuals, providing more than \$2 million in donated care.

None of this would have been possible without the vision and stewardship of an outstanding Executive Director and a dedicated Board of Directors who have ensured the Foundation's financial and organizational sustainability. Thanks to their efforts, SDDF is well-positioned to continue serving the community for many years to come.

If there's one person who deserves credit for building SDDF—and, indeed, SDDS—into what it is today, it is our incomparable

Executive Director, Cathy Levering. Her upcoming retirement is richly deserved, marking the close of an extraordinary chapter in our organization's history.



Under Cathy's leadership, SDDS has grown from the brink of bankruptcy to an organization worth \$3.5 million. Our near-consistent 80% membership market share is among the highest of any large dental association. SDDF itself has expanded from approximately \$100,000 in assets when Cathy took the helm to nearly \$3.6 million today. Non-dues revenue now accounts for nearly 70% of total income—an unprecedented achievement within the tripartite system. Cathy has helped guide multiple Boards of Directors through strategic decisions that have led to exceptional growth and sustainability.

But numbers alone don't capture what makes Cathy truly exceptional.

For those of us who have served in leadership, Cathy is affectionately known as "Mama Bear." She has fiercely protected and advocated for SDDS, SDDF, our members, and our leaders—just as a parent would for their children. Words like passion and dedication don't even begin to describe her contribution. We

joke about her sending emails at all hours and seemingly never sleeping—and it's all true. Her work ethic and devotion are unmatched.

Her impact has been so significant that last year, she was honored as a Fellow of the International College of Dentists—one of the few non-dentists to receive this prestigious recognition. And yet, she has always found time for what matters most: her husband Bruce, her children and grandchildren, and her role as Vocal Director and Patrons Manager for Jesuit High School's drama program.

Cathy Levering is an extraordinary individual who gives her all to the people and causes she believes in. She leaves nothing behind—and she leaves a legacy that will shape SDDS, SDDF, and the dental profession for generations to come. Thanks to her tireless efforts, the organizational and financial framework she has built will continue to thrive under new leadership.

We are thrilled for Cathy and Bruce as they begin their next chapter—filled with travel, family time, and well-deserved rest after 24 years of remarkable service.

Cathy, we will miss you deeply in this role. But we know you're never far away, and we'll always value your advice and friendship. On behalf of the Board of Directors, Past Presidents, and all current and former leaders, I extend our most heartfelt THANK YOU. ■

With Gratitude,

Nima Aflatooni

## Passing the torch...



By **Cathy B. Levering**  
SDDS Executive Director

As I sit down (albeit at the very last minute – again!) to write my last Cathy's Corner, I'm a bit sad. And happy. And melancholy. And grateful...

It's been a great honor being the Executive Director of the Sacramento District Dental Society and the SDDS Foundation all these years. I am so very proud of all that we have accomplished together. When I was first hired in 2001, I was challenged to "make it better," enthuse and invigorate our volunteers, help to restructure the organization to be more efficient, more successful, financially forward-thinking and more inviting.

I'm so proud to say that we have done that! With the great leadership of our Board volunteers and Executive leadership over the years, we are an amazing organization today.

- Our market share is amazing – the best market share in the country for a large component society (80%+). Thank you!
- Our members are engaged – you attend events, you volunteer, you are "in it" and involved. Thank you!
- Our financial house is in order, for both the Society and the Foundation – our events and activities are well attended and successful.
- Our general meetings average 150 each in person meeting – this is very unique around the country.
- Our MidWinter Convention is one of the best conventions in the country – even though we are a 'small' event. (This year's event was the best ever!)
- Our partners, vendor members, and exhibitor companies are dedicated to SDDS - their presence and services are appreciated by our members.

So with that, I say thank you! Thank you for your support, your honest opinions, your kind emails and phone calls and all that you have been for me through your support over these last years. I truly am blessed to have the SDDS members as my second family; I have enjoyed every minute of being known as the SDDS "Mama Bear!"

Please welcome Carol as your new Executive Director! She will be great and I look forward to more and more SDDS greatness as she assumes the role this month.

See you at the May General Meeting on the 13th – it's my last GM and can't wait to see you all!

Much love,

*Cathy*  
Mama Bear Cathy

PS: And, always, thank you to our SDDS Team (Della, Jessica, Jen, Anne and Sofia) for always being so excellent, hard-working, innovative and supportive of all my crazy ideas!

Trust me – they are not going anywhere and will continue to keep the torch burning!

### LEADERSHIP

President: Nima Aflatooni, DDS  
President Elect/Treasurer: Jeffrey Sue, DDS  
Secretary: Craig Alpha, DDS  
SDDS BCR Rep: Volki Felahy, DDS  
Editor-in-Chief: Carl Hillendahl, DDS  
Executive Director: Cathy Levering  
Incoming Executive Director: Carol Badgley

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Andrea Cervantes, DDS  
Lisa Dobak, DDS  
Diana Fat, DDS  
Eric Grove, DDS  
Michael Payne, DDS, MSD  
Kart Raghuraman, DDS  
Cherag Sarkari, DDS  
Chirag Vaid, DDS

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Guest of the Board: Rosemary Wu, DMD, MS  
CNU Student Representative: Jasraj Sandhu  
UOP Student Representative: Resha Shah

CPR: Margaret Delmore, MD, DDS/ Brad Archibald, DDS  
Membership/Engagement:  
Jeffrey Delgadillo, DDS/Aneel Nath, DDS  
Nominating/Leadership Development:  
Ash Vasanthan, DDS, MS

### COMMITTEES STANDING

CSUS Pre-Dental:  
Brian Orcutt, DDS/Jeremy A. Salvatierra, DMD  
Budget & Finance Advisory: Jeffrey Sue, DDS  
Bylaws Advisory: Ash Vasanthan, DDS, MS  
CE Advisory: Ryan Wilgus, DDS  
Strategic Planning Advisory:  
Jeffrey Sue, DDS/Craig Alpha, DDS

### TASK FORCES ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Foundation: Carl Hillendahl, DDS  
SacPAC: Gary Ackerman, DDS

### SPECIAL EVENTS OTHER

Cathy Levering | Executive Director  
Carol Badgley | Incoming Executive Director  
Della Yee | Director of Operations  
Sofia Gutierrez | Foundation Projects/CPR  
Anne Rogerson | Office Manager  
Jessica Luther | Graphic Designer  
Jen Jackson | Member Liaison

### SDDS STAFF

*The Nugget* is an opinion and discussion magazine for SDDS membership. Opinions expressed by authors are their own, and not necessarily those of SDDS or *The Nugget* Editorial Board. SDDS reserves the right to edit all contributions for clarity and length, as well as reject any material submitted. *The Nugget* is published bimonthly by the SDDS, 2035 Hurley Way, Ste 200, Sacramento, CA 95825 (916) 446-1211. Acceptance of advertising in *The Nugget* in no way constitutes approval or endorsement by Sacramento District Dental Society of products or services advertised. SDDS reserves the right to reject any advertisement.

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# Hello From SDDS' Incoming Executive Director



By **Carol Badgley**  
SDDS Executive Director

It is with great excitement that I introduce myself as your new Executive Director at the Sacramento District Dental Society. After serving as Executive Director of the Northern California Dental Society for the past seven years, I'm thrilled to bring my experience, energy, and passion for organized dentistry to this vibrant community.

Throughout my career, I've had the joy of working with dedicated dental professionals who care deeply about their patients, their peers and the future of dentistry. I bring that same enthusiasm with me, along with a strong belief that when we work together, we can make great things happen—not only for our profession but for the communities we serve.

I've long admired the work of the Sacramento District Dental Society, and I have had the pleasure of knowing Cathy Levering through many component meetings and workshops over the years. I've

always appreciated her professionalism and sense of purpose—but now that I've had a peek behind the curtain, my admiration has only grown. The systems she and the SDDS team have put in place are nothing short of impressive—like stepping into a beautifully tuned engine (if engines were also friendly, fun, and full of snacks). I have every intention of continuing her great work and doing justice to the legacy she has left behind.

I recently relocated to Sacramento and am loving the chance to explore my new neighborhood in East Sacramento—charming streets, lovely parks and yes, I've already scoped out the best local coffee spots and have begun to enjoy some of the great restaurants.

On the home front, I'm the proud parent of two grown children. Family remains at the heart of who I am. My daughter is currently pursuing her degree at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, and my son, a recent

graduate of Cal Maritime in Vallejo, is now serving as a First Mate aboard a ship currently at sea in the vicinity of Guam. My kids have a way of keep me grounded, inspired, and occasionally remind me how to use my phone correctly.

Please know that my door is always open—literally and figuratively. Whether you'd like to talk about Society matters, share ideas, or just say hello, I would love to connect. Stop by the office or give me a call anytime. I'm here to support you, to listen, and to work alongside you to make SDDS the best it can be.

Thank you for the warm welcome. I'm truly honored to be a part of this exceptional organization, and I look forward to what we'll build together.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Carol Badgley".

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**May 1, 2025**

On May 1 donate to the  
**Sacramento District  
Dental Foundation**

**Big**   
**Day of**  
**Giving**

# Dear Editor...

## Thoughts on last month's issue

I am a serious history buff and was very happy to see the latest issue of *the Nugget* dedicated to the history of dentistry. I felt after reading the articles that ancient dentistry was dismissed. The one reference to ancient dentistry implied it was done post-mortem. Some dentistry, implants and bridges, were done post-mortem by the Egyptians and Etruscans; however, they also did dentistry for the living. The Etruscans flourished in what is now central Italy from the 8th to the 3rd century BC and excelled in gold bridge work. They weren't the first though, as 13,000-year-old skulls found in Northern Italy have teeth with fillings of bitumen which is visco-elastic and waterproof.

Restorative and palliative treatments were not the only dental procedures in ancient times. A skull discovered near Israel dates to the 2nd or 3rd century BC. One of the teeth had a perfect bronze point endodontic procedure. Historians feel it may be Roman as they occupied the area during that time.

There are quite a few excellent books on the history of dentistry. One of my favorites is by an Italian dentist Dr. Vincenzo Guerini. Written in the late 18th century, but not published until one hundred years later, Dr. Guerini utilized period written accounts and literature to write his book *"A History of Dentistry from the most Ancient Times until the end of the Eighteenth Century."* He writes of Aulus Cornelius Celsus who lived from 25 BC to 50 AD in Rome. He was an encyclopaedist and wrote *"De Medicina"* which describes how to reduce TMJ dislocations, how to use gold wire fixation on teeth to treat mandibular fractures and more. Dr. Guerini quotes many others including a Hispanus man Marcus Valerius Martialis who lived from 40 to 101 AD. He was a writer living in Rome. He was one of the first writers to describe artificial teeth and dentures. Another person from the book was a physician named Archigenes who lived in the 1st to 2nd centuries AD. He was Greco-Syrian but lived in Rome and wrote of drilling into teeth to relieve pain. The book is very extensive and detailed.

I encourage everyone to read not only where dentistry is headed but where we have been.

Respectfully,  
Ed Sims, DDS



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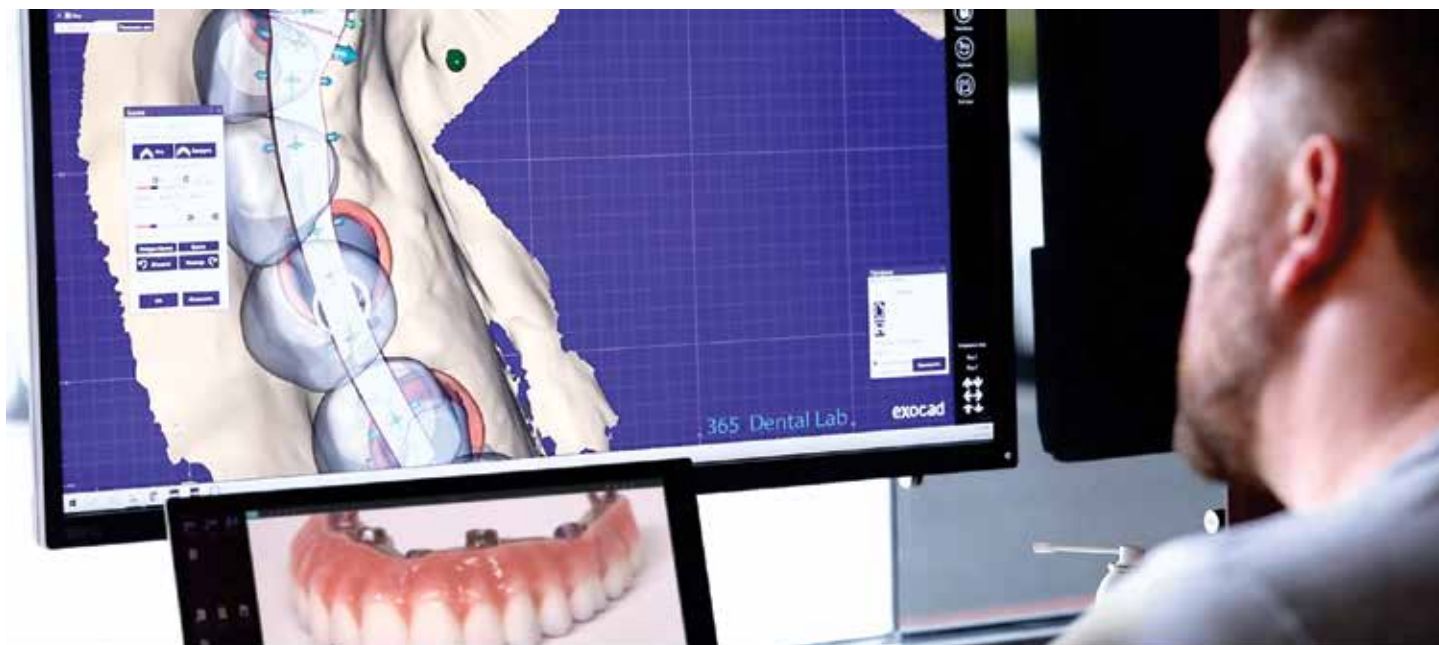
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# YOU SHOULD KNOW

## **ALERT: NEW APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR REGISTERED DENTAL ASSISTANTS (RDA) ESTABLISHED BY SB 1453 BECOME EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025**

The Dental Board of California (Board) Sunset Bill, SB 1453 (Ashby, Chapter 483, Statutes of 2024), made several changes to the requirements for Registered Dental Assistant (RDA) applicants. We suggest all educators, applicants, and stakeholders review the bill and prepare to comply with these changes. The changes include:

### **Three New Pathways Established to Qualify for RDA licensure**

- Certified Dental Assistant Pathway
- The Alternative Dental Assisting Program Pathway
- The Preceptorship in Dental Assisting Pathway

With the establishment of these new pathways, there will be new forms added to our website on July 1, 2025.

Please Note: The Board will be eliminating the Certification of Board Approved Registered Dental Assisting Program Completion (RDA2) Form, effective July 1, 2025. Instead, applicants will need to submit a copy of their RDA Program certificate.

### **Pit and Fissure Sealants Certificate Required with Application**

As of July 1, 2025, all applicants will be required to submit a copy of their completion certificate for a Board-approved pit and fissure sealants course with the Registered Dental Assisting Examination and Licensure Application.

### **Expiration Dates Applied to Course Certificates**

For those applying for RDA licensure, Orthodontic Assistant (OA) permits, and Dental Sedation Assistant (DSA) permits, there are new expiration dates assigned to course completion certificates. They are as follows:

- The Dental Practice Act and Infection Control course certificates must indicate the course was completed within 2 years of the application date.
- Coronal Polishing, pit and fissure sealants, and ultrasonic scaling certificates must indicate the course was completed within 5 years of the application date.
- Radiation Safety certificates must indicate the course was completed within 10 years of the application date.

**Please Note:** The expiration date listed above do not apply to unlicensed dental assistants, only those that are pursuing a license or permit.

### **New Content Required on Student Certificates of Completion**

As of January 1, 2025, student certificates of completion are required to include the following:

- The participant's name.
- The name of the course or program completed.
- The name of the course or program provider.
- The Board-issued approval number.
- The date or date range of completion of the course or program.
- The number of completed hours of the course or program.
- The signature of the course or program provider, director, administrator, or their designee.

**Please Note:** As of January 1, 2025, the Board is not accepting certificates of student completion as evidence of successful completion of a Board-approved dental assisting educational program or course unless the certificate meets the above requirements.

## **NOTICE OF CURES FEE INCREASE**

The Controlled Substance Utilization Review and Evaluation System (CURES) fee will increase from \$9 to \$15 annually for licenses expiring on and after July 1, 2025. The fee is assessed at the time of license renewal on licensees that are authorized to prescribe, order, administer, or furnish Schedule II, Schedule III, Schedule IV, or Schedule V controlled substances.

Most licensees will see a \$30 CURES fee due to the biennial renewal cycle. The fee covers the reasonable regulatory costs of the Department of Justice for operating and maintaining CURES, a critical element in the state's continued effort to address the danger of opioid addiction stemming from prescription drug abuse.

**For more information about CURES, visit:**  
<https://oag.ca.gov/cures>.

## **MEMBER BENEFIT - HR HOTLINE AVAILABLE FOR SDDS MEMBERS**

The SDDS HR Hotline is an exclusive benefit to SDDS Members. It's powered by the California Employers Association and they are ready for your call.

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**FREE TO SDDS MEMBERS!**  
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Email [sdds@sdds.org](mailto:sdds@sdds.org) to find out which courses are available as recordings.





# Treating Dental Patients with Special Needs:

## A Rewarding Opportunity for Dentists

**By Wade Banner, DMD**

*Dr. Banner is a California board-certified dentist and dental consultant for House Call Dentistry. He received his degree from Western University in Pomona, CA in 2014, after which, he started In Motion Dentists. From 2014 - 2021 his practice provided exclusively comprehensive house-call dental services for those who could not get to the dental office. In July 2021, he also opened a brick-and-mortar location in La Verne, CA that provides dental services to everyone looking for quality dental care with an emphasis on seniors and those with special health care needs. Dr. Banner has also held several roles in organized dentistry at the local, state and national levels.*

Providing dental care to patients with special health care (SHCN) needs can be both challenging and incredibly rewarding. This population often faces barriers to accessing oral healthcare, and by offering specialized services, dentists can make a significant difference in their patients' lives and overall well-being. Moreover, embracing this patient base can lead to professional and personal fulfillment for dental practitioners, as well as practice growth.

### Benefits of Working with the Special Needs Population

Serving individuals with SHCN offers numerous advantages for dental practices. One of the top reasons is increased job satisfaction. Witnessing the positive impact of care on patients with SHCN can be immensely gratifying, leading to a greater sense of purpose and professional fulfillment.

Over the years, I have developed contracts and agreements with local Regional Centers which has added to overall practice growth. Patients with SHCN often require frequent dental visits and ongoing care, contributing to increased patient retention and word-of-mouth referrals. Oftentimes, the patient's family members also begin coming to the office and they then share the word with their friends and family adding to the additional patient base.

Working with those with SHCN, I have been able to develop an enhanced reputation in the community. Establishing your practice as a welcoming and inclusive environment for patients with SHCN can boost your reputation within the community and attract new patients. On a very regular basis, I have patients come to my office based on word of mouth with my reputation as a provider.

I tell my TEAM that if you can work with those with SHCN, you can work with anyone. Expanding one's skill set will make you a stronger and more diverse provider for your practice. Working with diverse patient populations and adapting your approach to meet their unique needs can enhance your clinical skills and expertise.

Over the years, I have been able to develop techniques for treating patients with SHCN. Effectively treating patients with SHCN requires a compassionate and individualized approach, along with specialized techniques which include:

- **Communication:** Adapt your communication style to meet the patient's needs. Use clear and simple language and visual aids. Collaborate closely with caregivers or family members to gather essential information and ensure a smooth experience. Always address the patient first. Families find this encouraging and it shows you really care for the patient if a provider shows attention to the patient first.
- **Patience and Understanding:** Approach patients with empathy, respect, and a calm demeanor. Be prepared to adjust your pace and take breaks as needed. Create a safe and comfortable environment where patients feel relaxed and supported. My biggest success in working with those with SHCN is patience and time. I am efficient with my time and adapt care as needed.
- **Sensory Considerations:** Minimize sensory overload by dimming lights, reducing noise, and offering calming tools like weighted blankets or noise-canceling headphones. I have built my operatories with 2 sets of lights (both on dimmers) so I can turn off half of the lights aids in a less harsh environment. Closing doors or sliding pocket doors also blocks out noise from the hallways and common areas. Having an "entertainment TV" on the toe-wall and/or ceiling to help distract the patient from the dental work has been a major method to successfully treat patients. Also, consider using desensitization techniques to gradually acclimate patients to the dental TEAM and dental procedures.

