



## NEWS WE'RE READY TO SMILE ABOUT



Volume 1, Issue 2

Spring 2011

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**Ready to Smile was launched in 2010** by The Oregon Community Foundation's South Coast Regional Action Initiative, with support from The Ford Family Foundation. Coordinated through the Coos County Public Health Department, *Ready to Smile* delivers dental health services to eligible children in grades K-7 in Coos and Curry counties.

### SOROPTIMIST CLUB PARTNERS WITH READY TO SMILE

Soroptimists of the Coos Bay Area have partnered with the *Ready to Smile* program. Over the past few years, the Bay Area Soroptimists have had their own dental care awareness program in the Coos Bay/North Bend schools. Initially, the club received a grant from Bay Area Hospital along with donations of toothbrushes, toothpaste and floss from area dentists. These were then assembled into 2,500 dental kits with brushing instructions and distributed during January and February each year in recognition of National Dental Care Awareness Month.

The local Soroptimist club wants to enlist help from the clubs in Gold Beach and Brookings to make the dental program a region wide project. Soroptimist is an international volunteer organization for business and professional women who work to improve the lives of women and girls (as well as children and youth).

Now, with *Ready to Smile*, the Soroptimist club has been able to continue their annual distribution by funneling the kits through the *Ready to Smile* program, coordinated by Cecilee Shull. The Soroptimists recently requested and received a \$750 grant from the Coos County Commission on Children and Families, which will allow them to prepare more dental kits to be distributed to Coos and Curry County students.



Coos Bay Soroptimists package dental kits for the *Ready to Smile* Program

**NOTE OF INTEREST**  
The *Ready to Smile* Steering Committee appreciates Angie Webster's service on the Committee. Angie had to resign due to a shift in her career. Angie was a school nurse at Blossom Gulch School in Coos Bay and was instrumental in helping the Steering Committee understand the significant problem of dental pain and tooth decay among South Coast children. She is now working at Bay Area Hospital.



Dental Team at Riley Creek School, Gold Beach

## Portable dental unit donated

On March 23, 2011, oral surgeon Dr. Dane Smith of Coos Bay, donated a portable dental unit to the *Ready to Smile* program. The unit helps the *Ready to Smile* team provide sealants for students. It will be used as a back up.

Previously, the *Ready to Smile* program did not have a back-up system. If the *Ready to Smile* team was at a local school performing sealants and the system malfunctioned, they would have to cancel the remainder of the day to seek repairs. With the system donated by Dr. Smith, the program now has a back-up plan and is no longer concerned about the portable equipment breaking down.

Thank you to Dr. Dane Smith for his ongoing support and continued mentoring of the *Ready to Smile* program!

## Matching Grant Opportunity

In recognition of National Children's Dental Health Month, the Mildred E. and Harvey S. Mudd Foundation of the Sprague Family Foundations announced a matching grant opportunity for the South Coast *Ready to Smile* program of The Oregon Community Foundation.

The Mudd Foundation will match cash and in-kind resource contributions, including volunteer time, up to \$40,000 through 2011. Donations must be received by December 31, 2011 to be eligible for the match. All contributions will support direct services and coordination efforts through the regional *Ready to Smile* program. Cecilee Shull tracks the services provided in each community. She is available to give

presentations to any interested organizations who want to learn about the program.

All correspondence regarding this match opportunity should be sent to Melissa Durham, Director of Strategic Projects at OCF:

South Coast *Ready to Smile* Fund  
 Attn: Melissa Durham; Mudd-Sprague Match  
 The Oregon Community Foundation  
 1221 SW Yamhill, Suite 100  
 Portland, OR 97205  
 Email: mdurham@oregoncf.org  
 Phone: 503-227-6846

## Medical Teams International visits the South Coast of Oregon

The Medical Teams International mobile dental van will be visiting the south coast of Oregon on Friday, April 29. They will be at the Myrtle Crest Elementary School seeing students in grades 3-8 from Powers, Myrtle Point, Bandon and Coquille school districts.

