

Donated Dental Services Program Annual Report

(FY2017 Appropriation Act - Public Act 268 of 2016)

December 1, 2016

Sec. 1223. (1) From the funds appropriated in part 1 for dental programs, \$150,000.00 shall be allocated to the Michigan Dental Association for the administration of a volunteer dental program that provides dental services to the uninsured.

(2) Not later than December 1 of the current fiscal year, the department shall report to the senate and house appropriations subcommittees on the department budget, the senate and house standing committees on health policy, the senate and house fiscal agencies, and the state budget office the number of individual patients treated, number of procedures performed, and approximate total market value of those procedures from the immediately preceding fiscal year.



Michigan Department of
Health & Human Services

RICK SNYDER, GOVERNOR
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Donated Dental Services (DDS) Program Legislative Report

Reporting Period: October 1, 2015 to September 30, 2016

Report Addressing: Section 1223(2) of PA 268 of 2016

Overview of Fiscal Year 2015/2016 Achievements

Description	FY 2015	FY 2016
Number of patients treated:	478	392
Number of dental procedures provided:	6,098	5,213
Number of volunteer dentists:	829	807
Number of dentists involved with patients treated:	829	378
Value of donated services by dentists:	\$1,546,628	\$1,379,763
Number of volunteer dental laboratories:	217	193
Value of donated laboratory services:	\$156,823	\$128,278
Value of donated treatment:	\$1,703,451	\$1,508,041

The Donated Dental Services Program is 21 years old. The funds provide for the administration of the program, which matches dentists who are willing to donate services to persons in specific target groups (identified below) needing extensive dental care. The department has contracted with the Michigan Dental Association (MDA) to administer this fund for the FY16 period. Prior to this, the MDA subcontracted the administration to the Dental Lifeline Network located in Denver, Colorado. At the MDHHS Oral Health Program request, the MDA took over the responsibility of direct administration and is now a licensee of Dental Lifeline Network. The funding to the MDA supports costs for two employees to administer and operate the program, some lab fees and other incentives for dentists.

The populations for whom dental services are provided are the following:

- Persons who are physically and/or mentally impaired
- Persons with sensory impairments
- Persons who are medically compromised
- Elderly persons

MICHIGAN DONATED DENTAL SERVICES (DDS) PROGRAM PROGRESS REPORT FOR Fiscal Year 2016

In compliance with section 1223(2) of PA 268 of 2016, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Oral Health Program, is providing the following report on the Michigan Donated Dental Services Program.

Background

This program aims to treat patients who are disabled and elderly with seriously-neglected dental problems. As a result of their ages and/or disabilities, many cannot work and depend on public assistance for their health care. Medicare, however, does not provide dental benefits and Michigan's Medicaid program limits procedures and the frequency of the procedures it covers for adult beneficiaries. Moreover, many dentists do not accept Medicaid insurance due to the low reimbursement rates.

To help some of these individuals, the Michigan Dental Association (MDA) and the Dental Lifeline Network launched the statewide Michigan Donated Dental Services (DDS) project in 1995. This program is similar to others developed by the Dental Lifeline Network in 39 additional states. The Michigan Dental Association is the licensee for the Michigan effort and has direct administration of the program.

Accomplishments

By the end of the fiscal year (September 30, 2016), 392 individuals had received care worth \$1,508,041. The value of the care donated is comparable to recent years, even with the change of administration to the MDA. Many individuals were able to receive diagnostic, preventive and simple restorative treatment covered by Medicaid and relied on the Donated Dental Services Program for more complex restorative treatment. The comprehensive care received illustrates the generosity of the volunteer dentists and labs.

The 392 individuals who completed treatment required 5,213 dental procedures, or an average of 13.3 procedures per person. Each person who finished treatment received an average of \$3,798 worth of dental treatment; illustrating the comprehensive nature of the care provided.

Labs donated \$128,278 worth of fabrications by fiscal year end closing. MDA staff have spent the year establishing relationships with a number of dental labs. Dental Arts Laboratories was one of the top laboratories for the year, donating more than \$4,000 in fabrications during the last quarter alone.

Financial

Though the dentists and many of the labs donate their services, the funding also includes costs to provide administrative support for their volunteer efforts (the Volunteer DDS Coordinators, telephone, postage and other program costs) and to pay some of

the laboratory bills when no volunteers can be found. **The ratio of donated treatment per dollar of operating costs is \$9.89.**

Staffing

Services are managed by two coordinators who act as liaisons between patients, referring organizations, dentists and labs. The coordinators manage the services from offices within the Michigan Dental Association.

Applications

During the reporting period of 10/1/15-9/30/16, 584 applications from people in need of services were received, and at the end of the reporting period, 172 applications were pending or waiting to be linked with volunteer dentists. The waiting list is continually monitored to assess whether new applications can be accepted.

As a result of the MDA efforts to promote and recruit new dentists and to re-establish contact with the current volunteer dentists, applications for services are being accepted from all counties. In prior years, applications from many rural counties and the City of Detroit were not accepted due to the limited number of volunteer dentists available.

Volunteers

Since the MDA took responsibility for the direct administration of the program, new promotion and recruitment materials have been developed and disseminated. Staff have attended the annual conference, the Mission of Mercy event that was held at the Macomb Community College in Warren where over 500 individuals were seen for free dental care, and other health fairs to promote the program and to recruit dentists. The response has been heartening and the number of dentists interested in volunteering has risen. There are 807 volunteer dentists with 378 actively treating patients at the end of the reporting period. In addition, 193 dental laboratories donated some of the fabrications needed by so many of the people treated.

Attachment

A Treatment by County Report that depicts the number of individuals treated and the value of the treatment for the fiscal year is attached.