- **Behavioral Management and Desensitization:** Employ positive reinforcement, distraction techniques, or adaptive equipment to manage anxiety and promote cooperation. Always being positive with your patients is a key to success in any situation. Never get frustrated or short tempered even though treatment may occasionally get challenging due to behaviors. Over the years, my office has collaborated with behavioral specialists that formulate and execute desensitization programs for patients so they can learn.
- **Preventive Care:** Emphasize preventive measures, such as thorough oral hygiene instruction and dietary counseling, to minimize the need for invasive procedures and promote long-term oral health. Also, treatment with Silver Diamine Fluoride for smaller caries can help control caries while taking a more conservative approach to care with no needles which can be a barrier to care for some.
- **Team Approach:** “If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together.” It takes a team approach to successfully execute comprehensive dental care for any patient population, and even more so when working with those with SHCN. Some items that require additional effort are coordinating care with other healthcare professionals, such as medical specialists and behavioral therapists as well as medical consults when medically compromised. Additional communication is needed when a patient resides at a group home or facility to make sure caregivers are aware of appointment times and consents are obtained from the legal guardian. Hiring team members who are also invested and passionate about working with this population makes everyone have a fulfilling workday.



- **Ensure your office is physically accessible,** with ramps, appropriate width doorways, and accessible restrooms. Consider investing in specialized equipment, such as wheelchair recliner platforms that can also double as a bariatric chair recliner. nitrous oxide tanks are also very helpful to help decrease anxiety to dental care.
- **Community Outreach:** Partnering with local organizations that serve individuals with special needs to raise awareness of your services and build relationships within the community.

### Building a Special Needs-Friendly Practice

Creating a welcoming and accessible environment for patients with SHCN can further enhance your practice. Staff training and educating your team on the specific needs of patients with disabilities and how to provide compassionate and effective care will aid in seamlessly treating this population of amazing

people. There are also several training courses throughout the country and online that offer training for team members and dentists. A couple of my favorite resources are Dr. Jacob Dent out of Louisiana who speaks nationwide and the Special Care Dentistry Association website ([www.thescca.org](http://www.thescca.org)).

By embracing the opportunity to treat patients with SHCN, dentists can make a profound difference in the lives of these individuals while experiencing personal and professional growth. By implementing the strategies outlined above, dental practitioners can create a welcoming and inclusive environment that fosters trust, promotes oral health, and improves the overall well-being of their patients. ■

## Everyone for Veterans:

### *Honoring Our Partnership with the Sacramento District Dental Society*



**By Jessica Elwell**  
Executive Director; Everyone for Veterans

For years, the Sacramento District Dental Society (SDDS) has been a vital partner to Everyone for Veterans (E4V), demonstrating an unwavering commitment to supporting veterans and their families. Thanks to the dedication of Cathy Levering, SDDS's Executive Director, Sofia Gutierrez of Member Services/Foundation Projects, and generous SDDS members, many veterans in the Sacramento community have received life-changing dental care. This extraordinary partnership has restored smiles, confidence, dignity, and overall quality of life for local Sacramento heroes.

Since October 2017, SDDS and the Foundation's Smiles for Big Kids program have worked closely with E4V to recruit 17 dentists, including specialists who have donated an incredible array of restorative treatment and comprehensive dental care. Cathy recently shared with our team, "When I learned of E4V years ago, I immediately knew that SDDS members and our Foundation would be a perfect fit to help veterans in our community. Our volunteers take immense pride in helping veterans who have fallen through the cracks and lack access to essential dental care, especially our elderly veterans. Every dentist who has volunteered is proud that they did—and continues to do so. The best part of my job is that when I call for a volunteer to help a veteran, the answer is always 'yes!'"

E4V Program Director Jen Shelton expressed deep gratitude for SDDS's continued support: "The SDDS team has been with us every step of the way. Whenever a veteran in the Sacramento area needs dental care, they are there. SDDS and its dedicated professionals are truly the heart of the veteran community in Sacramento. Cathy has been an absolute joy to work with, and while we will miss her deeply upon her retirement, we wish her nothing but the best in this next chapter."

#### **The Urgent Need for Veteran Dental Care**

Less than 15% of veterans receive dental benefits from the VA, leaving many without access to the care they need. Poor dental health often means living in chronic pain, which can lead to declining systemic health, depression, and low self-esteem. Many veterans face additional barriers such as PTSD, financial hardship, and a lack of insurance, making it nearly impossible for them to seek and afford necessary dental treatment.

Regarding these challenges, Jessica Elwell, E4V's Executive Director, said, "We recently worked with a veteran who had been living in chronic pain and infection for more than a decade, unable to get the care she needed due to PTSD and life circumstances exacerbated by poverty. She was living in her car, and her dental pain was so severe that she was considering taking her own life. We connected her to a local dentist, and after her treatment, she





## Special Thank You to These SDDS Members 2017-2025 Volunteer Doctors Who Have Treated Veterans

Dr. Guy Acheson  
Dr. Gary Ackerman  
Dr. Nima Aflatooni  
Dr. Paul Binon  
Dr. Richard Chang  
Dr. Matthew Comfort  
Dr. Diana Fat

Dr. Ken Fat  
Dr. Phillip Hankins  
Dr. Jag Heir  
Dr. Gregory Heise  
Dr. Wes Hill  
Dr. Erica Hsiao  
Dr. Bryan Judd

Dr. Alexander Kaplan  
Dr. Eger Korolevsky  
Dr. Steven Lee  
Dr. Jeff Little  
Dr. Siamak Okhovat  
Dr. Kevin O'Neill  
Dr. Purvak Parikh

Dr. Gregory Pluckhan  
Dr. Sean Roth  
Dr. Charles Smurthwaite  
Dr. Chirag Vaid  
Dr. Joel Whiteman  
Dr. Kristy Whiteman  
Dr. Clifford Wong

could smile and eat solid food again. She told us, "I can smile now! I can chew! Thank you so much for not giving up on me when I wanted to give up on myself." We have all heard about the disconnect between healthcare and dental care, and I would argue that this work is changing and saving lives. Oral health is a human right and should be at the forefront of healthcare discussions."

### A Call to Action for Dental Professionals

E4V's no-cost, relationship-based Dental Care Program relies on volunteer dentists and partnering dental schools to provide essential services to veterans who would otherwise go without care. This support transforms lives, enabling veterans to become healthier, more confident, and active members of their communities.

As a dental professional, you have the power to make a lasting impact. By volunteering to treat just one veteran a year, you can change a life. With the recent launch of the ADA's Give Veterans a Smile Program, there has never been a better time to get involved. If you are interested in joining this mission and becoming a volunteer dentist, please visit [www.everyoneforveterans.org](http://www.everyoneforveterans.org) or contact our team at [dental@everyoneforveterans.org](mailto:dental@everyoneforveterans.org).

On behalf of all of us at Everyone for Veterans, we would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to the Sacramento District Dental Society and Foundation and all the dedicated professionals who make this work possible. Your generosity and commitment continue to make a profound difference in the lives of our veterans. Thank you for standing with us to serve those who have served us all. ■





## Join Me in Making a Difference: Flying Samaritans Dental Mission To San Quintin, Baja



By Robin Berrin, DDS  
SDDS Member

Have you ever returned from a weekend feeling truly fulfilled, knowing you've made a tangible difference in people's lives? That's exactly how I feel every Sunday afternoon after returning from San Quintin with the Flying Samaritans Mother Lode Chapter.

### A CRITICAL NEED

San Quintin, Baja is home to a large farming community that grows tomatoes for both local consumption and export to the United States. While our dedicated volunteer team provides medical and optical care, the community's dental needs are particularly

urgent. Many weekends, our dental clinic remains closed simply because we lack dentists and hygienists.

Our patients are extremely appreciative of our caring for them, and "Gracias" is a word one often hears.

### A COMPLETE CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

The Los Pinos Clinic offers everything you need to practice effectively:

- Four fully functioning dental chairs with proper suction
- Air compressors for handpieces
- Complete supply of gloves, gowns, and instruments
- Comprehensive restorative materials
- Everything required for both restorative treatment and extractions







Eucalipto, a special dining experience. There's also time to walk on the beach.

**Sunday:** Wheels up and we return home by early afternoon, leaving you with that irreplaceable feeling of fulfillment and plenty of time to prepare for your work week.

### PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS

The approximate cost of \$500 covers your pilot's gas money, hotel accommodations, and meals—and it's tax-deductible as a charitable contribution.

I promise you this: join me for one Flying Samaritans weekend, and you'll be planning your next mission before we even land back home. The combination of professional fulfillment, adventure, camaraderie, and knowing you've helped those who truly need it creates an experience unlike any other.

Will you join me in making a difference?

Call me at 916.213.9094, with any questions so that you too can make a difference.

### BEYOND THE CLINICAL WORK

This experience offers so much more than just clinical practice:

- Adventure travel in small aircraft to reach our destination
- Accommodations at a comfortable beachfront hotel
- A wonderful balance of service and enjoyment

### A TYPICAL WEEKEND ITINERARY

**Friday:** We fly to San Quintin, enjoy happy hour at the hotel bar, and explore local street tacos. There is time to walk on the beach.

**Saturday:** A full and rewarding day of clinical work, followed by happy hour and dinner at



## Volunteer OPPORTUNITIES

### Ways to volunteer and support the SDDS Foundation:

**Become a member** of the Foundation — it's only \$75 per year

**Donate to the programs** of the Foundation — donations help provide screening supplies, toothbrushes and fund the puppet shows

**Smiles for Kids Day** was February 1, 2025 — there's still ways to volunteer.

Opportunities include:

- Adopt a child, post SFK Day
- Volunteer to be a specialty provider for adopt-a-child
- Volunteer to screen kids at schools

To volunteer, Contact: SDDS office  
916.446.1227 | [smilesforkids@sdds.org](mailto:smilesforkids@sdds.org)

**Smiles for Big Kids** is ongoing all year long — we need volunteers to adopt the BIG kids too (especially vets and the elderly)

Volunteers Needed: Dentists willing to "adopt" patients for immediate/emergency needs in their office.

To volunteer, Contact: SDDS office  
916.446.1227 | [sdds@sdds.org](mailto:sdds@sdds.org)

### Willow Dental Clinic

One Saturday every other month  
Contact [dental@willowclinic.org](mailto:dental@willowclinic.org) for more information. You can check out their website here: [www.willowclinic.org/services/dental](http://www.willowclinic.org/services/dental)

### CCMP (Coalition for Concerned Medical Professionals)

Volunteers needed: General Dentists, Specialists, Dental Assistants and Hygienists.

To volunteer, Contact:  
916.925.9379 • [ccmp.pa@juno.com](mailto:ccmp.pa@juno.com)

### Everyone for Veterans

To volunteer, Contact: SDDS office  
916.446.1227 | [sdds@sdds.org](mailto:sdds@sdds.org)  
[everyoneforveterans.org/for-dentists.html](http://everyoneforveterans.org/for-dentists.html)

### Flying Samaritans

To volunteer, Contact: Dr. Robin Berrin  
916.213.9094



# 2025 Smiles for Kids Day

## Participating at Smiles For Kids Day Offices

In 2024, after all the school screenings were performed, we managed to find 113 kids who did not have a dental home. These individuals were invited to the Foundation's Smiles for Kids (SFK) day event on February 1, 2025. Compare 113 to the 1200 to 1500 kids identified 15 years ago; thank you GMC and the efforts made by SDDS over the years to navigate underserved children to a dental home serving the MediCal Dental community.

I started SFK day at 7:30 in the morning at Dr. Paul Johnson's Pediatric Dentistry of Sacramento office. Della, from SDDS, was there helping to register the 30 patients arriving that morning. The office was decorated in a fun, kid-friendly fashion, celebrating the SFK event and stocked with an ample supply of coffee and snacks for the volunteers. I was happy to see the number of dental healthcare providers who volunteered for this event. There was adequate staffing to easily handle the 30 plus patients scheduled. After meeting all the volunteers, I participated in a couple of pedo exams and headed off to the next Smiles for Kids office.

Bubbles Dental, in South Land Park, volunteered to host SFK this year – their first time. Dr. Kenchukwu Eze was the only dentist there to see kids. Sofia, from SDDS was there to register the scheduled patients. The office was equally inviting for the pediatric patients and there was plenty of auxiliary staff to perform prophys, fluoride and radiographs for Dr. Eze. He would have benefitted with one more dentist volunteer, though.

My next stop was Sheldon Grove Family Dental. Dr. Andrea Cervantes again volunteered to support SFK day. Nicole, the office manager, and the rest of the staff, all well-experienced in the protocols of SFK day, volunteered also. Dr. Cervantes and Dr. Chronister provided dental services for the patients scheduled there. The Tooth Fairy and the rest of the staff added comfort for the kids showing up.

Smile Kingdom Dental in Rancho Cordova again opened their office for SFK Day. I met with Dr. Jose Juarez and Dr. Corey Bafford\*. They had everything under control and were almost finished with their scheduled patients.

\*This was Dr. Bafford's first SFK!

My questions to staff and volunteering doctors were: did they experience any problems and could they use anything additional from the Foundation? The consensus response was that everything ran smoothly and thanks to SDDF!

Since the beginning of SFK, we have provided pro bono treatment to nearly 18,000 kids. This year, six offices volunteered for SFK day, 113 patients were scheduled and seven walk-ins showed up. The 80 volunteers at the six offices produced close to \$100,000 in treatment.

The day was great! Many, many thanks go out to the six offices, 80 volunteers and our dental society staff who made this year's SFK day possible. We hope to see you next year. ■

Thank you,

Carl M. Hillendahl, DDS  
SDDF President

Thank you...  
to our SFK Day Sites

Ascot Family Dental  
Bubbles Dental  
Kids Care Dental & Orthodontics  
Pediatric Dentistry of Sacramento  
Sheldon Grove Family Dental  
Smile Kingdom Dental

to our SFK Day Dentists

|                       |                      |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Dr. Corey Bafford     | Dr. Lora Foster Rode |
| Dr. Miriam Behpour    | Dr. Carl Hillendahl  |
| Dr. Thais Booms       | Dr. Paul Johnson     |
| Dr. Michelle Borg     | Dr. Jose Juarez      |
| Dr. Colleen Buehler   | Dr. Darcy Owen       |
| Dr. Erin Carson       | Dr. Purvak Parikh    |
| Dr. Andrea Cervantes  | Dr. Niles Patel      |
| Dr. Nathan Chronister | Dr. Rajbir Sanghvi   |
| Dr. Kenchukwu Eze     |                      |

And to our many  
SFK Day Volunteers!





“It was an incredible opportunity to serve along all the great doctors here at Pediatric Dentistry of Sacramento. **Dr. Johnson’s office was warm, welcoming and I would love to collaborate more moving forward.** Great job by all the dentists and I look up to all of them and will try to be as good as them in the future :)”

**PRIYA UPADRASTA**  
UOP STUDENT

We want to extend a huge thank you to our Smiles for Kids Day sites this year. These doctors and team members opened up their offices on Saturday, February 1 to help dozens of children in need in our community. Their huge hearts make the Foundation programs a success and we appreciate every one of them.



“I find it really fun and always rewarding. It’s fun surrounding yourself with like-minded people who are selfless and giving. **You get back way more than you give these kids and families.**”

**PAUL JOHNSON, DDS**  
SDDS MEMBER AND  
FOUNDATION SUPPORTER





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**DIXON:** 5 Ops+RE, 3.5 days/wk. Hygiene, Eaglesoft PMS, 2,100 Sq. Ft., 2023 GR \$915K.

**GREATER SACRAMENTO METRO/ELK GROVE AREA:** High-end GP Practice+RE, 14 Ops, 12 Hygiene Days, 65 New Patients per Month, Denticon PMS, Large Patient Base! 2023 GR \$2.35M. #CA4248

**GREATER SACRAMENTO METRO/ELK GROVE AREA:** High-end GP Practice+RE, 14 Ops, 12 Hygiene Days, 65 New Patients per Month, Denticon PMS, Large Patient Base! 2024 GR \$2.22M. #CA4248

**GREATER SACRAMENTO METRO/ELK GROVE AREA:** *New Listing!* High-End GP Practice, 14 Ops+RE, 12 days/wk. Hygiene, 4,447 Sq. Ft., 2024 GR \$2.5M. #CA4248

**MODESTO:** 5 Ops, 14+ Yrs. Goodwill, 1,950 Sq. Ft., 1.25 days/wk. Hygiene, Dentrix PMS. 2023 GR \$405K. #CA4340

**REDDING/RED BLUFF AREA:** 4 Ops, 22+ Yrs. Goodwill, Dentrix PMS, 2,100 Sq. Ft., Paperless, Desirable Location! 2023 GR \$649K. #CA4266

**REDDING/RED BLUFF/SHASTA COUNTY AREA:** 6 Ops+RE, GP, 41+ Yrs. Goodwill, 3,000 Sq. Ft., Dentrix PMS, CEREC, 3D Conebeam. 2024 GR \$1.73M

**VALLEY SPRINGS/SAN ANDREAS/SONORA AREA:** 4 Ops, GP, Paperless, Digital, 5 days/wk. Hygiene, 20+ Yrs. Goodwill, 2023 GR \$805K. #CA4335

**SACRAMENTO/CARMICHAEL/FAIR OAKS AREA:** *New Listing!* 4 Ops, 19+ Yrs. Goodwill, 1,310 Sq. Ft., Open Dental PMS, Paperless, Digital, 55% Delta Premier. 2024 GR \$516K. #CA4300

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# Foundation Annual Report of the Sacramento District Dental Society



By **Carl Hillendahl, DDS**  
2024 Foundation President

## The Heart of Our Society

Looking Back at the SDDS Foundation in 2024

"It is the mission of the Sacramento District Dental Foundation to promote the oral and general health of the public by serving as the charitable arm of the Sacramento District Dental Society (SDDS) and the dental community."

It has been a privilege to have helped guide and observe our programs, fundraisers and events last year. Thanks to the generosity of both time and treasure from our dental community and friends, 2024 was a great year for our Foundation.

**Smiles for Kids (SFK)** Screened in Fall 2023 produced enough Smiles for Kids patients to keep four volunteer sites, their doctors and staff busy on 2024 SFK Day. The SFK Day and the follow-up adopt a kid and ortho referrals are great charitable programs sponsored by the Foundation for those underserved children in our community. As always, thanks from the Foundation to those doctors opening their offices (or adopting kids) and the staff who volunteered (see page 31).

**Oral Health Education** - 1st Tooth or 1st Birthday (1T1B) is our outreach program that prevents prevention early. 1T1B is an ad campaign suggesting that getting your child to a dental home when teeth appear is a good idea to promote dental health in your child. Our Puppet Show is very popular with elementary school health education programs. It is also available in virtual format and is an exciting, fun approach to teaching young children about dental pathology and prevention.

**Smiles for Big Kids (SFBK)** - This program partners with individuals and community groups, especially the elderly and veterans. SDDS members provide pro-bono dental care for qualified individuals over the age

of 18. Read about their stories in this issue of *the Nugget*. And thank you to our SDDS members who refer those who "fall through the cracks."

**Scholarships** - The Foundation has scholarship programs providing financial support for selected individuals. The Bev Kodama Scholarship was awarded to one recipient last year to help with tuition at the FADE Institute's RDAEF program. Annually 2-3 Carrington College Hygiene students are selected and receive awards from the Foundation. Lastly, four deserving undergrad school students received \$3,000 scholarships as they embark on their dental school journey.



2024 was a great year for the Foundation, we started the year with \$3.3 million in assets and we ended the year with \$3.7 million, thanks so our fundraising, donations and conservative investment practices. Charitable foundations use donations, grants, membership dues, fundraising events and investment income to support their growth and programs. Thanks to the generosity of the members, the dental community, friends

of the Foundation, and investment growth and income, we were able to support our programs and grow by \$400,000. The more assets we have under management, the more robust and far-reaching our programs can become.

Our fundraising events were well received by our entire community. Our Golf Tournament was sold out again in 2024. The weather was great and everyone had a good time.

In October of 2024, the Smiles for Sacramento Gala celebrated 55 years of Foundation existence. A heartfelt thank you goes out to the SDDS Staff and to Dr. Rosemary Wu, the Gala Chairperson and the other members of the committee for their effort in organizing and participating in the Gala. 320 guests attended for an evening of camaraderie, dining, adult beverages, auction and dancing. This event netted \$74k for the Foundation.