In many communities around the world, dental care is nonexistent. Dental pain and abscesses are common problems and quickly become life-threatening without treatment. Medical Teams International works with local partners to provide dental care to families who would not normally have access to a dentist.

### Mobile Dental:

The mission of the Mobile Dental Program is to provide free or low-cost dental care to low-income children and

adults, the homeless and migrant workers who lack insurance or a realistic way to pay for treatment.

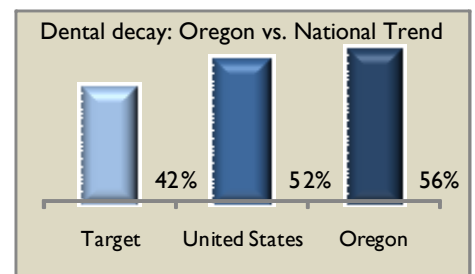
### Mobile Dental Fast Facts:

- Mobile Dental has provided care for more than 176,000 patients since 1989.
- In 2010, Medical Teams International's Mobile Dental program provided free dental care to more than 17,000 patients with over 300 partners.
- Nearly 900 generous volunteer dental professionals provided approximately \$7 million worth of free dental care last year.
- Their fleet of eleven Mobil Dental clinics in Oregon and Washington are converted 38-foot motor

homes. Each mobile clinic contains two dental operatories and all necessary equipment, instruments and supplies.

To learn more about this valuable resource :

[www.medicalteams.org](http://www.medicalteams.org)



The Dental Foundation of Oregon website, April 2011

## South Coast Steering Committee Members

Penny Allen	Christine Nichols
Myrna Barber	Rob Orr
Michelle Brown	Heidi Pahls
Ali Chisti	Kim Rollins
Canada Converse	Patricia Savage
Kathy Cooley	Dane Smith
Elizabeth Day	Frances Smith
Cathy Enyeart	Sharon Smith
Thomas Holt	John Sweet
Kathryn Laird	Dale Thomas
Judy McMakin	George Woodruff

## Ready to Smile program statistics November 2010 through March 2011

Number of Schools Visited	10
Number of Students Screened	524
% of Students Screened of Total Enrolled	38%
Number of Dental Kits Distributed	524
\$ Value of Dental Kits Distributed	\$1,048
Number of Sealants Placed	2,277
Number of Varnish Applied	408
Average # of Sealants per Student	4

## Gold Beach Rotary Club jumps in to help Ready to Smile program

On January 5, 2011, an ordinary *Ready to Smile* Rotary presentation quickly built a donor relationship for the program unlike any other. Cecilee Shull, *Ready to Smile* Program Manager, was describing to the Gold Beach Rotarians the photos in her presentation. A student receiving dental sealants was shown holding a plastic bin on his chest which held instruments for the dental team. Cecilee explained the need for a portable dental tray unit for the program, but due to budget constraints, that purchase was going to have to wait.

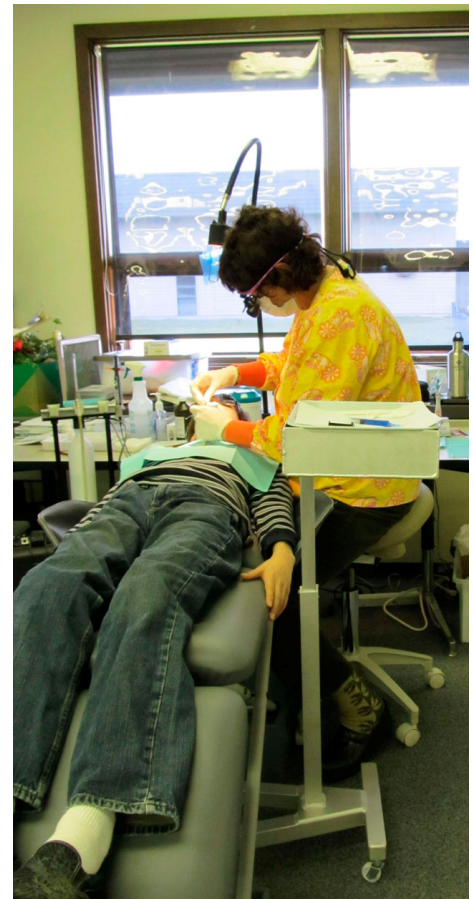
The floor was opened for questions at the end of the presentation and the first person to raise his hand was Dugie Freeman of Freeman Marine in Gold Beach. Dugie stated, "If you get the dimensions and technical information on what you want, we can build you a dental tray and donate it to your program."