The Gala, along with Dentists Do Broadway, Crowns for Kids, Shred Day, Big Day of Giving, Giving Tuesday and Spirit of Giving are all ways to support our wonderful Foundation. And, of course, member dues (only \$75) is so appreciated.

I am looking forward to another great year as Foundation President and I want to thank all the SDDS members and friends of the Foundation for their generosity and support of the programs and events of the Foundation. Here's to another great year! ■

Carl M. Hillendahl, DDS  
SDDF President

## 2024 FOUNDATION FINANCIALS - LOOK AT HOW WE'VE GROWN!

### CURRENT ASSETS

#### CHECKING / SAVINGS

|  | 2001             | 2008             | 2013               | 2019               | 2021               | 2023               | 2024               |
|--|------------------|------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Charitable Fund  | \$26,399         | \$117,878        | \$181,110          | \$0 (closed)       | \$0 (closed)       | \$0 (closed)       | \$0 (closed)       |
| General Fund<br><i>Includes SFK/SFBK beginning in 2016</i>         | \$15,244         | \$173,921        | \$484,774          | \$963,000          | \$1,127,252        | \$1,190,280        | \$1,428,108        |
| Helen Hamilton Fund<br><i>Operating, program and grants monies</i> | \$93,776         | \$73,668         | \$151,128          | \$273,102          | \$343,525          | \$352,567          | \$401,488          |
| Perpetual Fund   | \$123,680        | \$182,672        | \$619,182          | \$1,230,890        | \$1,522,523        | \$1,688,756        | \$1,840,094        |
| TOTAL CHECKING / SAVINGS:  | \$259,099        | \$554,287        | \$1,460,013        | \$2,466,991        | \$2,993,300        | \$3,231,604        | \$3,669,690        |
| ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE:   |                  | \$1,750          | \$4,031            | \$11,204           | \$46,565           | \$49,630           | \$24,847           |
| PREPAID EXPENSES:  |                  | \$5,174          | \$19,788           | \$8,459            | \$77,659           | \$11,597           | \$10,175           |
| <b>TOTAL ASSETS:</b>   | <b>\$259,099</b> | <b>\$561,211</b> | <b>\$1,460,013</b> | <b>\$2,486,654</b> | <b>\$3,117,524</b> | <b>\$3,292,832</b> | <b>\$3,704,712</b> |

### LIABILITIES & EQUITY

#### LIABILITIES

|  | 2001       | 2008           | 2013            | 2019            | 2021            | 2023           | 2024            |
|--|------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Accounts Payable                                       | \$0        | \$304          | \$17,522        | \$0             | \$2,832         | \$433          | -\$1,856        |
| Deferred Revenue<br><i>(Other Current Liabilities)</i> | \$0        | \$4,119        | \$10,301        | \$11,438        | \$10,770        | \$9,295        | \$17,815        |
| <b>TOTAL LIABILITIES:</b>                              | <b>\$0</b> | <b>\$4,424</b> | <b>\$27,832</b> | <b>\$11,438</b> | <b>\$13,602</b> | <b>\$9,728</b> | <b>\$15,959</b> |

#### EQUITY

|  | 2001             | 2008             | 2013               | 2019               | 2021               | 2023               | 2024               |
|--|------------------|------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Retained Earnings                      | \$260,550        | \$560,339        | \$1,052,822        | \$2,157,908        | \$2,676,839        | \$2,892,955        | \$3,283,104        |
| Net Income                             | -\$1,451         | -\$3,551         | \$379,359          | \$317,309          | \$427,083          | \$390,149          | \$405,649          |
| <b>TOTAL EQUITY:</b>                   | <b>\$259,099</b> | <b>\$556,787</b> | <b>\$1,432,181</b> | <b>\$2,475,216</b> | <b>\$3,103,922</b> | <b>\$3,283,104</b> | <b>\$3,688,753</b> |
| <b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY:</b> | <b>\$259,099</b> | <b>\$561,211</b> | <b>\$1,460,013</b> | <b>\$2,486,654</b> | <b>\$3,117,524</b> | <b>\$3,292,832</b> | <b>\$3,704,712</b> |

### ACTIVITY

#### REVENUE

|                                |                  |
|--------------------------------|------------------|
| Fundraisers (net)              | \$111,000        |
| Donations & Contributions      | \$108,505        |
| Foundation Dues                | \$38,282         |
| Program Grants / Contributions | \$39,354         |
| Investments                    | \$331,154        |
| <b>TOTAL NET REVENUE:</b>      | <b>\$744,410</b> |

#### EXPENDITURES

|  |                  |
|--|------------------|
| Fundraiser Expenses                      | \$118,004        |
| Programs / Outreach                      | \$80,043         |
| Scholarships                             | \$15,750         |
| General / Administrative                 | \$140,713        |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES:</b>               | <b>\$338,761</b> |
| <b>EXCESS EXPENDITURES OVER REVENUE:</b> | <b>\$405,649</b> |





## Goals of the *Foundation*

The Foundation was established in 1969 and is the 501(c)3 not-for-profit charity arm of the Dental Society. Funds raised are used to aid and promote the oral and general health of the public through education, care coordination, service and dental treatment in the fields of preventative and curative dentistry. Our Foundation programs, Smiles for Kids and Smiles for Big Kids, focus especially on children, the elderly and to those who otherwise would not be able to afford it. The Foundation also provides scholarship to (1) students who are entering and currently enrolled in dental school; (2) auxiliary dental team members of SDDS members who want to further their skills and education; and (3) other dental-related scholarship opportunities. Click [here](#) to learn more about the goals.

The Sacramento District Dental Foundation is funded solely through contributions, bequests, fundraising events, donation of services, planned giving and grants. For more information on ways to support the Foundation, please visit [sdds.org/foundation](https://sdds.org/foundation).

### 2024 Foundation Board of Directors

**Carl Hillendahl, DDS**  
Foundation President

**Paul Binon, DDS**  
Vice President

**Kevin Keating, DDS, MS**  
Treasurer

**Jeffrey Sue, DDS**  
Secretary

**Nancy Archibald, DDS**

**Margaret Delmore, MD, DDS**

**Lisa Dobak, DDS**

**Volki Felahy, DDS**

**Greg Heise, DDS**

**Bryan Judd, DDS**

**Michael O'Brien**

**Karen Harris, Associate Member**



*Are you a  
member of our  
Foundation?*

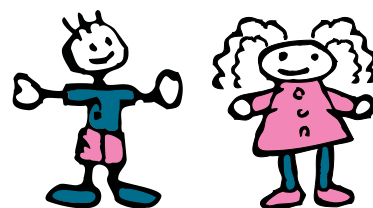
It only costs \$75 a year to be a member of our Foundation. The Foundation funds our Smiles for Kids and Smiles for Big Kids programs!

Will you join? Email us at [sdds@sdds.org](mailto:sdds@sdds.org) to become a member and make a difference.

Thank you for supporting the Foundation!



# OUR FOUNDATION OVER THE YEARS



Has grown in membership...

**500** Members  
in 2024

Has continued to support  
our community programs

- Smiles for Kids
- Oral Health Education  
Puppet Show
- Smiles for Big Kids
- Dental student scholarships  
for first year students
- Auxiliary scholarships for  
SDDS member team  
members
- Since 2014, we've given \$115K  
in scholarships to dental  
students and auxiliary staff

**Thank you** for volunteering,  
donating and supporting our  
wonderful Foundation!

Has succeeded in fundraising  
to benefit and fund programs...

**GOLF TOURNAMENTS** have  
raised **\$360K** since 2008

**Four Galas** have  
raised  
**\$310K** SINCE 2011

**Broadway shows** have  
raised **\$80K** since 2002

**HOLIDAY PARTY  
Silent Auctions** have  
**RAISED \$160K**  
(including \$90K Bump Dinners)

**CROWNS FOR KIDS  
(FOR SFK) HAS RAISED  
\$444K** SINCE 2006

# Foundation of the Sacramento District Dental Society

A charitable 501-C3  
organization



## Thank you 2024 Foundation Members

January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024

### Foundation Members (2024)

#### Dentist Members

Dr. Guy Acheson  
Dr. Gary Ackerman  
Dr. Eva Adams  
Dr. Gregory Adams  
Dr. Nima Aftatoni  
Dr. Nahid Afshari  
Dr. Arash Aghakhani  
Dr. Dean Ahmad  
Dr. Samer Alassaad  
Dr. Samer Albadawi  
Dr. Ashkan Alizadeh  
Dr. Marwa Alkordy  
Dr. Craig Alpha  
Dr. Jessica Alt  
Dr. Dale Alto  
Dr. Russell Anders  
Dr. Jay Anderson  
Dr. Todd Andrews  
Dr. Jenny Apekian  
Dr. Nancy Archibald  
Dr. Brad Archibald  
Dr. Guillermo Arellano  
Dr. Naseem Arfai  
Dr. Michael Arrow  
Dr. Jerhet Ask  
Dr. Ron Ask  
Dr. Darryl Azouz  
Dr. Mark Backhus  
Dr. Laila Baker  
Dr. Debra Baker  
Parachou  
Dr. Aneet Bal  
Dr. Junie Baldonado  
Dr. Daisuke Bannai  
Dr. Paul Barkin  
Dr. Sarwandeep Bath  
Dr. Stuart Beach  
Dr. Jill Beams  
Dr. Wallace Bellamy  
Dr. Charles Benavidez  
Dr. Kim Benton  
Dr. Paul Bianchi  
Dr. Paul Binon  
Dr. John Birch  
Dr. Ron Blanchette  
Dr. Thais Booms  
Dr. Forrest Booser  
Dr. Michelle Borg  
Dr. Greg Borrowdale  
Dr. Michael Boyce  
Dr. Damon Boyd  
Dr. Colleen Buehler-  
Steinberg  
Dr. Rodney Bughao  
Dr. Arthur Burbridge  
Dr. Lydia Cam  
Dr. Matt Campbell  
Dr. Adrian Carrington  
Dr. Erin Carson  
Dr. John Carson  
Dr. Michael Casagrande  
Dr. Robert Catron

Dr. Steve Cavagnolo  
Dr. Pamela Caviness  
Dr. Andrea Cervantes  
Dr. Veronica Cervantes-  
Prado  
Dr. Jayson Chalmers  
Dr. Jonathan Chan  
Dr. Wai Ming Chan  
Dr. Chuen Chie Chiang  
Dr. Kevin Chang  
Dr. Richard Chang  
Dr. Shareen Char-Fat  
Dr. Amanda Chen  
Dr. Jennifer Chen  
Dr. James Childress  
Dr. Cameron Cho  
Dr. Sonney Chong  
Dr. Clifford Chow  
Dr. Brandon Christensen  
Dr. Stephen Christensen  
Dr. Darrell Chun  
Dr. Camilia Cifor  
Dr. Matthew Comfort  
Dr. Tracey Cook  
Dr. Benjamin Cope  
Dr. Fredrick Correa  
Dr. James Coyle  
Dr. Brian Crawford  
Dr. Paul Cripe  
Dr. David Crippen  
Dr. Gina Crippen  
Dr. Curtis Croft  
Dr. Monica Crooks  
Dr. Mary Cuevas  
Dr. Jerome Daby  
Dr. Robert Daby  
Dr. Kent Daft  
Dr. Shannon Dang  
Dr. Vincent D'Ascoli  
Dr. David Datwyler  
Dr. Randy Davey  
Dr. Jeff Davidson  
Dr. Michael De Anda  
Dr. Teresa De Guzman  
Dr. Olga Dedia  
Dr. Jacqueline Delaney  
Dr. Lewis Del Debbio  
Dr. Jeff Delgadillo  
Dr. Margaret Delmore  
Dr. Paul Denzler  
Dr. Justin Diederichs  
Dr. Shaina DiMariano  
Dr. Friz Diaz  
Dr. Julianne Digiorno  
Dr. Lisa Dobak  
Dr. Gordon Douglass  
Dr. Xuan Duong  
Dr. Herlin Dyal  
Dr. Mark Engel  
Dr. Maria Espiritu  
Dr. Kenechukwu Eze  
Dr. Kent Farnsworth  
Dr. Diana Fat  
Dr. John Fat  
Dr. Ken Fat  
Dr. David Feder

Dr. Volkmar Felahy  
Dr. Carlos Feuillet-Latorre  
Dr. Debra Finney  
Dr. Sindy Fondren  
Dr. Brian Fong  
Dr. Thomas Fong  
Dr. Michael Forde  
Dr. Lora Foster-Rode  
Dr. Reza Fouladi  
Dr. Sandra Fouladi  
Dr. Ethan Fox  
Dr. Kasi Franck  
Dr. Todd Franklin  
Dr. Dean Funada  
Dr. Kevin Furmanek  
Dr. Beatriz Galofre  
Dr. Calvin Garland  
Dr. Douglas Gedestad  
Dr. Richard Gere  
Dr. Kelly Giannetti  
Dr. Frank Godfrey  
Dr. Jennifer Goldman  
Dr. Mitchell Goodis  
Dr. Jennifer Goss  
Dr. Eric Grove  
Dr. Michael Guess  
Dr. Michael Gugale  
Dr. Edi Guidi  
Dr. Dan Haberman  
Dr. Gregory Hailey  
Dr. Matthew Hall  
Dr. Laurie Hanschu  
Dr. Kerry Hanson  
Dr. Dan Harlan  
Dr. Elizabeth Harmon  
Dr. Sheriff Hassan  
Dr. David Hatcher  
Dr. Heather Hawkins  
Dr. Victor Hawkins  
Dr. Randall Hayashi  
Dr. Robert Hays  
Dr. Gregory Heise  
Dr. Jag Heir  
Dr. Poqe Her  
Dr. Tim Herman  
Dr. Ryan Higgins  
Dr. Carl Hillendahl  
Dr. Jessica Hinojosa  
Dr. Brock Hinton  
Dr. Michael Holm  
Dr. Mark Holt  
Dr. Kendali Homer  
Dr. Richard Huang  
Dr. Stephen Huppert  
Dr. Elizabeth Huynh  
Dr. Horia Ionescu  
Dr. Carolyn Ishii  
Dr. Richard Jackson  
Dr. Nidhi Jain  
Dr. Douglas Jaul  
Dr. Chad Jensen  
Dr. Herb Jensen  
Dr. Elizabeth Johnson  
Dr. Paul A Johnson  
Dr. Dagon Jones  
Dr. Dan Jones

Dr. Russell Jones  
Dr. Terrence Jones  
Dr. Ashley Joves  
Dr. Jose Juarez  
Dr. Bryan Judd  
Dr. Keith Judd  
Dr. Cassandra Kalapsa  
Dr. Ramouna Karvar  
Dr. Darcy Kasner  
Dr. David Keating  
Dr. Kevin Keating  
Dr. Richard Keilson  
Dr. Richard Kennedy  
Dr. Mohd Khalaf  
Dr. Fady Khalil  
Dr. Neelofar Khan  
Dr. Smita Khandwala  
Dr. Sean Khodai  
Dr. Shahram Khodai  
Dr. Shahryar Khodai  
Dr. Estella Kim  
Dr. Jin Kim  
Dr. Katherine Kim  
Dr. Craig Kinzer  
Dr. Richard Knight  
Dr. Rob Koch  
Dr. Matthew Korn  
Dr. Michelle Kucera  
Dr. Mark Kujiroaka  
Dr. Sarah Kuo  
Dr. Kevin Kurio  
Dr. Arden Kwong  
Dr. Jeff Kwong  
Dr. Laurie LaDow  
Dr. Lisa Laptalo  
Dr. Larry Larsen  
Dr. Hung Le  
Dr. Gordon Lee  
Dr. Grace Lee  
Dr. Kyujin Lee  
Dr. Leland Lee  
Dr. Alan Leider  
Dr. Diane Liberty  
Dr. Donald Liberty  
Dr. Brian Lin  
Dr. Steve Longoria  
Dr. Donald Lovett  
Dr. Steve Lynch  
Dr. Jeffrey Ma  
Dr. Tex Mabalon  
Dr. Chris Macasaet  
Dr. Janine Ma-Golding  
Dr. Baban Mahal  
Dr. Madeline Majer  
Dr. Craig Makishima  
Dr. Holly Malchow  
Dr. Grace Maniego  
Dr. Ian Marion  
Dr. David Markham  
Dr. Luminita Markham  
Dr. Greg Maroni  
Dr. Brandon Martin  
Dr. Jennifer McCarthy  
Dr. Candy McComb  
Dr. Jeff McComb  
Dr. Warren McWilliams

Dr. Rob Meaglia  
Dr. Roshani Mehta  
Dr. James Meinert  
Dr. Lance Metzger  
Dr. Tim Mickiewicz  
Dr. Glenn Middleton  
Dr. Marina Milstein  
Dr. Michael Miyasaki  
Dr. Matthew Molitor  
Dr. Edward Montalbo  
Dr. Rhonda Montalbo  
Dr. Kathryn Ann Moore  
Dr. Kenneth Moore  
Dr. Sydney Moore  
Dr. Megan Moyneur  
Dr. James Musser  
Dr. Christopher Myers  
Dr. Cliff Nakatani  
Dr. Firas Nassif  
Dr. Aneel Nath  
Dr. Michael Nguyen  
Dr. Minh Nguyen  
Dr. ThanhTruc Nguyen  
Dr. John Noe  
Dr. Bryan Nokelby  
Dr. Gloria Nollie  
Dr. Kevin O'Brien  
Dr. Michael O'Brien  
Dr. Jeanette Okazaki  
Dr. Siamak Okhovat  
Dr. Gregory Olsen  
Dr. John Oshetski  
Dr. Stephen Ott  
Dr. Darcy Owen  
Dr. Deborah Owyang  
Dr. Gregory Owyang  
Dr. Alan Pan  
Dr. Purvak Parikh  
Dr. David Park  
Dr. Viren Patel  
Dr. Sarmad Paydar  
Dr. Michael Payne  
Dr. James Peck  
Dr. Lance Peery  
Dr. Patrick Penney  
Dr. Michael Perich  
Dr. Josh Perisho  
Dr. Stacey Peters-Nelson  
Dr. Dennis Peterson  
Dr. David Petty  
Dr. Quynh Pham  
Dr. Van Pham  
Dr. Paul Phillips  
Dr. Robert Phillips  
Dr. Valerie Phillips  
Dr. Jerome Pielago  
Dr. Ryan Plewe  
Dr. Paolo Poidmore  
Dr. Mark Porco  
Dr. Jordan Priestley  
Dr. Scott Pyo  
Dr. Alan Rabe  
Dr. Mojtaba Radi  
Dr. Karthik Raghuraman  
Dr. Brian Ralli  
Dr. Ling Ralli

Dr. Khalid Rasheed  
Dr. Hana Rashid  
Dr. Ibtisam Rashid  
Dr. Gabrielle Rasi  
Dr. Ronald Rasi  
Dr. Ronald Rasmussen  
Dr. Rohini Rattu  
Dr. Joseph Rawlins  
Dr. Jyosthna Reddy  
Sabalam  
Dr. Mark Redford  
Dr. Aaron Reeves  
Dr. Justin Reich  
Dr. Elizabeth Reynoso  
Dr. Sean Rhee  
Dr. John Riach  
Dr. Bevan Richardson  
Dr. Lindsey Robinson  
Dr. Leon Roda III  
Dr. Christy Rollofson-  
Porrino  
Dr. Don Rollofson  
Dr. Jeffrey Rosa  
Dr. Morton Rosenberg  
Dr. Nicholas Rotas  
Dr. Sean Roth  
Dr. Ronald Rott  
Dr. David Rule  
Dr. Benton Runquist  
Dr. Cynthia Russell  
Dr. Matthew Ryan  
Dr. Navneet Sahota  
Dr. Suzanne Saidi  
Dr. Maryam Saleh  
Dr. Elaheh Samsani  
Dr. Matthew Sanders  
Dr. Stephanie Sandretti  
Dr. John Santamaria  
Dr. Harkeet Sappal  
Dr. Cherag Sarkari  
Dr. Christopher Schiappa  
Dr. Pam Schmidt  
Dr. Nicholas Scordakis  
Dr. Timothy Scott  
Dr. Shahryar Sefidpour  
Dr. Samuel Seiden  
Dr. David Seman  
Dr. Golzar Shaari  
Dr. Amir Shad  
Dr. Sherry Shapiro  
Dr. Richard Shipp  
Dr. Stefanie Shore  
Dr. Dwight Simpson  
Dr. Ed Sims  
Dr. Walter Skinner  
Dr. William Sloan  
Dr. Andrea Smith  
Dr. Colby Smith  
Dr. Charles Smurthwaite  
Dr. In Hee Song  
Dr. Andrea Sosa  
Dr. Norman Spalding  
Dr. David Spector  
Dr. Joelle Speed  
Dr. Terri Speed  
Dr. Anna Sri



# A few words from some of Our Big Kids Patients



## ...rewarding and fulfilling...

It is so rewarding and fulfilling to have a job. I feel like I can be someone that my children look up to—like a productive member of society. I feel like a completely different person.

- Heather, treated by Dr. Stephanie Shore



## ...confident employee

I feel like a confident employee now, and that makes a huge difference.

- Patty, treated by Dr. Mark Kujiraoka



## so very grateful...

I am so very grateful to The Sacramento District Dental Society for finding a dentist to fix my teeth and give me back my self-esteem and make my smile bigger and brighter than it has ever been.

- Evangeline, treated by Dr. Chirag Vaid



## ...it feels great

I got my tooth problem fixed up today and it feels great. I really appreciate it!

-Ramiro, treated by Dr. Paul Denzler



Scan here to  
Donate to the  
Foundation

Dr. Visse Storm  
Dr. Jeffrey Sue  
Dr. Tiffanie Sun  
Dr. Kimberly Sunahara  
Dr. Damon Szymanowski  
Dr. Jonathan Szymanowski  
Dr. Art Tanimoto  
Dr. Kevin Tanner  
Dr. Gaetan Tchamba  
Dr. Larry Templin  
Dr. R. Bruce Thomas  
Dr. H. Scott Thompson  
Dr. Ramesh Thondapu  
Dr. Robert Tilly  
Dr. Alex Tomaich  
Dr. Pedram Towfighi  
Dr. Leo Townsend  
Dr. Amy Thu Tran  
Dr. Kelvin Tse  
Dr. Glen Tueller  
Dr. Arjang Vahidnia  
Dr. Ashima Vaid  
Dr. Chirag Vaid  
Dr. Lucy Valencia  
Dr. Tanya Varimezova

Dr. Ash Vasanthan  
Dr. Gary Vedenoff  
Dr. Jonathan Vongschanphen  
Dr. Sonali Wagh  
Dr. Tom Wagner  
Dr. Kim Wallace  
Dr. Wayne Walters  
Dr. Ramsen Warda  
Dr. Glen Warganich-Stiles  
Dr. Dina Wasileski  
Dr. Ernest Watson  
Dr. Cindy Weideman  
Dr. April Westfall  
Dr. Richard Whitaker  
Dr. Mark White  
Dr. Joel Whiteman  
Dr. Kristy Whiteman  
Dr. Jill Whitney  
Dr. Rashidah Wiley  
Dr. Ryan Wilgus  
Dr. Michael Wilson  
Dr. Tim Wing  
Dr. Boyoung Won  
Dr. Bingson Wong  
Dr. Dennis Wong

Dr. Eric Wong  
Dr. Gerald Wong  
Dr. Ian Wong  
Dr. Kenneth Wong  
Dr. Timothy Wong  
Dr. Amy Woo  
Dr. Janice Work  
Dr. Peter Worth  
Dr. Theresa Worsham  
Dr. Jamson Wu  
Dr. Rosemary Wu  
Dr. Pinelopi Xenoudi  
Dr. Karissa Yamamoto  
Dr. Thomas Yamamoto  
Dr. Peter Yanni  
Dr. Farah Yasmeen  
Dr. Bradley Yee  
Dr. Wesley Yee  
Dr. Ivana Yi  
Dr. Agnes Yumiaco  
Dr. Amy Yu  
Dr. James Zimmerman  
Dr. Ryan Zleik

## Associate Members

Comel Ahmad  
Paula Bravo  
Sheryl Carlson  
Brittney Crary  
Peggy Daft  
Betty Dobak  
Donna Drury-Klein  
Craig Harris  
Karen Harris  
Mark Harris  
Annabelle Harris  
Adam Harris  
Alex Harris  
Tamara Harris  
Allen Harris  
Christie Harris  
Harper Harris  
Margaret Jackson  
Carrie James  
Kathy Jones  
Marion Jones  
Leigh Kurio  
Cookie Lawrence  
Bruce Levering

Cathy Levering  
Teresa Lua  
Marcella Oster  
Cher Paydar  
Gayle Peterson  
Shanna Petruzzi  
Kim Stiles  
Sherry Sue  
Annette Tomaich  
Diane Tomlinson  
Tony Vigil  
Karen Walters  
Dr. Ruby Yu

# Foundation of the Sacramento District Dental Society

## *A Decade of Smiles:* Celebrating 10 Years of “The Adventures of Sir Enamel”

Time sure flies when you're fighting cavities! Puppet Art Theater Co. is thrilled to celebrate the 10th anniversary of its beloved dental health puppet show, *The Adventures of Sir Enamel*.

“It can't already be ten years!” exclaims Art Grueneberger, writer and creator of the show and owner of Puppet Art Theater Co. “It feels like just yesterday we were sitting in a room full of dentists, asking them to help us fine-tune the educational content.”

That initial brainstorming session laid the foundation for a show that has since entertained and educated tens of thousands of children. But what's the secret to making a fun and effective educational puppet show? At Puppet Art Theater Co., we have a method that ensures kids absorb valuable lessons while having a blast.

First, we define the show's primary goal. In this case, the Sacramento District Dental Society (SDDS) wanted to reduce tooth decay in K-6 students. Then, we turn to the experts—in this case, dentists—to list the most effective ways to prevent cavities. Their

list had about 20 strategies, but cramming 20 lessons into a 30-minute puppet show would be overwhelming. So, we asked the dentists to rank them from most to least impactful.

The top three strategies became the core of the story: reducing sugary foods and drinks, brushing and flossing regularly, and visiting the dentist. With these key lessons in place, we crafted an entertaining adventure where kids could learn without even realizing they were being taught!

### **An Epic Battle for Healthy Teeth!**

In *The Adventures of Sir Enamel*, an epic battle rages inside little Johnny's mouth! The noble protector of teeth, Sir Enamel, is fighting valiantly against the sticky, cavity-causing King Sugar Bug and his mischievous army. But Sir Enamel can't win alone—he needs Johnny's help! By making smart food choices, brushing and flossing, and visiting the dentist, Johnny defeats King Sugar Bug and saves Sir Enamel, ensuring his pearly whites stay strong and healthy.

The show has been delighting young audiences for a decade, sparking laughter

and cheers while reinforcing lifelong dental habits. And it's not just the kids who love it!

Rachel Malin, the talented puppeteer who has been performing the show since its inception, cherishes the joy it brings to students. “They're learning how to take care of their teeth while laughing and cheering Johnny and Sir Enamel on. It's wonderful!”

From school assemblies to community events, *The Adventures of Sir Enamel* continues its mission, proving that a little laughter—and a lot of creativity—can make a big impact on children's health.

Here's to another decade of fighting cavities, one puppet show at a time!



By **Art Grueneberger**  
Puppet Art Theater Co.



### **Oral Health Educational Puppet Shows**

Thanks to two very generous sponsors, we are able to offer two educational puppet shows that travel to local area schools informing and entertaining our community's children. We hope the message will make it's way back home and impact the entire family.



### **PUPPET SHOWS SINCE 2014**

**1,213** shows  
**864** schools  
**96,000** kids have seen  
the puppet shows

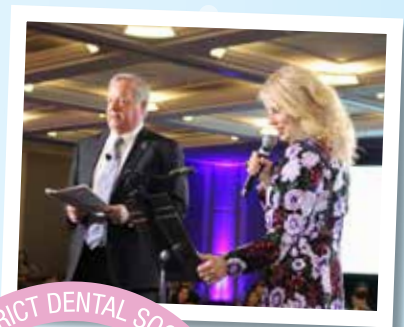


# Smiles

## FOR SACRAMENTO

A Gala to Benefit the SDDS Foundation

On October 26, 2024 we were overjoyed with the abundance of love and generosity that was shared for the SDDS Foundation and all the good that it's able to do in our community. Everything the Foundation does is made possible with generous donations and participation in events like this year's Gala. **This year, the Gala raised \$74,000 for the Foundation.**



**\$74,000**  
TOTAL RAISED  
SDDS MEMBER DENTISTS  
HOSTED 320 PEOPLE!





# Foundation of the Sacramento District Dental Society

A charitable 501-C3  
organization



## The Program that Started it All

Our largest and most far-reaching project, **Smiles for Kids®** (SFK) (originally founded in 1991 by Dr. Gerard Ortner and Dr. Don Rollofson) was adopted and expanded by the Foundation in 2003. It partners member dentists with local schools to screen and provide dental education to thousands of children each year. From the screenings, underinsured and underserved children are treated by member dentists and their teams on SFK Day each February. Children are then “adopted” for further pro bono treatment – including specialty and orthodontic treatment. Each year, thousands of dollars in pro bono treatment is provided to children in the five county SDDS area. Smiles for Kids is making great strides toward reversing the disheartening statistics that plague the children of our community.

### SMILES FOR KIDS TO DATE BY THE NUMBERS

**592,035**  
Kids served since 1991

**1659** School screenings by SDDS Members



**96,022**  
Kids reached with Puppet Shows  
**THOUSANDS** HAVE VOLUNTEERED

**1,278** Kids received orthodontic treatment since 1996



**\$16.3**  
**million**  
in Dental Treatment

**17,710** KIDS TREATED SINCE 1991

# Smiles for Kids 2024

## Our Cups Runneth Over with Smiles!

Thank you to all volunteers for our SFK program. We did our best to make sure kids were screened, referred, taken care of, transitioned to existing dental offices and funneled into our program. Thank you to all the dentists who continue to say “yes” to adopting kids each year.



### SFK Screenings - Dentists & Teams

Dr. Jenny Apekian  
Dr. Charles Beach  
Dr. Robin Berrin  
Dr. Steven Matthew Bonzell  
Dr. Colleen Buehler  
Dr. Erin Carson  
Dr. Andrea Cervantes  
Dr. Christopher Chan  
Dr. Juan Chavez  
Dr. Connie Chen  
Dr. Mark Choi  
Dr. Wendell Clove  
Dr. Maria Cook  
Dr. Tracy Cook  
Dr. Paul Denzler  
Dr. Julianne Digiorno  
Dr. Lisa Dobak  
Dr. Melissa Fong  
Dr. Camille Ganim  
Dr. Mark Hagele  
Dr. Adam Haney  
Dr. Jamie Hanf  
Dr. Paul Johnson  
Dr. Richard Kennedy  
Dr. Sean Khodai  
Dr. Michelle Kucera  
Dr. Merlin Lai  
Dr. Jill Lingberg  
Dr. John Noe  
Dr. Dexter Quiggle  
Dr. Lindsey Robinson  
Dr. Don Rollofson  
Dr. Jennifer Ryan  
Dr. Nicolas Scordakis  
Dr. Gaetan Tchamba  
Dr. Dina Wasileski

Dr. Jesse Whitely  
Dr. Sevan Yergatian  
Deborah Blanchard, RDH  
Cali Kids Dental  
PCOH  
Communicare  
Elica  
PCOH

### SFK Day - Dentists

Dr. Miriam Behpour  
Dr. Thais Booms  
Dr. Andrea Cervantes  
Dr. Nathan Chronister  
Dr. Barry Dunn  
Dr. Julie Hernandez  
Dr. Paul Johnson  
Dr. Jose Juarez  
Dr. Jamie LaPierre  
Dr. Chris Lee  
Dr. Fatemeh Mahboub  
Dr. Purvak Parikh  
Dr. Jyothsna Reddy Sabalam  
Dr. Jennifer Ryan  
Dr. Matt Sanders  
Dr. Rajbir Sanghvi  
Dr. Jeff Sue  
Dr. Ken Wong  
Dr. Dexter Yee

### SFK Day - Sites

Ascot Family Dental  
Pediatric Dentistry of Sacramento  
Sheldon Grove  
Family Dental  
Smile Kingdom Dental

### SFK Day - RDAs

Madison Bellin  
Veronica Brisenio  
Eduarda Camper  
Kathy Gillian  
Mercedes Lozano  
Karley McCrary  
Taryn Mullen  
Maria Myers  
Myia Pelito  
Allison Reinig  
Danny Sandoval  
Ashley Shafor  
Jocelyne Valdez  
Kimberly Yanez

### SFK Day - RDAEFs

Melissa Regino

### SFK Day - DAs

Kayla Camper  
Mya Claudio  
Mercedes Estrada  
Gabriella Martinez  
Hunter Reinig  
Kashia Torgimson

### SFK Day - RDHs

Angie Bout  
Sydney Earley  
Jessica Caballero

### SFK Day - Volunteers

Joseph Cates  
Yarely Gasca Reyes  
Sofia Gutierrez  
Adela Henry  
Ian Henry  
Justine Intemann-Milligan  
Rachel Juarez  
Jasmin Nelson  
Christine Roy  
Bethany Sapigao  
Chelsee Shatia  
JJ Sue  
Mary Torres  
Nicole Wates  
Addie Wong  
Della Yee

### Adopt-a-Kid 2024

### General Dentists

Dr. Guillermo Arellano  
Dr. Wallace Bellamy  
Dr. Andrea Cervantes  
Dr. Zohreh Eftekhari  
Dr. Nagy Elsemery  
Dr. Kenechukwu Eze  
Dr. Ethan Fox  
Dr. Julie Hernandez  
Dr. Jose Juarez  
Dr. Brian Orcutt  
Dr. Purvak Parikh  
Dr. David Park  
Dr. Sergio Pereira  
Dr. Navneet Sahota  
Dr. Ahmed Salem

Dr. Charles Smurthwaite  
Dr. Joel Whiteman  
Dr. Kristy Whiteman  
Dr. Raj Zanzi

### Oral Surgeons

Dr. Craig Alpha  
Dr. Nanlin Chiang  
Dr. Jeffrey Delgadillo  
Dr. Don Liberty  
Dr. Rola Rabah  
Dr. Kenneth Wong

### Orthodontists

Dr. Gregory Adams  
Dr. Thais Booms  
Dr. Brian Crawford  
Dr. Greg Evrigenis  
Dr. Kelly Giannetti  
Dr. Michael Guess  
Dr. Mark Holt  
Dr. Andrew LaFlamme  
Dr. Brandon Martin  
Dr. Marina Milstein  
Dr. Matthew Molitor  
Dr. Christopher Myers  
Dr. Paolo Poidmore  
Dr. Don Rollofson  
Dr. Matthew Sanders  
Dr. Alan Tan  
Dr. Jamson Wu

### Pediatric Dentists

Dr. Jessica Alt  
Dr. Jude Crutchfield  
Dr. Paul Johnson  
Dr. Scott Pyo  
Dr. Lora Foster Rode

Dr. Jeffrey Sue  
Dr. Janice Work

### Endodontists

Dr. Audrey Antonenko

### MD Anesthesiologist

Dr. Samuel Seiden

### Prosthodontists

Dr. Paul Binon

I cannot thank you enough for your help in getting Brayden the dental care he greatly needed. From our first conversation, I could tell you truly cared about helping Brayden and finding a way to get his treatment covered. In working with underserved communities in the county, I often see families struggle to get care and fall through the cracks. Success stories like this one remind me that we can all make a positive difference in our community!

**Please extend my thanks to Dr. Sue, the Smiles for Kids program, the Sacramento District Dental Foundation and anyone else who helped Brayden and his family.**

**ALEXIES CAMBA, PHN**  
CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES



By **Thais Booms, DDS, MS**  
SDDS Member

## Making an Impact One Life at a Time

As I sit down to write this article about SFK, on a quiet Saturday morning after the MidWinter Convention, I feel honored to be part of a Dental Society that has such a great commitment to its community.

I first volunteered with SFK nearly a decade ago, and the experience was so rewarding that I have made a priority to participate every year since. Giannetti & Booms have been treating pro-bono cases for over two decades, and being involved in SFK and the screening process has made the whole experience even more meaningful. It has

been a privilege to use our unique skills to positively affect someone's life and witness the profound impact.

I encourage everyone to be a part of the heart of our Dental Society by supporting the Foundation. Contribute as you can and watch your generosity trickle down.

Below, I am sharing the story of one of my SFBK patients currently in treatment, Alexis. I would like to say thank you to Dr. Craig Alpha and to Dr. Christy Rollofson-Porrino for also taking care of her. Initially, Alexis was a challenging case – not because of her

dental needs, but due to her deep-seated dental phobia and lack of trust in dentists after previous negative experiences, including unsuccessful orthodontic treatment. It has been incredibly fulfilling to watch her trust, comfort and confidence grow during her orthodontic journey. Alexis was thrilled to share her testimonial, knowing it was going to be published in *The Nugget*. Thank you for reading it. ■

“It has been a privilege to use our unique skills to positively affect someone's life and witness the profound impact.”





# Overcoming Obstacles

By **Alexis Barner**

Smiles For Big Kids/Ortho Patient

I have struggled with teeth related issues since I was young. Not only was I embarrassed by how it looked, but it did not feel nice at all!

Between bad experiences regarding orthodontists and the finances that would be needed to try again, my dental health was put on hold indefinitely early on. I didn't even realize how much damage had accumulated over time until I was starting to feel more physical pain as I entered adulthood.

Crowding, missing teeth (one or two sunk into my gums; for as long as I can remember I had a gum gap on the one side of my mouth as a kid), extra teeth, cavities in my front teeth that I hadn't

even realized were there. I was concerned on how the fillings would go once that was pointed out to me. And who knows how much more? I had given up. I didn't want to fixate too much on it, years had passed and I was on my own. I certainly couldn't afford it now.

However, it was getting to the point I couldn't ignore it anymore and sought help.

Giannetti & Booms was the first and last place I had to go for that help. Admittedly, I was super anxious and more cautious with them than I needed to be. I was in a place where I had felt defeated. Through them, I was introduced to the Smiles For Big Kids program.

They were so patient and kind throughout the process, talked me through what I found to be the confusing parts, and things only have gotten better and better from there.

They sent me to a surgeon who successfully did his part in rearranging my teeth without any complications. They had sent me to a good dentist to make sure the cavities and cleanings were taken care of as well, and taken it upon themselves to arrange appointments that work best for my schedule, while also assuring I am well taken care of during those appointments. I rarely left an appointment in pain, and that was yet another fear I had regarding seeing an orthodontist. I know it can be a cause of concern for others, too.

If it weren't for Dr. Booms, Dr. Giannetti or Addie Adams - or the many wonderful, friendly people on their team that work alongside them - I never would have known there was still a chance for my teeth. I wouldn't have known that there are programs who would care about those in my kind of situation and be more than willing to help. Thank you all so much.

I write this in hopes that readers know they still have a chance, too. It's all a matter of finding doctors, programs, and people who want to see you succeed. And they are out there.

Smiles For Big Kids is one of those programs.

Giannetti & Booms are some of those doctors.

I am one of those people. ■



# Foundation of the Sacramento District Dental Society

A charitable 501-C3  
organization



## Building Confidence Since 2009



The Smiles for BIG Kids® (SFBK) program kicked off in 2009 to provide necessary dental services to uninsured and low-income adults. While SFBK addresses the dental needs of children, SFBK promotes oral health to adults, provides donated dental treatment for uninsured, low-income adults age 18+ who are in need of urgent dental care, as well as education on maintaining proper oral health. This program is available to all area adults who meet the program's eligibility requirements, and especially targets the needs of our community's low-income elderly population, as well as the parents of children served by the SFBK program. Since the program's inception, nearly \$2 million in services has been provided.