Immediately following the meeting, Tim Wilson, an engineer for Freeman Marine, visited Riley Creek Elementary

School to take measurements and ask technical questions in regards to the equipment needed for the visiting dental team. Approximately six weeks later, the program received a call from Tim stating that the dental tray was ready for pick up.

On March 9, 2011, the dental team used the new piece of equipment for the first time. What a difference it has made for dental hygienist Astrid Diepenbroek and dental assistant Verena Caudle in accessibility to the instruments! The new equipment has made a large ergonomic impact, resulting in less back and neck stress previously associated with the improper placement of the dental tray.

Thank you to Dugie Freeman, Tim Wilson and the crew at Freeman Marine in Gold Beach for developing the portable dental tray for the *Ready to Smile* Program. If purchased, the new tray would cost more than \$1,000. Now, *Ready to Smile* has a "one of a kind" portable dental tray that is priceless!



New dental tray in use at Riley Creek School

## Ready to Smile Partners

### Funders:

- The Oregon Community Foundation
- Mudd/Sprague Family Foundations
- The Ford Family Foundation
- Gold Beach Rotary Club
- Curry Health Foundation
- Bandon by the Sea Rotary Club
- Thrivent Financial for Lutherans-Curry Chapter
- Susan Christensen

### In Kind contributors:

- Soroptimists of the Coos Bay Area
- Wild Rivers Community Foundation
- Coos County Public Health
- Curry County Public Health
- Waterfall Community Health Center
- Freeman Marine
- Robert N. Phillips
- Astrid Diepenbroek
- Dr. Dane Smith

Ready to Smile is operated through Coos County Public Health  
Phone: 541-756-2020 ext. 526  
cshull@co.coos.or.us

## Thank You

**The Bandon Rotary Club**, with guidance from Penny Allen and Joseph Bain, supplied volunteers for *Ready to Smile's* two day screening event in Bandon.

**Brookings Rotary volunteers** assisted with the 5-day screening event, with guidance from Chris Nichols, retired school superintendent of Brookings/Harbor schools.

**Barbara Faulkner and Peggy Alessio** volunteered at Port Orford and also donated over \$200 worth of Trident gum with Xylitol, a natural substance found to help prevent tooth decay.

**Mr. Miller**, a first grade teacher at Riley Creek School in Gold Beach, went above and beyond expectations in support of the program by connecting with every parent in his class to ensure that his students could receive the services.

**Boni Traylor** for her support with student education at Sunset and Millicoma Middle Schools.

## Recent School Visitations

### April:

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| April 13-14-15 | Millicoma Middle School  |
| April 20-21    | Sunset Middle School   |
| April 29       | Medical Teams International dental van @ Myrtle Crest Elementary - all students grades 3-8 from Powers, Myrtle Point, Bandon and Coquille schools. |

### May:

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| May 6     | OCF Steering Committee Meeting, Bandon |
| May 11-12 | North Bend Middle School               |



Student receiving brushing instructions at Riley Creek School in Gold Beach

The Oregon Community Foundation's Regional Action Initiative (RAI) is involving citizens in identifying and solving local problems. In regions across the state, OCF's volunteer leadership councils are working on solutions to local issues with a special funding allocation from the Foundation. For more information, contact RAI coordinator, Melissa Durham, at 503-227-6846 or mdurham@oregoncf.org. Special thanks to Sharon Smith, Steering Committee Member, for donating her time to organize this newsletter, sharons@scesd.k12.or.us.