**SMILES FOR BIG KIDS**  
BY THE NUMBERS SINCE 2009

**683** PATIENTS COMPLETED  
**844** PATIENTS PLACED



**59**  
AVERAGE AGE  
OF PATIENTS

**ONE HUNDRED AND FORTY**  
OVER THE AGE OF SIXTY

**\$4100** Average cost per  
patient in 2024

### PARTNERS WHO REFER

Clara's House | Women's Empowerment  
Everyone for Veterans | St. John's Shelter  
Project Safe Haven | Refugee Services  
Dentists/Specialists Private Referrals | WEAVE



**\$1.997** million  
in Dental Treatment

**FIVE**  
LABS PARTICIPATING

**16** Patients completed  
treatment in 2024

## Smiles for Big Kids 2024-25

### Participating Dentists

Dr. Ashkan Alizadeh  
Dr. Paul Binon  
Dr. Thais Booms  
Dr. Jeffrey Delgadillo  
Dr. Justin Diederichs  
Dr. Ken Fat

Dr. Michael Favero  
Dr. Volki Felahy  
Dr. Sandra Fouladi  
Dr. Jag Heir  
Dr. Wes Hill  
Dr. Erica Hsiao  
Dr. Alexander Kaplan

Dr. Eger Korolevsky  
Dr. Siamak Okhovat  
Dr. Viren Patel  
Dr. Moji Radi  
Dr. Sean Roth  
Dr. Matthew Sanders  
Dr. Gina Savani

Dr. Stefanie Shore  
Dr. Chirag Vaid  
Dr. Joel Whiteman  
Dr. Clifford Wong  
Dr. Eric Young

### Participating Labs

Dandy Dental Lab  
DDI Imaging  
Fusion Dental Arts  
Sacramento Cosmetic Dental Lab





## Making a Global Impact!

Blue Star Moms is an official chapter of The Blue Star Mothers of America Inc., a national organization that is comprised of mothers and stepmothers of sons and daughters who serve or have served honorably in the Armed Forces of the United States of America. Our SDDS member and a member of Blue Star Moms, Dr. Friz Diaz, recently requested a donation of toothbrushes and toothpaste for packages they were putting together for troops in the Middle East. Dr. Friz Diaz's daughter, Jereen, is a Captain and her husband, Richlin, is a Major in the Army.



Some of the soldiers in my daughter's unit in the Middle East. They got their care packages today...**Look at their smiles...Priceless!!!**

**DR. FRIZ DIAZ**

SDDS MEMBER AND FOUNDATION SUPPORTER



Dr. Diaz's daughter, Jereen, her husband, Richlin, and their kids...Sofia, Olivia and RJ. This was taken the night before she deployed to the Middle East in September 2024.





# Foundation of the Sacramento District Dental Society

## Turning Scrap Metal into Smiles



In 2005, the Foundation partnered with Star Dental Refining, a metal refinery and began **Crowns for Kids®** (CFK) to benefit Smiles for Kids. In this program, member dentists collect scrap metal from their patients' dental treatment in CFK jars, the jars are collected and sent to the metal refinery, and the refinery sends a check to the Foundation each month. Since 2006, CFK has raised \$444,226 – and it all goes to benefit SFK!

Powered by  **STAR** DENTAL  
REFINING

## Do you have a Crowns For Kids Jar in Your Office?

It's one of the easiest ways to support the SDDS Foundation. All you have to do is call Elizabeth Reynoso at (209) 623-9332, she'll drop off a jar for you and you call her when it's full or when you want it to be picked up. She'll bring an empty jar when she picks up and that's it! Super simple. We encourage you to join the ranks of your colleagues listed on page 42!



## CROWNS FOR KIDS - *Call us for a jar pickup* Totals since the beginning of the program

|                 | 2024 | 2023 | 2022 | 2021 | 2020 | 2019 | 2018 | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 | 2014 | 2013 | 2012 | 2011 | 2007 |
|-----------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| # repeat donors | 90   | 102  | 100  | 114  | 62   | 106  | 110  | 111  | 79   | 128  | 110  | 130  | 110  | 87   | 47   |
| # new donors    | 0    | 3    | 2    | 6    | 4    | 4    | 3    | 14   | 4    | 16   | 14   | 15   | 20   | 32   | 44   |
| # pickups       | 91   | 105  | 101  | 120  | 66   | 109  | 116  | 125  | 83   | 144  | 124  | 145  | 133  | 120  | 93   |

## CROWNS FOR KIDS HAS RAISED TO DATE...

2006 **\$9,351**

2007 **\$15,126**

2008 **\$9,054**

2009 **\$30,645**

2010 **\$26,031**

2011 **\$24,449**

2012 **\$38,009**

2013 **\$27,782**

2014 **\$22,628**

2015 **\$20,292**

2016 **\$17,415**

2017 **\$28,857**

2018 **\$19,365**

2019 **\$25,220**

2020 **\$22,060**

2021 **\$28,926**

2022 **\$33,033**

2023 **\$25,529**

2024 **\$20,454**

GRAND TOTAL  
**\$444,226**

# Ways You Can Support the Foundation

The Sacramento District Dental Foundation is funded solely through contributions, bequests, fundraising events, donation of services, planned giving and grants. Funds raised are used to aid and promote the oral and general health of the public through education, service and treatment in the fields of preventative and curative dentistry. How fortunate we are!

## Foundation Members

Raised \$38,000 in 2024

Being a member of the Foundation is the easiest way to help support the Foundation. It's only \$75 a year.

## Donors/Contributors

Raised \$108,000 in 2024

There are so many ways to donate to the Foundation. You can make a donation in honor or memory of a loved one, attend or participate in one of the events listed on this page, you can send a check, call in with a credit card or visit the website to make a donation to the Foundation! Visit [www.sdds.org/foundation/donate-become-a-member/](http://www.sdds.org/foundation/donate-become-a-member/) learn more and donate.



## Swing for Smiles Golf Tournament

Raised \$32,300 in 2024

There are multiple ways to get yourself involved in this awesome annual event! You can sign up yourself as a single golfer and get placed with a team, or grab three of your friends and sign up as a foursome! There are also lots of great sponsorship opportunities: sponsor anything from a tee or green all the way up to lunch for the day!

The Swing for Smiles Golf Tournament is a great day of golf, fun with friends and vendors all in support of our wonderful Foundation!

## Other Ways to Give

- ✓ Adopt
- ✓ Volunteer

## Crowns for Kids

Raised \$20,454 in 2024

Get one of our Crowns for Kids (CFK) jars to collect scrap metal from patients' dental treatment! The jars are collected and sent to the metal refinery (Star Dental Refining), and the refinery sends a check to the Foundation each month. When you have a few crowns collected (jar does not need to be full!), call SDDS at 916-446-1227 for a pick up! Over the years, there's been over 1,600 pick ups, with a total of \$423,772 raised.

## Dentists Do Broadway and Music Circus

Raised \$1,000 net in 2024

If you enjoy theater and Broadway shows, consider buying tickets through us! When you buy your Broadway/Music Circus tickets through SDDS the proceeds benefit our Foundation! Luckily, we started back to the theater in 2023!

## Gala/Silent Auction/Holiday Party

Raised \$74,000 in 2024

Gift items to be used in our Holiday Party Silent Auction or as raffle prizes are always appreciated. (Bump dinner listed below)

## Shred Day

Raised \$1,000 in 2024

The shred event is free to SDDS Foundation members who have less than 10 boxes to shred. If they have 10 or more boxes, we ask that a \$100 donation be made to the Foundation. For SDDS members who are not members of the Foundation, it is \$100 for 1-9 boxes and an additional \$100 for 10 or more boxes. A great member benefit!



## Big Day of Giving/Giving Tuesday/Spirit of Giving

Raised \$4,500 in 2024

These are specific days that happen annually to help non-profits reach out to the community for donations.

In lieu of sending holiday treats or thank you gifts to colleagues, make a donation in their honor to the SDDS Foundation. The SDDS staff will send a note on your behalf notifying them of your contribution.



Scan here to  
Donate to the  
Foundation



## We're Where We are Because of These Amazing Contributors

Thanks to these generous contributors for providing the large contributions that gave our Foundation the “beginning bump” it needed. This has allowed the Foundation to provide goods and services to our members and community to help increase oral health.

### **\$156,000** (since 2022) **Dr. Wai Chan & Dr. Ruby Yu** **Dental Student Scholarship**

The Foundation was honored in 2022 that Dr. Chan and Dr. Yu pledged to the perpetual fund a wonderful opportunity for CNU Dental Students! They have committed to the perpetual fund a \$600,000 donation, paid yearly through 2030. In 2031, a scholarship will be awarded to one CNU dental student each year in the amount of \$5,000 per year for four years, totaling \$20,000 for each student awarded. This scholarship recognizes the Society's and Foundation's commitment and partnership to California Northstate University's School of Dental Medicine and their wonderful students. Thank you, Dr. Chan and Dr. Yu! ■



### **\$217,000** (2013) **Robert & Lolita Oates** **Charitable Trust**

Given to the Foundation by the parents of Past President Dr. James Oates and his brother, Edward Oates; given to the Perpetual Fund and the largest gift the Foundation has ever received. This donation will continue helping to provide opportunities for our Foundation's goals and purposes now and in the future. ■



### **\$86,000** (since 2014) **The Yee Family Dental** **Student Scholarship**

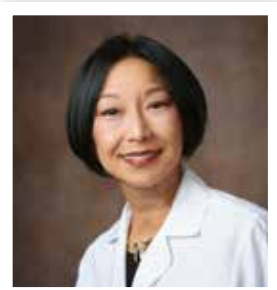
This dental scholarship began in 2014 to assist our new dental students matriculating from CSUS. The Yee Family has a heart for higher education, and recognize the costs of dental school for future dentists. In honor of the partnership SDDS has with the CSUS Pre Dental Club, the Yee Family Scholarship wants to pay it forward, since more than 15 members of the Yee Family are dentists! The Yee family continues to donate funds to this scholarship. ■



### **\$75,000** (2018) **The Dr. Beverly Kodama/Delta** **Dental Foundation Scholarship** **for Allied Education**

Dr. Kodama (who served on the Delta Board of Directors) partnered with Delta Dental Foundation to establish a scholarship to help defray the educational costs for dental assistants and other allied team members. Dr. Kodama always felt that allied team members were the heart of a dentist's practice and wanted to give back to that cause so that other dentists will benefit from wonderfully trained staff. Geared specifically toward the dental assistants and also the EF curriculum, the SDDS Foundation is in partnership with FADE (the Foundation for Allied Dental Education) to help defray costs for those applicants who qualify.

While Dr. Kodama is no longer with us, her legacy and passion for allied team members carries her memory on. ■



 **DELTA DENTAL**



# Thank you!

to our Smiles For Kids and Smiles for Big Kids  
2024 Grantors and Sponsors!



Smiles for Kids.



Smiles for BIG Kids.



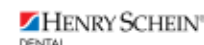
## Thank you to the following for their gracious donations in 2024:

### Cash Donations

Dr. Kim Lucas Benton  
Dr. Jennifer & Scott Goldman  
William J. Codiga Family Fund  
Gordon & MaryAnn Harris  
Family Fund

Karen Harris  
Mrs. Cookie Lawrence

### Supply Donations



## GRANTS, CONTRIBUTIONS AND SCHOLARSHIPS THROUGH THE YEARS—SINCE 2001

| Year Received  | Program            | Amount Awarded |
|--|--------------------|----------------|
| <b>Access Dental Plan</b>                                |                    |                |
| 2023   | SFK                | \$10,000       |
| <b>ADA Foundation</b>                                    |                    |                |
| 2014   | SFK                | \$10,000       |
| 2003   | SFK                | \$15,000       |
| <b>ADA Foundation - Harris Grant</b>                     |                    |                |
| 2010   | 1T1B               | \$5,000        |
| <b>California Endowment</b>                              |                    |                |
| 2010   | SFK                | \$25,000       |
| <b>California Wellness Foundation</b>                    |                    |                |
| 2015   | SFBK               | \$150,000      |
| <b>CDA Foundation</b>                                    |                    |                |
| 2011   | SFBK               | \$10,000       |
| 2010   | SFK                | \$10,000       |
| 2008   | SFBK               | \$10,000       |
| 2007   | SFK                | \$9,250        |
| <b>Center for Oral Health</b>                            |                    |                |
| 2023   | SFK/SFBK           | \$7,500        |
| <b>CPS Community Action Network</b>                      |                    |                |
| 2004   | SFK                | \$2,500        |
| <b>Del Webb Foundation</b>                               |                    |                |
| 2016   | SFK                | \$20,000       |
| 2014   | SFBK               | \$25,000       |
| <b>Delta Dental</b>                                      |                    |                |
| 2018   | Scholarship        | \$75,000       |
| 2011   | SFBK               | \$20,000       |
| 2004   | SFK                | \$10,000       |
| <b>DentaQuest</b>  |                    |                |
| 2023   | SFK                | \$5,000        |
| <b>Dignity Community (CHW) Grants</b>                    |                    |                |
| 2023   | SFK (Yolo)         | \$53,485       |
| 2012   | SFK/BK             | \$50,000       |
| 2011   | SFK                | \$40,000       |
| 2010   | SFK                | \$25,000       |
| 2009   | SFK                | \$25,000       |
| 2008   | SFK                | \$20,000       |
| <b>Foundation of Allied Dental Education EF Students</b> |                    |                |
| 2023   | Kodama Scholarship | \$1,908        |
| <b>First 5 Children's Coalition/ Cover the Kids</b>      |                    |                |
| 2006   | SFK                | \$22,500       |
| <b>Health Net</b>  |                    |                |
| 2021   | SFK                | \$10,000       |
| <b>Henry Schein Foundation (Supplies)</b>                |                    |                |
| 2023   | SFK/SFBK           | \$25,000       |
| <b>Henry Schein Supplies Grant/CDA Foundation</b>        |                    |                |
| 2014   | SFK/SFBK           | \$50,000       |
| 2013   | SFK/SFBK           | \$50,000       |
| 2012   | SFK/SFBK           | \$50,000       |
| 2010   | SFK/SFBK           | \$50,000       |
| 2008   | SFK                | \$50,000       |
| <b>LIBERTY Dental Plan</b>                               |                    |                |
| 2023   | Puppet Show        | \$30,000       |
| 2021   | SFK                | \$10,000       |

| Year Received   | Program        | Amount Awarded |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Kaiser Community Benefit</b>   |                |                |
| 2012  | SFK            | \$20,000       |
| <b>Oates Charitable Trust</b>   |                |                |
| 2013  | Perpetual Fund | \$217,000      |
| <b>Oral Health Fndn of the Pierre Fauchard Academy</b>                  |                |                |
| 2024  | SFBK           | \$5,000        |
| 2020  | SFK            | \$5,000        |
| 2020  | SFBK           | \$7,500        |
| 2018  | SFK            | \$5,000        |
| <b>Patterson Foundation</b>   |                |                |
| 2016  | SFK            | \$10,000       |
| 2014  | SFK            | \$13,400       |
| <b>Ronald McDonald House Charities</b>                                  |                |                |
| 2014  | SFK            | \$2,500        |
| 2009  | SFK            | \$10,000       |
| 2004  | SFK            | \$6,667        |
| <b>Rotary Club of Sacramento/ Bids for Kids (BFK)</b>                   |                |                |
| 2005  | SFK            | \$65,725       |
| <b>Rumsey Community Fund</b>  |                |                |
| 2004  | SFK            | \$2,500        |
| <b>Sacramento District Dental Society</b>                               |                |                |
| 2024  | Contribution   | \$25,000       |
| 2023  | Contribution   | \$25,000       |
| 2021  | Contribution   | \$40,000       |
| 2016  | Contribution   | \$15,000       |
| 2015  | Contribution   | \$10,000       |
| 2014  | Contribution   | \$10,000       |
| <b>Sacramento Region Community Foundation/ Give Something Back Fund</b> |                |                |
| 2006  | SFK            | \$1,054        |
| 2005  | SFK            | \$1,216        |
| <b>Sacramento Region Community Foundation/ Knapp Fund</b>               |                |                |
| 2021  | SFK            | \$7,000        |
| 2019  | SFK            | \$5,000        |
| 2018  | SFK            | \$5,000        |
| 2017  | SFK            | \$5,000        |
| 2016  | SFK            | \$5,000        |
| 2015  | SFK            | \$5,000        |
| 2014  | SFK            | \$1,000        |
| 2013  | SFK            | \$5,000        |
| 2012  | SFK            | \$1,000        |
| 2011  | SFK            | \$1,000        |
| 2010  | SFK            | \$1,000        |
| 2009  | SFK            | \$1,000        |
| 2008  | SFK            | \$1,000        |
| 2007  | SFK            | \$1,000        |
| 2005  | SFK            | \$1,000        |
| 2004  | SFK            | \$1,000        |
| <b>Sacramento Region Community Foundation/ Luchetti Fund</b>            |                |                |
| 2004  | SFK            | \$3,333        |

| Year Received   | Program         | Amount Awarded |
|---|-----------------|----------------|
| <b>Sierra Health Foundation</b>                                 |                 |                |
| 2023  | SFK             | \$122,000      |
| 2005  | SFK             | \$32,863       |
| 2004  | SFK             | \$10,000       |
| 2003  | SFK             | \$10,000       |
| <b>Sutter Health Sac Sierra Region (sponsorship, not grant)</b> |                 |                |
| 2023  | Puppet Show     | \$3,000        |
| 2021  | Puppet Show     | \$1,500        |
| 2020  | Puppet Show     | \$2,500        |
| 2019  | SFK/Puppet Show | \$2,500        |
| 2018  | SFK/Puppet Show | \$2,500        |
| 2017  | SFK/Puppet Show | \$2,500        |
| 2016  | SFK             | \$2,500        |
| 2015  | SFK/1T1B        | \$2,500        |
| 2014  | Gala            | \$2,500        |
| 2014  | SFK             | \$2,500        |
| 2012  | SFK/1T1B        | \$40,000       |
| <b>Teichert Foundation</b>                                      |                 |                |
| 2009  | SFBK            | \$5,000        |
| <b>Umpqua Healthcare Banking/Columbia Bank</b>                  |                 |                |
| 2024  | SFK             | \$10,000       |
| 2023  | SFK             | \$10,000       |
| <b>United Concordia</b>   |                 |                |
| 2024  | SFK             | \$3,500        |
| 2023  | SFK             | \$3,500        |
| 2020  | SFK             | \$3,500        |
| 2019  | SFK             | \$3,500        |
| 2018  | SFK             | \$3,000        |
| 2017  | SFK             | \$2,500        |
| 2016  | SFK             | \$2,500        |
| 2015  | SFK             | \$2,500        |
| 2014  | SFK             | \$3,500        |
| 2013  | SFK             | \$3,500        |
| 2012  | SFK             | \$2,500        |
| 2011  | SFK             | \$2,500        |
| 2010  | SFK             | \$2,000        |
| <b>Wells Fargo</b>  |                 |                |
| 2013  | SFK/SFBK        | \$5,000        |
| <b>Yee Family Fund</b>  |                 |                |
| 2014-2024   | Scholarship     | \$86,000       |
| <b>Yu &amp; Chan Scholarship Fund</b>                           |                 |                |
| 2022-2024   | Scholarship     | \$156,000      |

|                                    |             |
|------------------------------------|-------------|
| Scholarship Grants                 | \$317,000   |
| Pledges/Contributions              | \$1,086,678 |
| Programs: Grants and Contributions | \$1,898,597 |

## Total \$3,302,275

# Foundation of the Sacramento District Dental Society

## WHAT THEY'RE DOING NOW

UPDATES FROM A FEW  
OF OUR SCHOLARSHIP  
RECIPIENTS

### Dalia Lopez-Pelayo

California Northstate University

Hello, my name is Dalia and I am a first year student at California Northstate University, College of Dental Medicine. I am in the third trimester of the year and I have had some great experiences so far. I have enjoyed my courses these past two trimesters and getting to know each of the faculty teaching the courses. I am the D1 representative of CDA for my school and so far I have had the opportunity to go meet the representatives of the different schools, the House of Delegates in Los Angeles, and Student Advocacy Day in Sacramento. I am excited that very soon I will get to experience CDA Presents with the other dental students! I have also had the opportunity to get involved in research with some close friends in my cohort and we participated in CNU's Research Symposium in March. I did not expect to get so involved in my first year but the faculty and the cohorts ahead of me are so kind and helpful. As our school continues to grow and develop, I see that it really is one big family!



## Yee Family and Sacramento District Dental Foundation DENTAL SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS THROUGH THE YEARS

### YEE FAMILY

|      |   |
|------|---|
| 2024 | <b>Billal Anwary</b><br>University of Las Vegas                 |
| 2024 | <b>Osbaldo Albarran Montoya</b><br>UC San Francisco             |
| 2023 | <b>Nicholas Her</b><br>UCLA School of Dentistry                 |
| 2023 | <b>Tala Sawaged</b><br>Temple University<br>School of Dentistry |
| 2022 | <b>Jordan Swindle</b><br>University of Southern California      |
| 2022 | <b>Alejandro Albarran Montoyo</b><br>University of the Pacific  |
| 2021 | <b>Ashley Velasquez</b><br>Tufts University                     |
| 2021 | <b>Sam Morrar</b><br>University of Southern California          |

|      |  |
|------|--|
| 2020 | <b>Marc Toma</b><br>Western University College<br>of Dental Medicine                           |
| 2019 | <b>Kylee Homecillo</b><br>Western University College<br>of Dental Medicine                     |
| 2018 | <b>Kevin O'Brien (Kenji)</b><br>University of the Pacific                                      |
| 2018 | <b>Anthony Luong</b><br>Western University<br>Health Sciences                                  |
| 2018 | <b>Andy Dinh</b><br>UCLA School of Dentistry   |
| 2017 | <b>Alicia Lucich</b><br>University of Las Vegas School<br>of Dental Medicine                   |
| 2016 | <b>Paul Dubinetsky</b><br>Roseman University of Health<br>Sciences, College of Dental Medicine |

|      |   |
|------|---|
| 2015 | <b>Soniya Patidar</b><br>Western University<br>Health Sciences                              |
| 2015 | <b>Yana Gerhardt (Shcherbanyuk)</b><br>Arizona School of Dentistry<br>& Oral Health (ASDOH) |
| 2014 | <b>Svetlana Guevara-Lara</b><br>UCSF Dental School<br>Currently practicing in Sacramento    |

### SACRAMENTO DISTRICT DENTAL FOUNDATION

|      |  |
|------|--|
| 2024 | <b>Sarah Jundi</b><br>Oregon Health Science School<br>of Dentistry |
| 2024 | <b>Dalia Lopez-Pelayo</b><br>California Northstate University      |



**Sarah Jundi**

Oregon Health Science School of Dentistry

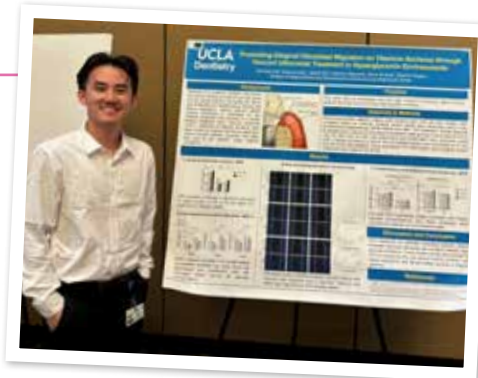
I started dental school in August of last year. Time truly flies when you are working hard and learning new things. My transition into dental school has involved adjusting to the heavy didactic work load, while also learning new hand skills. In the simulation clinic we have done many preps and become proficient at both amalgam and composite restorations. More recently I started using my

loops, which was a learning curve in itself. We have also been participating more in clinic through assisting third and fourth year students. My transition has also involved becoming acclimated with a new city. I completed my entire education prior to dental school in Sacramento. Moving to a new area has been exciting in many ways. A few weeks ago in sim clinic, when we were learning how to a class 2 amalgam preparation, many of us witnessed our first snow fall! My first year of dental school is nearly over and I feel like I have a wealth of knowledge and skills that I will take forward in the rest of my education and in my career.

**Nicholas Her**

UCLA School of Dentistry

My name is Nicholas Her, and I am currently a second-year dental student at the UCLA School of Dentistry (class of 2027). I earned my undergraduate degree from Sacramento State University in 2022 as a proud recipient of the Herb and Inez Yee Family Scholarship. Today, I'd love to share a glimpse into the ever-evolving journey of a modern dental student.



Dental school has been nothing short of a rollercoaster—filled with both challenges and moments of excitement. While I once thought my first year was demanding, the second year has proven to be an even greater test of endurance, skill and adaptability. At UCLA, the bar is continuously raised, pushing us to master what feels like a million oral pathologies, manage patients undergoing periodontal maintenance in the clinic, and refine our pre-clinical techniques—such as the countless hours spent perfecting root canals in the simulation lab. However, that's not to say I haven't enjoyed my time learning about dentistry. Dentistry is fascinating, and almost every day I learn something new that amazes me at UCLA inside and outside of the classroom. One of the most valuable lessons I've learned is to approach every experience with the mindset of a sponge—soaking up every piece of knowledge and wisdom I can during my time here. Being at an institution like UCLA is a privilege, and the opportunity to learn from some of the best minds in dentistry is not one I take for granted. Many of my professors offer wisdom and expertise that extend beyond the curriculum. They share pearls of wisdom that are only uncovered by asking questions and seeking to learn beyond the curriculum.

The transition into the clinic and the heightened expectations of excellence from UCLA have shaped me not only as a student but also as a person. With each new challenge, I've gained perspective and an even greater appreciation for the art and science of dentistry (as well as a higher mental pain tolerance). (Nephew of Dr. Poge Her, SDDS member)



**Osbaldo Albarran**

UCSF School of Dentistry

I'm currently wrapping up my third quarter of dental school—just a few more weeks until I'm officially a second-year! It's been a whirlwind of learning, laughter, and lots of drilling. Life in the city has been incredible; there's always something new to explore, and the food scene never disappoints. I've been spending a lot of time in the simulation lab honing my hand skills, and despite the long hours, I genuinely enjoy the process. The people I've met here—classmates, faculty and patients—make the experience all the more rewarding.

## Are you a member of our Foundation?

Your Foundation Membership helps to fund our Smiles for Kids, Smiles for Big Kids programs and other forms of community outreach!

Not yet a member of the Foundation?  
Email us at [sdds@sdds.org](mailto:sdds@sdds.org) to become a member and make a difference.

Thanks for your support!





# Foundation of the Sacramento District Dental Society

## Celebration of Foundation Donors

January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024

### Program Grants and Contributions

#### Smiles for Big Kids Grants

**\$5,000**

Dr. Kim Lucas Benton  
Oral Health International  
Foundation (Pierre  
Fauchard Academy)

#### Smiles for Kids Contributions

**\$13,650**

Dr. Kim Lucas Benton  
Dr. Michael Boyce  
Dr. Jennifer & Scott Goldman  
Karen Harris  
The Harris Family  
*in memory of...*  
*Dr. & Mrs. Gordon Harris*  
Cookie Lawrence  
*in memory of...*  
*Dr. Skip Lawrence*  
Dr. Minh Nguyen  
United Concordia  
William J. Codiga Family  
Foundation  
*in memory of Dr. Gordon  
and Mary Ann Harris*

#### Crowns for Kids (for Smiles for Kids)

**\$20,454**

Dr. Gary Ackerman  
Dr. Debra Baker Parachou  
Dr. Elizabeth Bingham  
Dr. Damon Boyd  
Capitol Periodontal Group  
Dr. Jerry Castro  
Drs. Richard & Kirsten Chang  
Chapa de Indian Health -  
Auburn  
Chapa de Indian Health -  
Grass Valley  
Dr. Shaina DiMariano  
Dr. Lisa Dobak  
Dr. Christina Duong  
Dr. Omar Dyab  
Dr. Sandra Fouladi  
Dr. Kasi Franck  
Dr. Edi Guidi  
Dr. Dan Gustavson  
Dr. Dick Huang  
Dr. Richard Kennedy  
Dr. Matthew Korn  
Dr. Laurie La Dow  
Dr. Merlin Lai  
Dr. Vincent Locascio  
Dr. Steve Longoria  
Dr. Lauren Marr  
Drs. Edward & Rhonda  
Montalbo  
Dr. Kenneth Moore  
Dr. Richard Morehouse  
Dr. Peter Ngai

Dr. Michael O'Brien  
Dr. Siamak Okhovat  
Dr. Viren Patel  
Dr. Stacey Peters-Nelson  
Dr. Hanh Pham  
Dr. Van Pham  
Dr. Moji Radi  
Dr. Mai-Ly Ramirez  
Dr. Sean Rockwell  
Dr. David Roholt  
Dr. Christy Rollofson-Porrino  
Sacramento Oral Surgery  
Dr. Stephanie Sandretti  
Dr. Purvi Shah  
Dr. Richard Shipp  
Dr. Stefanie Shore  
Dr. Jonathan Szymanowski  
Dr. Loc Tran  
Dr. Hoang Truong  
Dr. Ash Vasanthan  
Dr. Yuly Vilderman  
Dr. Ian Wong  
Dr. Farah Yasmeen

### Member Contributions and Pledges

**\$77,230**

#### Perpetual Fund Endowment, Annual Pledge Fund, General Fund and Scholarships

Dr. Guy Acheson  
Dr. Greg Adams  
Dr. Nima Aftatouni  
Dr. Dean Ahmad  
Dr. Craig Alpha  
Dr. Nancy Archibald  
Dr. Paul Binon  
Dr. Andrea Cervantes  
Dr. Wai Chan & Dr. Ruby Wu  
Dr. Brandon Christensen  
Dr. Stephen Christensen  
Dr. Darrell Chun  
Dr. Matthew Comfort  
Dr. James Coyle  
Dr. Margaret Delmore  
Dr. Lisa Dobak  
Dr. Kent Farnsworth  
Dr. David Feder  
Dr. Volkmar Felahy  
Dr. Debra Finney  
Dr. Kelly Giannetti  
Dr. Eric Grove  
Dr. Dan Harlan  
Dr. Jagdev Heir  
Dr. Gregory Heise  
Dr. Carl Hillendahl  
Dr. Kendall Homer  
Dr. Dagon Jones  
Dr. Bryan Judd  
Dr. Kevin Keating  
Dr. Katherine Kim  
Dr. Lisa Laptalo

Dr. Julie O'Brien  
Dr. Michael O'Brien  
Dr. Viren Patel  
Dr. Michael Payne  
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Dr. Norman Spalding  
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Dr. Jonathan Szymanowski  
Dr. Art Tanimoto  
Dr. Gaetan Tchamba  
Dr. Chirag Vaid  
Dr. Gabriella Vance  
Dr. Asvin Vasanthan  
Dr. Tom Wagner  
Dr. Bingson Wong  
Dr. Eric Wong  
Dr. Peter Worth  
Dr. Wesley Yee

### Other Contributions

**\$30,175**

Asian Dentist Dinner  
John Drury  
Donna Drury-Klein  
Mrs. Cookie Lawrence  
*in honor of Dr. Todd Andrews*  
Bruce & Cathy Levering  
Sacramento District  
Dental Society  
Della Yee  
Dr. Ruby Yu

### Memorials

**\$500**

Dr. Richard Chang  
*in memory of Dr. Herbert Yee*  
Dr. Richard Chang  
*in memory of...*  
*Dr. Nicky Hakimi*  
Dr. Richard Chang  
*in memory of...*  
*Dr. Bev Kodama*  
Sacramento District  
Dental Society  
*in memory of...*  
*Dr. Eddie Alazeraki*  
*Dr. Robert Evans*  
*Dr. Daniel Johnson*  
*Dr. Clifton Horrell*  
*Dr. April Westfall*  
Mrs. Cookie Lawrence  
*in memory of...*  
*Dr. Skip Lawrence*  
Valerie Phillips, RDH  
*in memory of my son,*  
*Jeff Ashby*

### Scholarship Funds

**\$54,000**

Dr. Wai Chan & Dr. Ruby Yu  
Dr. Wesley Yee

### Fundraisers

#### Spirit of Giving/Big Day of Giving/Giving Tuesday Campaigns

**\$4,500**

Dennis & Jenny Barnes  
Dr. Paul Binon  
Dr. Michael Boyce  
Danielle Cannarozzi  
Dr. Chuen Chie Chiang  
Dr. Kent Daft  
Christine Ferrara  
Dr. Debra Finney  
Dr. Mitchell Goodis  
Dr. Dan Harlan  
Dr. Carl Hillendahl  
George Hullin  
Dr. Richard Kennedy  
Dr. James Musser  
Curtis Nelson  
Marcella Oster  
Cher Paydar  
Dr. Scott Pyo  
Dr. Don Rollofson  
Dr. Ash Vasanthan  
Paula Villescay  
Dr. Ramsen Warda  
Della Yee

#### Shred Day

**\$1,000**

Dr. Andrea Cervantes  
Dr. Terry Chin  
Dr. Ethan Fox  
Dr. Carolyn Ishii  
Dr. Doug Jaul  
Dr. Richard Kennedy  
Dr. Laurie Ladow  
Dr. Janine Ma-Golding  
Dr. Denise Mar  
Dr. Kevin O'Brien  
Dr. Purvak Parikh  
Dr. Gerald Roberts  
Dr. Gurkamal Sandhu  
Dr. Ash Vasanthan  
Dr. Wesley Yee

#### Broadway Series Supporters

**\$1,000 net**

Dr. Craig Alpha  
Dr. Jessica Alt  
Dr. Kim Lucas Benton  
Dr. Robin Berrin  
Dr. Thais Booms  
Dr. Douglas Cappiello  
Dr. Sonney Chong  
The Doane Family  
Dr. Maria Espiritu

Dr. Edi Guidi  
Kim Gusman  
Dr. Adam Haney  
Dr. Philip Hankins  
Tom & Nancy Harvey  
Dr. Ryan Higgins  
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Dr. Thomas Iverson  
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Dr. Walter Lucio  
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Dr. James Musser  
Dr. Aneel Nath  
Kerri Pomaroli  
Dr. Gerald Roberts  
Dr. Stephanie Shore  
Barbara Tangaan  
Dr. Bruce Thomas  
Dr. J. Alex Tomaich  
Dr. Kenneth True  
Christine Walker  
Dr. Dina Wasileski  
Dr. David Westerhaus  
Dr. Clifford Wong

### Golf Tournament **\$32,300 net**

#### Players

Dr. Gary Ackerman  
Dr. Craig Alpha  
Ricardo Andrade  
Ron Andres  
Dr. Todd Andrews  
Dr. Thaddous Archie  
Dennis Arey  
Brian Ausmus  
Tyler Ausmus  
Eric Avery  
James Bailey  
Michele Bailey  
Baljit Bal  
Dr. Daisuke Bannai  
Dennis Barnes  
Brian Bateman  
Clint Bedolito  
Dr. Gary Borge  
Parker Boulter  
Matt Brune  
Stephen Cairns  
Dr. Chris Cantrell  
Joseph Cates  
Elizabeth Clark  
Chris Clarke  
Sean Cumiskey  
Baron Davis  
Gary Deblaquiere  
Dr. Justin Diederichs  
John Drury  
Keith Dunnagan  
Freddie Farler  
Sal Fernandez  
Dave Ferrell  
Anthony Gaan  
Blake Garrigan  
Dr. Jeff Gawley  
Stephen Giannetti



Norman Giere  
Ben Gonzalez  
Patrick Gormley  
Rick Gormley  
Debra Griffin  
Daniel Hahn  
Loretta Hall  
Ray Harbin  
Heather Harvin  
Dr. Jagdev Heir  
Dr. Ryan Higgins  
Dr. Brock Hinton  
Kevin Hitomi  
Steve Holm  
Dave Hood  
Ben Huerta  
Dr. Chad Jensen  
Dr. David Keating  
Bob Kennedy  
Phil Kong  
TJ Kuntz  
Tim Kunz  
Dr. Ronald Lee  
Brian Lerro  
Bruce Levering  
Ray Lilley  
David Linquist  
Jared Lomeli  
Hunter Lowery  
Jas Malli  
Scott Martin  
Brian Mason  
Terrance McKinney  
Kirk Moffitt  
Udi Moreno  
Matt Moyneur  
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Keith Mullany  
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Austin Schiber  
Steve Schiber  
Brandon Sessions  
Noël Smith  
Jason Sommer  
Daniel Spaite  
Joe Stout  
Kailan Straw  
Dr. Jeffrey Sue  
Dr. Damon Szymanowski  
Anna Tadevosyan  
Dr. Michael Tai  
Dick Tawney  
Dr. Gaetan Tchamba  
Kevin Terry  
Erik Truxal

Dr. Kelvin Tse  
Doug Van Order  
Steve Vargas  
Dr. Ash Vasanthan  
Jeff Vistica  
Dr. Tamir Wardany  
Michael Wilgus  
Dr. Ryan Wilgus  
CJ Williams  
Jim Willson  
Brian Wolosek  
Dr. Cliff Wong  
Brad Wright  
Blake Yaeger  
Dr. Thomas Yamamoto  
Dr. Wesley Yee  
Bruce Yoshida

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Desco Dental Equipment  
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Heise, Alpha & Delgadillo OMS  
Henry Schein Dental  
Dr. Mark Holt  
Impact Wealth Management  
Kids Care Dental  
Levering Company  
Liberty Dental Plan  
Drs. Diane & Don Liberty  
Dr. Tim Mickiewicz  
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New Element Orthodontics  
Olson Construction  
Orangetheory Fitness  
Dr. Viren Patel  
Patterson Dental Supply  
Dr. Michael Payne  
Rood & Dinis LLP  
Sacramento Oral Surgery  
Sierra Office Systems  
Smile Dental Services  
Supply Doc, Inc.  
Szymanowski Orthodontics  
Umpqua Healthcare Banking  
US Bank  
Dr. Ash Vasanthan  
Della Yee  
Dr. Wesley Yee

#### Raffle Donors

Ancil Hoffman Golf Course  
Hyatt Regency Sacramento  
Orangetheory Fitness - Arden  
Philip Waelbrock, CRPC, CEPA  
- Edward Jones  
Sacramento River Cats  
Dr. Thomas Yamamoto  
Ultradent  
US Bank  
Zocalo Restaurant Group

#### Holiday Party

#### Silent Auction

**\$600**

Dr. Carl Hillendahl  
Drs. Don & Diane Liberty  
Dr. Sam Seiden  
Dr. Ed & Heidi Sims

#### SDDF Gala \$74,000 net

#### Sponsors

Brightstar Insurance Services  
California Northstate University  
DentaQuest  
Kids Care Dental  
& Orthodontics  
Liberty Dental Plan  
Dr. Don & Janet Rollofson  
USA-International College of  
Dentists, District 13  
WaFD Bank  
Dr. Wesley Yee

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Dr. Ken Fat  
Heise, Alpha & Delgadillo, OMS  
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Dr. Kevin Keating  
Dr. Cassie Krupansky  
Cathy & Bruce Levering  
SD Dental Solutions  
Straumann USA LLC  
Dr. Jeffrey Sue  
Dr. Ash Vasanthan  
Dr. Peter Yanni  
Dr. Ivana Yi

#### Attendees

Access Dental Plan  
Dr. Gary Ackerman  
Dr. Wallace Bellamy  
Dr. Michelle Borg  
Denise Canacari  
Capitol Periodontal Group  
Dr. Amanda Chen  
Dr. Kent Daft  
Dr. Ayman Ghobashy  
Health Net Dental Plan  
Kevin Hitomi  
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Dr. Don & Diane Liberty  
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Dr. Gregory Owyang  
Dr. Viren Patel  
Dr. Mark Porco  
Dr. Sam Seiden  
Rachel Shafer - Center for  
Oral Health  
Dr. Gaetan Tchamba  
Drs. Joel & Kristy Whiteman  
Dr. Thomas Yamamoto

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Dr. Nima Aflatooni  
Dr. Wallace Bellamy  
Dr. Charles Carpenter  
John & Tierney Drury  
Dr. Reza & Sandra Fouladi  
Dr. Kasi Franck & Hans Walde  
Jeannie & Randy Graham  
Dr. Kevin Keating  
Cathy Levering  
Drs. Diane & Donald Liberty  
Tim McDonald  
Dr. Cliff Nakatani  
Dr. Aneel Nath  
Dr. Maryam Saleh  
Caleb Sandford  
Dr. Gina Savani  
Michael Tavallaei

Dr. Monica Tavallaei  
Dr. Gaetan Tchamba  
Edward Trafton  
Dr. Jeannine El Maasri  
& Dr. Salim Wehbe  
Dr. Kristy Whiteman

#### Stand up for the Foundation Donors

Dr. Craig & Christina Alpha  
Ron & Michelle Andres  
Dennis & Jenny Barnes  
John & Tierney Drury  
Dr. Diana Fat  
Dr. J.C. Fat  
Dr. Kelly Giannetti  
Dr. Lauren & James Hanschu  
Tom & Nancy Harvey  
Dr. Brock Hinton  
Kevin Hitomi  
Dr. Bryan Judd  
Dr. Kevin Keating  
Cathy & Bruce Levering  
Dr. Diane Liberty  
Dr. Donald Liberty  
Amy Nelson  
Dr. Lisa Nguyen  
Dr. Greg Owyang  
Dr. Josh Perisho  
Melissa Regino  
Dr. Christy Rollofson-Porrino  
Caleb Sandford  
Dr. Sam Seiden  
Dr. Stefanie Shore  
Dr. Darce Slate  
Dr. David Steinberg  
Dr. Poornima Talluri  
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Dr. Monica Tavallaei  
Dr. Gary Thodas  
Dr. Ash Vasanthan  
Dr. Thomas Yamamoto  
Dr. Craig Yarborough  
Dr. Wesley Yee

#### Gift Donors

Dr. Todd Andrews  
Gerry Boras, Boras Foundation  
Dr. Kevin Chen  
Dr. Kent & Peggy Daft  
Ella Dining Room and  
Bar Restaurant  
California Employers  
Association

Dr. Volki Felahy  
Dr. Carl Hillendahl  
Hyatt Regency of Sacramento  
Dr. Kevin Keating  
Sarah Ko  
Dr. Lisa Laptalo  
Dr. Grace Lee  
Bruce & Cathy Levering  
Dr. Michael O'Brien  
& Lisa Yamauchi  
Dr. Mark Porco  
Larry Rockriver  
Sacramento District  
Dental Society  
Thomas Sellas  
Dr. Dave Seman  
Sharif & Co.  
Chef Kurt Spataro  
Dr. Damon Szymanowski  
Dr. Ryan Wilgus

#### Polar Express \$300

Dr. Antonia Accetorra  
Dr. Nima Aflatooni  
Dr. Daniel Azurduey  
Dr. Colleen Buehler  
Dr. Tracey Cook  
Dr. Luzminda Roman Corpus  
Dr. Frank Godfrey  
Dr. Jose Juarez  
Dr. Ali Mehrabian  
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Dr. Michael Payne  
Dr. Mai Ly Ramirez  
Dr. Ramona Rivera  
Dr. Gina Savani  
Dr. Tim Scott  
Dr. Sam Seiden  
Renee Smith  
Dr. Brandon Webb





# What We Do Makes a Difference



“ Sir Enamel fights the Sugar Bugs ...always a crowd pleaser in our elementary schools.

”  
- SCUSD School Nurse

“ The gift I have been given goes far beyond simply fixing my smile - it is essentially a second chance to enjoy life, a fresh start.

”  
- Melissa Gandy  
(work done by Dr. Robert Daby)



“ Doing Smiles For Kids has created a passion for helping others within our SDDS dental community.

”  
- Dr. Pam DiTomaso



FOUNDATION

the heart

of the

SACRAMENTO DISTRICT  
DENTAL SOCIETY







By **Carl Hillendahl, DDS**  
Editor-in-Chief

## A Closer Look The Nugget Editorial Committee

*The Nugget* Editorial Advisory Committee met in January. We meet twice a year; any other business that occurs between the meeting dates is handled by email or phone calls. I am the Editor-in-Chief of *the Nugget* and the chairperson of the committee. The Editor-in-Chief also sits on the SDDS Board of Directors and the Executive Committee, as a non-voting member. The insight obtained is important in guiding editorial content within future *Nugget* issues.

The committee currently has six members, all of whom are listed on the content page in the beginning of *the Nugget*. We are lucky to have a student representative from CNU College of Dental Medicine to keep

us apprised of issues in the realm of dental education. The rest of the committee are volunteers from the SDDS membership at large who have an interest in writing and providing content for *the Nugget*. The SDDS graphic designer, Jessica Luther, attends the meetings and is instrumental in organizing the committee meetings and designing each issue of *the Nugget* for publication.

The Committee gets together twice yearly to discuss relevant issues with previous *Nugget* publications, whether there are any policy changes, and to brainstorm topics for future issues. A committee member will choose a topic that interests them and become the associate editor for a future *Nugget*

publication. The associate editor is tasked with finding individuals who can draft a short introduction of topic article, obtaining written permission for publishing from the author and writing an editorial for that issue. All the content is collected by a deadline date and forwarded to Jessica at SDDS to allow her to place the articles within the preprint draft of *the Nugget* before it goes to the publisher.

We always need committee members. Each member is responsible for one issue a year and if we had a few more, two guest editors could team up! Please consider being part of our team. ■



### Previous Awards from the International College of Dentists (ICD)

2024 • Special Citation Award  
2023 • Special Citation Award  
2022 • Humanitarian Service Award  
2022 • Special Citation Award  
2022 • Overall Newsletter, honorable mention  
2021 • Platinum Pencil, *honorable mention*, Outstanding use of graphics  
2021 • Special Citation Award

2020 • Platinum Pencil  
2020 • Golden Pen, *honorable mention*  
Series of articles of interest to the profession  
2020 • Special Citation Award  
2019 • Special Citation Award  
2019 • Golden Pen, *honorable mention*  
2018 • Humanitarian Service Award  
2017 • Special Citation Award, *unusual concept*  
2016 • Golden Pen, *honorable mention*

2015 • Special Citation Award, *unusual concept*  
2014 • Outstanding Cover, *honorable mention*  
2014 • Golden Pen, *honorable mention*  
2013 • Outstanding Cover  
2012 • Overall Newsletter  
2010 • Platinum Pencil  
2007 • Overall Newsletter  
2007 • Outstanding Cover  
2007 • Golden Pen, *honorable mention*

## 2025 SDDS Committees Schedule

### Standing Committees

**Membership/Engagement**  
Jan 21 • Mar 24 • Sept 24 • Nov 18

**CPR Committee**  
Jan 8

**Nominating/Leadership Development**  
Jan 27 • Mar TBA - work completed

### Advisory Committees

**CSUS Pre-Dental Advisory**  
Jan 28 • May 27

**Continuing Education Advisory**  
Feb 3 • May 6 • Sept 15

***Nugget* Editorial Advisory**  
Jan 27 • Sept 15

**Strategic Plan Advisory**  
TBA

**Budget and Finance Advisory**

April 16

**Bylaws Advisory**  
TBA

**Legislative Advisory**  
TBA

**Other**

**SacPAC**  
Sept TBD

**CDA House of Delegates**  
Nov 21-22

### Leadership

**Board of Directors**  
Jan 7 • Mar 4 • May 6 • Sept 2 • Nov 4

**Executive Committee**  
Feb 14 • Apr 11 • Aug 1 • Oct 17 • Dec 5

### Foundation

**Foundation Board**  
Jan 20 • Sept 23

# Get the CE Scoop!

**The 44<sup>th</sup> Annual MidWinter Convention & Expo**

Presented by the Sacramento District Dental Society



## 810 Attendees

What an AWESOME MidWinter Convention!  
Our SDDS Committee is SENSATIONAL.

If you have not attended, or attend  
infrequently, I encourage you to attend!

– Elizabeth Harmon, DDS



# 1,480 *Cups of Coffee*

Great experience! I come from the Alameda County Dental Society and was impressed with how well everything was organized. The speakers were excellent, especially the food and camaraderie of everyone. I will attend next year!  
– Dale Jeong, DMD



186 *Exhibitor Reps*  
90 *Booths*



I have been blessed to have been able to attend every in person SDDS MidWinter Convention since I started practicing Dentistry in 1986. The 2025 SDDS MidWinter was as awesome as the previous ones. Thank you to everyone who makes this convention possible. – Ronald L. Rasmussen, DDS

249 *Dentists*  
561 *Staff & Team Members*

47 *Classes*  
32 *Speakers*



Excellent conference this year: Great venue, good selection of courses, excellent food and fun events! – Peter Rubenstein, DMD



## Bidding a Fond Farewell to Our Executive Director, Cathy Levering

As we prepare to say goodbye to our extraordinary Executive Director, Cathy Levering, who has dedicated over two decades of service since joining the Sacramento District Dental Society on April 1, 2001, we reflect with deep gratitude on her remarkable contributions and lasting legacy.

For the past 24 years, she has been a pillar of leadership, guiding our organization with

unwavering dedication, strategic vision and a faithful commitment to growing the association and finding ways to keep members engaged. Her influence has

**For the past 24 years,  
she has been a pillar  
of leadership, guiding  
our organization with  
unwavering dedication...**

extended beyond our walls, shaping policies, fostering community partnerships and strengthening the professional landscape for dental professionals throughout the Sacramento area and beyond.

Her influence extended beyond being the Executive Director for SDDS, her advocacy for our members with CDA and ADA has been tireless. From her work on the CDA Leadership and Nominating Committee (2008) to her service on the CDA

Strategic Planning Committee (2007), Well-Being Committee (2019-present), and Governance Task Force (2020-2022), she has helped shape policies and initiatives that will continue to benefit dental professionals for years to come. As President of the California Association of Dental Society Executives in 2010 and a longstanding member of the American Society of Dental Foundation Executives, she has played a vital role in shaping the future of local dental societies.



**UNDER CATHY'S LEADERSHIP...** She successfully made the SDDS one of the greatest dental societies in the country.

SDDS membership – from  
61% market share in 2001 to  
**82% current market share**

**2,990** SDDS Presidents, Boards, Delegates  
and Committees served

**880** SDDS annual Conventions,  
CE Courses and Events

**221** SDDS magazine issues  
of *The Nugget*

In addition to all Cathy's work for the SDDS, she has also built the SDDS Foundation to what is present day a multi-million-dollar charity organization that serves our Community. First with Smiles for Kids, then Smiles for Big Kids. At its peak, the Smiles for Kids Day had 38 dental offices located throughout the five counties staffed with 350 member volunteers to provide the dental care for those kids in need.



Her contributions have resonated throughout the healthcare dental plans, schools and nonprofit sectors. As an appointee to the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors' First 5 Commission and a longstanding member of the GMC Evaluation Task Force, she has been instrumental in advocating for improved oral health and access, particularly in children's dental health. Her leadership and fight in the First 5 Commission Children's Dental Task Force (2007-2013) and the Medi-Cal Dental Advisory Committee (2013-present) underscores her devotion to improving oral healthcare access for our underserved communities.

As she enters her next chapter, we extend our heartfelt appreciation for her years of service, leadership, mentorship and unwavering dedication. Her impact on our organization and the dental community at-large will be felt for generations to come. As we bid farewell, we also celebrate the remarkable legacy she leaves behind and wish her all the best in her future endeavors. It's time for Cathy to enjoy travel, Broadway shows, attend Grandparents Day and finally break in those golf clubs!

Cathy, **THANK YOU** for your years of service, leadership, and inspiration. You will always be a cherished part of our dental society, our community and will forever be affectionately our Mama Bear! The Board and the staff of the SDDS will miss Cathy immensely and wish her all the best for a happy, healthy retirement. ■

## AWARDS THROUGH THE YEARS

### AWARDS

- International College of Dentists  
Honorary Fellow (2024)
- Helen Andrus Community Service Award (2024)
- DentaQuest Health Equity Hero Health  
Connectors Award (2023)
- Honored to be the inaugural awardee of the  
"Cathy Levering Oral Health Hero Award"  
presented by the Center for Oral Health (2022)
- SDDS President's Award (2021)
- Sacramento County "Hero of the Community"  
Award (2013)
- Pierre Fauchard Special Appreciation Award (2012)







# YOU

## THE DENTIST, THE EMPLOYER

## TACKLING THE “Great Detachment” in 2025

By California Employers Association (SDDS Vendor Member)

In 2025, the workplace continues to evolve, presenting both challenges and opportunities for employers. According to Gallup, this past year, employees were feeling increasingly detached from their jobs yet struggled to make the leap to a new employer due to the cooling job market and inflation. Gallup refers to this shift as the “Great Detachment.”

Gallup identified two critical elements that were the cause of this detachment trend: first, a lack of clear expectations from the employer, and second, employees not feeling a sense of connection to the company’s mission and purpose.

While the job market has cooled and employees may be less likely to “jump ship,” employers should not underestimate the impact of disengaged employees. Studies show time and again, a disengaged employee will ultimately cost the business – disengaged employees are less productive, less loyal, and sometimes, become disgruntled as well, leading to increased claims and complaints.

### Are you seeing signs of disengagement or burnout?

Here are tips on how to tackle the “Great Detachment” head on, and re-engage and motivate your employees in the New Year.

**1. Reset Expectations** - Less than half of employees say they know what is expected of them at work. When employees don’t have a sense of direction or purpose in their role, it can result in confusion, errors, frustration and ultimately turnover for an organization. When leaders and managers set clear expectations, it fosters a sense of purpose, direction, and accountability, allowing them to feel more confident and motivated in their work, ultimately leading to increased

engagement. Leaders and managers can make expectations clear by:

- Communicating expectations early and often: review your new hire, onboarding, and performance review processes. Is there room for increased engagement opportunities (especially for remote employees)? Do you need more frequent performance reviews or informal check-ins?
- Engaging in two-way conversations: make sure your employees have an opportunity each week to interact with their manager and not only receive feedback, but also share feedback, set goals, and raise any concerns.
- Holding regular team/staff meetings: encourage open communication and make sure all departments are working towards the same goals and priorities.

**2. Connect Contributions to Your Mission and Purpose** - Employees want to know that their work matters and that they are contributing to the successes of their company. Connect the mission and purpose of your organization by:

- Define your company’s mission and values: Is your mission statement and your core values clearly defined? Have they been forgotten by your staff? Does your mission statement need a review or refresh?
- Hold employees accountable: Once your mission and values are clearly defined, is management ensuring these are upheld by “walking the walk?” If employees do not embody the company’s values are they held accountable?

- Help employees grow: Part of helping employees feel connected to the organization includes providing them a sense of individual purpose and opportunities for growth and achievement. Assess whether your employees would benefit from training programs or certifications, coaching or mentoring. Are you assigning employees projects according to their individual strengths?
- Express appreciation and recognition: Cultivating a culture of recognition can motivate employees, increasing their productivity and loyalty. Simple acts of acknowledgment can significantly uplift morale. This can include providing opportunities for positive feedback from peers and colleagues, celebrating professional and personal milestones, and providing bonuses or perks to express gratitude.

Re-engaging employees requires intentional effort and a genuine commitment to your team’s well-being and success. By celebrating achievements, setting clear goals, and fostering a supportive environment, organizations can inspire their employees to embrace the challenges and opportunities of this New Year with enthusiasm and dedication.

When employees feel engaged, valued and motivated, everyone thrives! ■

### DO YOU USE THE HR HOTLINE?

The SDDS HR Hotline is an exclusive benefit to SDDS Members. It’s powered by the California Employers Association and they are ready for your call.

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## In-Person Practice Session and Skills Test at the SDDS Office

3 CEU, Core • \$98

- **Saturday, August 9, 2025**  
(3 sessions: 8:00-8:45am, 9:00-9:45am, or 10:00-10:45am)
- **Friday, November 7, 2025**  
(3 sessions: 8:00-8:45am, 9:00-9:45am, or 10:00-10:45am)

The 2025 CPR courses will all be an AHA Blended Learning format. Below are the steps to register and complete the course. Email [sdds@sdds.org](mailto:sdds@sdds.org) if you have any questions.

**Step 1** – Register for the BLS/CPR providers course with SDDS (via the inserted registration form, phone, or on the SDDS website)

- You will receive an email from SDDS with a link to AHA to sign up and pay for the online course (\$37).

**Step 2** – Complete the HeartCode BLS Online course

- Written examination is part of the online course – 84% to pass
- Print a copy of your HeartCode BLS Online Course Completion Certificate (bring this copy to the skills test)

**Step 3** – Attend the IN-PERSON Skills practice session and skills test at the SDDS Office.

**Step 4** – Your American Heart Association BLS (CPR) card will be issued digitally via email. Physical cards are no longer issued.

**All this for the price of \$98;** \$37 of it (paid by you directly) for the online course and the other \$61 (paid to SDDS, \$10 more for late registration) for the skills portion – 3 units of CE included.

Visit [www.sdds.org/continuing-education/cpr-renewal/](http://www.sdds.org/continuing-education/cpr-renewal/) to get you and your team registered.

## Have you heard of the Dedicated Monthly Dentist (DMD) Program?

*By enrolling in the Dedicated Monthly Dentist (DMD) Program, you can ...*

### Prepay for all 7 and Save ...

on the General Membership Meetings for 2025–2026 with one check or credit card charge

### Easily Register for Each Meeting ...

by responding to a simple email sent to you each month.

### Help with SDDS recruitment!

If you are unable to attend a particular meeting, call SDDS and we'll arrange for a new member to attend in your place.

Sign up with the enclosed insert and attend these great General Meetings!

### SEPTEMBER 9, 2025 3 CEU, Core

Does CR Matter?

Paul Binon, DDS, MSD, Bryan Judd, DDS and Peter Worth, DDS

### OCTOBER 14, 2025 3 CEU, Core

Working Together to Improve Oral Health in California  
Shakalpi Pendurkar, DDS, MPH, State Dental Director

### NOVEMBER 11, 2025 3 CEU, Core

Tooth Be Told! Drilling Down on Office-based Anesthesia  
Samuel Seiden, MD, FAAP

### JANUARY 13, 2026 3 CEU, Core

15 on 15: Multi-Topic Pearls – Technology in Dentistry  
(15 Minutes, 15 Slides, 5 Speakers/Topics)  
SDDS Member Speakers TBA

### MARCH 10, 2026 3 CEU, Core

Mental Health & Wellness  
Eric Johnson, DDS  
Sponsored by Heise, Alpha and Delgadillo OMS

### APRIL 14, 2026 3 CEU, Core

Non-Odontogenic Tooth Pain  
Mohd Khalaf, DDS

### MAY 12, 2026 3 CEU, Core

Drugs, Bugs and Dental Products,  
What to Prescribe!  
Peter Jacobsen, DDS  
Sponsored by Capitol Periodontal Group





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## Lobbying among the Cherry Blossoms: A Student's Experience at ADA Dentist and Student Lobby Day



By **Adriana Canby**  
CNU Dental Student

Stepping outside, the humid spring air hits me—home. It's a breath of sweet relief as the comforting feeling of familiarity settles around me. It's 5am at Dulles Airport in Virginia, and I am exhausted, having left Sacramento at 6:30pm. However, I am excited to see my family, if only for a day, before heading to Washington, D.C. to join the other 900-plus dentists and dental students for Lobby Day 2025.

This year, my second year at Lobby Day, the cherry blossoms adorn every street in D.C. The dainty white flowers add a springtime magic to a city that was gray and barren just two weeks ago. Seeing them lulls my anxieties that the current political scene will detrimentally influence our lobbying efforts this year.

"We are all in this together" is something we often say at California Northstate University Dental School (CNU), and it could not be more accurate at ADA Lobby Day. The #Toothparty, as we like to call our lobbying efforts at the Capital, is a bi-partisan party working to cross the red and blue divide. Our goal is to unite everyone in promoting the dental health of the general public that we serve as healthcare professionals and to improve the dental profession.

The three-hour time ahead difference is brutal, and I roll my way out of bed on Sunday around 11am, still groaning that it's way too early for a weekend. One late lunch later, I am sitting with the other three students from CNU listening to a lecture on water fluoridation.

It's a topic that is near and dear to the dental profession and considered one of the most outstanding public health achievements of the 20th Century. Of all the issues we will be lobbying on, water fluoridation has become the most urgent since Utah became the first state to ban water fluoridation recently, and other states are following in its wake.

On Monday and Tuesday, our real task begins: Hill meetings. The six dental students and two practicing dentists in my wonderful group from California walk from meeting to

meeting, building to building, to lobby staff from the Representatives in our Districts on the DOC Access Act, REDI Act, and the need for another water fluoridation study by the NIH. At one meeting, we actually spoke with our Representative, and I jokingly asked if he had a regular dentist. He responded, good-naturedly, "I do floss regularly!" It's good to know that even those busy with our nation's inner workings are listening to our advice.

After the last meeting, I head to Sweet Lemon Café with other CNU students, taking in the full, colorful spring of D.C., under a bright blue sky. Out on the street next to the Senate Building, it's a peaceful scene. However, while we strolled, enjoying the fresh spring air, Senator Cory Booker was in the 15th hour of his 25-hour speech on the Senate Floor, defending healthcare, among other things. While we won't be making 25-hour speeches on it between Medicaid and fluoridation, we as a profession will also be up for a vital fight to protect the health of the general public that which we serve. ■

*Adriana is a third-year dental student at California Northstate University. She is originally from the D.C. area but lived all over the place before landing in Sacramento. She enjoys reading, writing, spoiling her cat, and sipping on a really good cappuccino.*







By **Craig Alpha, DDS**  
2025 Secretary

# March 5, 2025

## Highlights of the Board Meeting

### President Call To Order and Welcome

Dr. Nima Aflatooni reported that the Executive Director search is well underway. 16 resumes were received. Resumes were reviewed by the search committee and were ranked. The plan is for interviews to start in March for the top candidates and to have a final decision by April 1. Thank you to Dr. Rosemary Wu, who has agreed to attend and represent our Society at the CDA Leadership Conference in LA.

### Secretary's Report

Dr. Craig Alpha reported that the February month-end market share is 80.5%, down from the December year-end of 81.2%. At this time of renewal, which will end on March 31, many members are retiring and/or moving out of state. We should expect a slight decrease this year but hope that recruitment of new dentists moving to the area will be good. Engagement continues to be good, with the MidWinter Convention being the largest attendance ever.

### Treasurer's Report

Dr. Jeff Sue reported on the fiscal year finance for 2024. It was another good year with our conservative investment policy positive. Our sponsorships were strong – thank you to all the vendors and exhibitors who help support our events – this keeps our member dues lower (member dues is only 28% of our total budget).

Our non-dues revenue stays strong as does our program income. We ended the 2024 year well and could contribute to our Foundation at the end of the year. The Board approved the final FYE report. Great job to the SDDS staff for staying within budget and thank you to all the members for supporting our program.

### Committee Reports

- LDC /Nominating Committee - Dr. Ash Vasanthan announced that Dr. Chirag Vaid has agreed to enter the leadership chairs and will serve as Secretary in 2026. The slate of nominees will be presented to the membership for a vote at the May General Meeting.
- Other committees – All committees' minutes were reviewed prior to the meeting.

### Board of Component Representatives Report / CDA

Dr. Volki Felahy reported that the first meeting of the year was held as a joint meeting with the CDA Board. There was also an update from the CDA Wellness Committee.

### Old Business

- Strategic plan extension – the Board voted to extend our strategic plan through 2027, making it a 5 year plan.

### New Business... New Ideas... Actions To Approve

- House of Delegates - Discussion of what should be brought to the House of Delegates.

### Executive Director's Report

Cathy discussed the following:

- Staff Job Descriptions and all the work that is done by staff for the Foundation including: Smiles for Kids, Smiles for Big Kids, golf tournament, Broadway, gala and other fundraisers, finance and dues collection and other community oral health initiatives, education and events.
- Be the Best Boss Month – March Events are a team lunch and breakfast delivery raffle, as well as CE and HR topics tailored for staff as well as dentists.
- DMD program for 2025-26 will launch on April 1

### Adjournment

7:54 PM (early!)

### Next Board meeting: May 6, 2025

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**CORE VALUES:** Community, Integrity, Service, Engagement

## UPCOMING CE COURSE - DIY Study Club – Bring Your Case!

**Wednesday, May 28, 2025**

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\$99 (ends 5/7) / \$119 (begins 5/8)

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**OCTOBER 16 - Folsom**

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# TOTAL MEMBERSHIP

(as of 4/10/25)

# 1,968

MARKET  
SHARE:  
80.6%

RETENTION RATE: 94%  
ENGAGEMENT RATE:  
79% active / 58% retired

# New Members

May/June  
2025

## BAHA ALAFAGHANI, DDS *Transferred!*

### General Practice

Dr. Alafaghani earned his dental degree from Unidad de Ciencias de la Salud Minatitlan, Mexico in 2024. He currently practices at Western Dental in Roseville.

## REEM ATOUT, DDS

### Periodontics

Dr. Atout earned her dental degree from University of Jordan, Amman in 2000. She went on to earn her specialty degree in Periodontics from University of Alabama in 2009. She currently practices at Sean Avera DDS, Periodontics & Dental Implants in Auburn.

## NHU-Y CHAU, DMD

### General Practice

Dr. Chau earned her dental degree from Temple University in 2024. She currently practices at MACT Health in Jackson.

## JASMINE CHEEMA, DMD

### Orthodontics

Dr. Cheema earned her dental degree from Nova Southeastern University in 2018. She went on to earn her specialty degree in Orthodontics from University of Detroit in 2022. She currently practices at Greenhaven Orthodontics.

## TAEWON CHO, DMD

### General Practice

Dr. Cho earned his dental degree from Temple University in 2024. He currently practices at Folsom Hills Dentistry in Folsom.

## ARYA DADASHZADEH, DDS

### General Practice

Dr. Dadashzadeh earned his dental degree from UOP Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry in 2018. His current practice location is pending.

## LEAH HAWKINS, DDS

### General Practice

Dr. Hawkins earned her dental degree from Howard University College of Dentistry in 2017. She currently practices at Green Valley Dental Group in El Dorado Hills.

## JINYOUNG JUNG, DDS

### Prosthodontics

Dr. Jung earned her dental degree from New York University in 2021 and went on to earn her specialty of Prosthodontics in 2024 from New York University. She currently practices at Prosthodontic Dental Group in Fair Oaks.

## SEEMA KHAN, DDS *Transferred!*

### General Practice

Dr. Khan earned her dental degree from International School of Dentistry in 2022. Her current practice location is pending.

## JAMIE KO, DDS

### General Practice

Dr. Ko earned her dental degree from University of Toronto, Canada in 2019. Her current practice location is pending.

## RONALDO OPINGA, DMD

### General Practice

Dr. Opinga earned his dental degree from University of Manitoba, Canada in 2007. He is the owner of and practices at Bethel Kids Dental in Sacramento.

## KRINA PATEL, DMD

### General Practice

Dr. Patel earned her dental degree from Arizona School of Dentistry in 2024. Her current practice location is pending.

## DUY-PHU "ANTHONY" PHAN, DDS

### General Practice

Dr. Phan earned his dental degree from New York College of Dentistry in 2015. He currently practices at Spot For Smiles in Elk Grove.

## JOHN SCHAEFFER, DDS

### General Practice

Dr. Schaeffer earned his dental degree from University of Iowa in 2015. He currently practices at Dentists of Davis in Davis.

## OLIVIA SUGIMOTO, DDS

### General Practice – Transfer

Dr. Sugimoto earned her dental degree from Midwestern University in 2019. Her current practice location is pending.

## ARVIND THAKUR, DDS *Transferred!*

### General Practice

Dr. Thakur earned his dental degree from UCSF School of Dentistry in 2024. His current practice location is pending.

## NADEJDA VORONINA, DDS

### General Practice

Dr. Voronina earned her dental degree from International School of Dentistry in 2023. She currently practices at Suave Dental in Roseville.

## Congratulations to Our New Retired Members!

Ernesto Borgards, DDS  
Kathleen Duncan, DDS  
Judy Heinrich, DDS  
Kathryn Anne Moore, DDS  
Ibtisam Rashid, DDS  
Bruce Taber, DDS  
Russell Webb, DDS

TOTAL ACTIVE MEMBERS:  
1,339

TOTAL RETIRED  
MEMBERS: 360

TOTAL DUAL  
MEMBERS: 10

TOTAL AFFILIATE  
MEMBERS: 2

TOTAL STUDENT  
MEMBERS: 199

TOTAL CURRENT  
APPLICANTS: 0

TOTAL DHP  
MEMBERS: 57

TOTAL NEW  
MEMBERS FOR 2025: 26



# In Memory of Dr. Matt Campbell

It is with great sadness that our dear friend, Dr. Matt Campbell, passed away on February 24; he will be missed by so many friends, colleagues and his dear patients. Dr. Campbell was a member for 54 years, retiring from practice in the Campus Commons area in 2021. He will be remembered as a consummate leader, organizer and dedicated volunteer not only for SDDS and our Foundation, but for CDA and ADA too. In addition to serving

as SDDS President in 1998, he also served on the SDDS Foundation, many and various SDDS Committees, CDA Trustee and as the CDA Speaker of the House for six years (2002-2008). His love and passion for the Sacramento community showed in his love for the Sacramento Kings when, after serving as Chair of the Sacramento Metro Chamber of Commerce Task Force that brought the Kings to Sacramento, he then served as the Kings players' dentist for 35 years.

Dr. Campbell has been awarded many honors including the SDDS Distinguished Member (2001) and the Dr. Bob Gillis Memorial Award (2018). The latter award was given to Dr. Campbell for his extraordinary passion for our organization, its governance and his selfless acts of volunteerism and hard work.



It is a true understatement that he will be missed. Our hearts go out to Irene and the entire Campbell family.



Matt was a real gentleman. **A principled and compassionate leader and a conscientious dentist.** We lost a great one.

– Michael Payne, DDS, MSD

What a sad, sad day!! **He was a mentor and friend for all of us at SDDS and everywhere he represented dentistry!!**

A kind, kind man. - Victor Hawkins, DDS

**He truly was a gentleman and was passionate about his practice and organized dentistry.** He will be missed by the profession. My deepest condolences to Irene.

- Kent Farnsworth, DDS

Matt preceded me in the chairs. At first, I thought we would clash as we come from different sides of the political spectrum. However, I came around, and found him to be a **great mentor, objective participant in most discussions, and a real gentleman.** - Steve Cavagnolo, DDS

**DR. CAMPBELL WAS LOVED AND RESPECTED BY SO MANY**

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# We're Blowing your horn!



## Congratulations to...

**Dr. Jeff Sue** for being featured on FOX 40 to discuss oral health for children. (1)

**Ranna Alrabadi and Jasraj Sandhu** for being very involved student members, Ranna is on *the Nugget* Editorial Committee and Jasraj is the CNU Student Representative on the SDDS Board. Pictured here with Dr. Kevin Keating. (2)

**Dr. Jose Juarez** for Smile Kingdom's 10 year anniversary! (3)

**Dr. Jeanette Okazaki** for being our "Be the Best Boss" Lunch Contest Winner. (4)

**Drs. Christy Rollofson-Porrino, Rosemary Wu and Christina Skelton** for being our three "Be the Best Boss" Breakfast Contest Winners. (5)

**Dr. Navneet Sahota** for sharing the importance of oral health with residents of a very rural village in India. (6)



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**Victor Valdivia**

(916) 858-1185 | [info@finelinetrim.com](mailto:info@finelinetrim.com)



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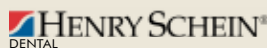
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Dental Education (FADE)**

LaDonna Drury-Klein  
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thefade.org



#Foundation for Allied Dental Education

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Empl./Staffing/Assoc.

**NW Staffing Resources**

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Since 2003

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Gallelli Real Estate**

Brandon Sessions  
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osbornegroupcre.com/



OSBORNE  
GROUP

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Company (TDIC)**

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finelinetrim.com



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David Olson  
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olsonconstructioninc.com



Since 2004

IT & Dental Billing

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Ali Nattah  
916.458.5245  
businesspcsupport.com



Since 2024

**SD Dental Solutions**

Dennis Krohn Jr.,  
President/Partner  
916.367.4252  
sdreliance.com



Since 2021

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# Job Bank

The SDDS Job Bank is a service offered only to SDDS Members. It is for job seekers to reach other Society members who are looking for dentists to round out their practice, and vice versa. If you are a job seeker or associate seeker contact SDDS at (916) 446-1227, we can also provide contact information for the members listed below.

## ASSOCIATE POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Shiva Salehi, DDS • Fair Oaks • PT • GP  
 Kelly Wilson, DDS • Antelope • PT • GP  
 Harkeet Sappal, DDS • Sacramento • PT • Endo  
 Mugunth Nandagopal, DDS • Sacramento • FT/PT • GP  
 Andrea Cervantes, DDS • Elk Grove • PT • GP  
 Sean Roth, DDS • Folsom • FT • GP  
 Peter Kim, DDS • Sacramento • PT • GP  
 Hossein Kazemi, DDS • Roseville • PT/FT • GP/Perio  
 Arash Aghakhani, DDS • Sacramento • FT/PT • GP  
 Darryl Azouz, DDS • Lake Tahoe • FT/PT • GP  
 Oleg Oliferuk, DDS • Folsom • PT • GP  
 Siamak Okhovat, DDS • Roseville • PT/FT • GP  
 Monica Tavallaei, DDS • Sacramento • PT/FT • GP/PEDO  
 Sabrina Jang, DDS • Sacramento • PT/FT • GP  
 Albert Lee, DDS • Sacramento • PT • GP  
 Amandeep Behniwal, DDS • Roseville • PT/FT • GP  
 Elizabeth Johnson, DDS • Wellspace - various locations • FT/PT/Fill-In • GP  
 Amy Woo, DDS • Sacramento • PT 1 Day • Endo  
 David Park, DDS • several/multiple positions • FT/PT • GP

## DOCS SEEKING EMPLOYMENT

Jennie Lee, DDS • FT/PT • GP  
 Ranna Alrabadi (graduating CNU May 2025) • FT/PT • GP  
 Harshini Paruchuru (graduating UOP May 2025) • FT/PT • GP  
 Kyle McNulty, DDS • FT • GP  
 Navneet Sehgal, DDS • FT • GP  
 Gaetan Tchamba, DDS • PT/locum tenans • GP



# Classified Ads

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Are you ready to take your career to the next level? We're thrilled to invite you to apply to join one of Sacramento's most respected and well-established private endodontic practices: Midtown Endodontics. Known for our exceptional patient care and commitment to quality, we are backed by a network of top-tier referring dentists who trust us to deliver outstanding results. Call (916) 446-6143 if interested. *5-6/25c*

**ENDODONTIST: Seeking a Endodontist to join our professional dental team.** We have been serving Sacramento for over 25 years and Voted Top Dentist by Sacramento Magazine. If you like to experience the many facets of dentistry, our practice consists of general, periodontist, endodontist, and orthodontist this practice is for you. For more information about us, please visit DrAmyWoo.com. *1-2/24*

Kids Care Dental & Orthodontics seeks doctors to join our teams in the greater Sacramento and greater Stockton areas. We believe when kids grow up enjoying the dentist, healthy teeth and gums will follow. As the key drivers of our mission—to give every kid a healthy smile—our dentists, orthodontists and oral surgeons exhibit a genuine love of children and teeth. A good fit for our culture means you are also honest, playful, lighthearted, approachable, hardworking, and compassionate. Patients love us... come find out why! Send your CV to drtalent@kidscaresdental.com. *6-7/17*

WELLSPACE HEALTH ORGANIZATION (an FQHC) is taking applications for fill-in/part-time/full-time dentists. Send your resume/CV to eljohnson@wellspacehealth.org. *1/15*

Kids Care Dental & Orthodontics seeks orthodontists to join our teams in the greater Sacramento and greater Stockton areas. We believe when kids grow up enjoying the dentist, healthy teeth and gums will follow. As the key drivers of our mission—to give every kid a healthy smile—our dentists, orthodontists and oral surgeons exhibit a genuine love of children and teeth. A good fit for our culture means you are also honest, playful, lighthearted, approachable, hardworking, and compassionate. Patients love us... come find out why! Send your CV to drtalent@kidscaresdental.com. *6-7/17*

## FOR LEASE

Dental office for lease in El Dorado Hills. 2 operatories fully equipped and 3rd plumbed. 1300 sq feet, modern furnished private office, with full bath, plus employee lounge. All utilities and janitorial included. Call (916) 230-5195 and leave message for appointment. *9-10/24*

\$395,000 Move-in ready Fair Oaks Dental Office Condo for sale; Roseville/Sacramento Dental/Orthodontic Offices for Lease; Ranga Pathak, Broker Associate, RE/MAX Gold, DRE01364897; Tel: (916) 201-9247; Email: ranga.pathak@nocalgold.com. *8-9/21*

SACRAMENTO DENTAL COMPLEX has one 3 unit suite which is equipped for immediate occupancy. Two other suites total 1630 sq. ft which can be remodeled to your personal office design with generous tenant improvements. 2525 K Street. Please call for details: (916) 539-1516. *10/11*

## EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

2021 KaVo OP 3D Pro. Includes all hardware including control PC and software. Less than 100 images taken. Installed in your office and calibrated \$25,000.00. Contact drmatt@ariaperio.com if interested. *1-2/25*

## PRACTICES FOR SALE

566-Roseville Prosthodontics Office-Prime Location, Loyal Patient Base. 579-Tahoe Area, General Dentist -Beautiful Location, \$900K+ Collections (2024). Contact Menlo Dental Transitions - [www.menlotransitions.com](http://www.menlotransitions.com) In Association with Scott Reid & ParaSell, Inc.-A Licensed California Broker #02101543 *5-6/25*

Dental Practice and Building For Sale. 3300 El Camino Avenue Sacramento, CA 95821. My name is Walter A. Winfrey, D.D.S., [walterwinfrey@att.net](mailto:walterwinfrey@att.net). \$500,000.00, images available *11-12/24*

Priced to Sell! Elk Grove practice with a great reputation, 4 fully equipped ops in a highly desirable medical building. Solid accounts receivable, over \$800k in annual collections and growing. Strong customer base. Contact Chris Barbour (#2135925) - [chris@omni-pg.com](mailto:chris@omni-pg.com), (916) 792-5038. (CAD124) *9-10/24*

SDDS member dentists can place one classified ad

**FOR FREE!**

MEMBER BENEFIT!

## NEW Online "This Week" Classified Advertising for SDDS Members/Vendor Members only

SDDS' weekly "This Week at SDDS" eblast reaches our entire membership every Sunday at 8:00am, with a circulation of 2,200 and an impressive open rate of 67% – contract due by noon on the Wednesday prior to the Sunday e-blast.

### Guidelines for Online Classified Advertising:

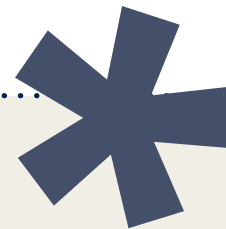
- Members must place and pay for the ad themselves
- Non-Vendor Member companies and representatives cannot be listed in the ad
- Contact info in the ad must be direct to member/member's office, non-member emails and phone numbers are prohibited

Visit [www.sdds.org/publications-media/advertise/](http://www.sdds.org/publications-media/advertise/) to advertise

Selling your practice? Need an associate? Have office space to lease? SDDS member dentists get one complimentary, professionally related classified ad per year (30 word maximum). For more information on placing a classified ad, please call the SDDS office at 916.446.1227 or visit [www.sdds.org/publications-media/advertise/](http://www.sdds.org/publications-media/advertise/)

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

# SDDS CALENDAR OF EVENTS



## MAY

- 7 Dentists Do Broadway Parade
- 9 Swing for Smiles Golf Tournament
- 13 General Membership CE Meeting  
**The Clear Straight Story**  
*Mark Holt, DDS, MS*
- 21 Member Mixer  
Zócalo - Roseville  
6:00–7:30pm  
*Sponsored by Bank of America  
and BPE Law Group*
- 28 DIY Study Club: Bring Your Case!  
*SDDS Member Speakers*  
Wednesday • 6:00–8:30pm • SDDS  
Classroom • 2.5 CEU, Core • \$99

## JUNE

- 10 Webinar  
**Harassment Prevention for  
Employees and Supervisors**  
*California Employers Association (CEA) - VM*  
Tuesday • Webinar  
11am–12pm • Employees • 1 CEU, Core  
11am–1pm • Supervisors • 2 CEU, Core
- 26 Member Event  
**Dental Day with the River Cats!**  
6:45–9:30pm

## JULY

- 15 Dentists Do Music Circus  
**West Side Story**

## AUGUST

- 5 Dentists Do Music Circus  
**In the Heights**
- 9 CPR – AHA BLS Blended Learning  
**Skills Testing, 3 Time Sessions**  
Saturday • 8–8:45am,  
9–9:45am, 10–10:45am  
SDDS Classroom • 3 CEU, Core
- 26 Dentists Do Music Circus  
**Hair**

For full details and to sign up for  
courses online, visit: [www.sdds.org](http://www.sdds.org)



## Swing for Smiles 2025 – Register Today!

Come support the Foundation at the annual Golf Tournament  
on May 9 at Teal Bend Golf Club!



## Upcoming GENERAL MEETINGS

**MAY  
13**

### The Clear Straight Story

Tuesday • 3 CEU, Core • \$99 thru 5/10  
Presented by Mark H. Holt, DDS, MS  
*Partially Sponsored by TDIC*

In this course, Dr. Holt will share invaluable insights into integrating clear aligner therapy seamlessly into your practice. Participants will learn how to optimize treatment outcomes and minimize treatment duration using aligner software and attachment techniques, ensuring exceptional results for patients.

**PLEASE JOIN US** – this General Meeting will be a tribute to our Foundation as well as a time to say goodbye to our Executive Director, Cathy Levering, as this will be her last general meeting before she retires.



*Dr. Mark Holt grew up in Sunnyvale, attended BYU, UCSF for Dental School, and University of Oklahoma for orthodontic residency. Holt Ortho has treated more than 13,000 patients with clear aligners. Currently, 2/3 of Holt Ortho patients are treated with clear aligners including 50% of teens. Dr. Holt has done studies showing shorter treatment times. Dr. Holt enjoys skiing, wake surfing, and college football.*

**5:45–9:00pm:** Hilton Sacramento Arden West (2200 Harvard Street, Sac)