

# Dentistry in South Dakota



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## Allied Staff News

### Legislature Adopts New Dental Practice Act

With very little fanfare the 2015 Legislature adopted a new Dental Practice Act. After more than 20 years without any significant updates the Practice Act was long overdue for a makeover. The effort to update the practice act was led by the South Dakota Board of Dentistry. Many months of work by the Board and the South Dakota Dental Association, prior to the Legislative Session, led an agreement to the draft of the bill that was introduced.

The SDDA's goal going into the 2015 Legislative Session was to have the Practice Act adopted as introduced, without any amendments from other parties. Thanks to the Board's efforts to reach out to all interested parties there were no amendments proposed and the bill was supported by all of the major dental stakeholders in South Dakota.

### Treating People With Developmental and Other Disabilities CE Course

To help dentists better meet the needs of people with developmental disabilities, the South Dakota Oral Health Coalition's "Caring for Smiles" Committee, along with funding from the SD Council of Developmental Disabilities and Delta Dental, is sponsoring a continuing education course for dentists and their staff on how to provide quality, appropriate care for people with developmental and other disabilities.

This continuing education course is scheduled for Thursday, May 14, 2015 from 1-5 pm. Dental professionals who attend the training will be eligible for four hours of university-based continuing education credit. Registration for this course is available on the Annual Session registration form, which is included in this newsletter.

Dr. Paul Glassman will be the primary trainer for the course. He is Professor of Dental Practice, Director of Community Oral Health, and Director of the Pacific Center for Special Care at the University of the Pacific, Arthur A. Dugoni, School of Dentistry in San Francisco. He is also the Director of the California Statewide Task Force on Oral Health for People with Disabilities and Aging Californians.

### Dentist by One Campaign Coming to Sioux Falls

Beginning in mid-April, the Delta Dental of South Dakota Foundation (formally the Delta Dental Philanthropic Fund) will sponsor a "Dentist by One" public service campaign in the Sioux Falls metro area.

The campaign aims to educate parents, pediatricians and child advocates about the importance of early dental visits for children.

Age one visits are recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, the Academy of General Dentists, the American Dental Association and other organizations. While the percentage of children seeing a dental professional by his or her first birthday has continued to increase, there is much room to grow. A coordinated campaign including public service announcements, media pitches, mailings and visits to area pediatricians, and distributions of posters and brochures to child advocate organizations will help spread the message to the target audience of families with young children.

On Wednesday, March 25 at 11:00 a.m., Delta Dental will host a brief webinar for Sioux Falls area dental offices to share more details about the campaign. During the webinar they'll share information about why Delta Dental is sponsoring the campaign, details about how the campaign will work and information about how your office can participate.

All Sioux Falls area dental offices will be notified of the webinar, but if you have questions about the campaign, please contact Connie Halverson via email at [connie.halvorson@deltadentalsd.com](mailto:connie.halvorson@deltadentalsd.com) or phone at 605-494-2547.

## Charitable Dental Care Project to be Held in Sioux Falls

*New event seeks volunteers to care for underserved children.*

An oral health survey conducted by the South Dakota Department of Health indicates that of students who qualify for the Free or Reduced Lunch Program, almost 24 percent were in need of early dental care and more than 14 percent were in need of urgent dental care due to pain or infection. If those percentages are applied to current enrollment numbers in the Sioux Falls Public School System, it would mean that there could be 220 third graders in need of early dental care and 133 third graders in need of urgent dental care. Further, if this formula were applied to students in kindergarten through fifth grade it would mean there are 665 elementary-age children in need of urgent dental care.

While the actual number of children with unmet dental needs in Sioux Falls remains unknown, there is no doubt that the dental community in Sioux Falls wants to help address the needs of children. As a first step toward helping children with unmet dental needs the Southeastern District Dental Society is hosting a one-day event whereby dentists join with others in the Sioux Falls community to provide dental services to underserved children. Dentists, their auxiliaries, and community volunteers will gather to donate their time and services to provide dental screenings, fillings, extractions and cleanings, as well as education to any child whose family is interested in having them seen. As many children as possible will be seen, and treated, during the October 3<sup>rd</sup> event which is being called Sioux Empire Smiles.

Dr. Damon Thielen, a pediatric dentist from Sioux Falls, will be the director of the program. An event of this magnitude requires the participation of hundreds of volunteers. It also takes good organization and coordination. A number of dentists will be needed to lead different committees focusing on specific portions of the event including: event coordination, promotion, fundraising and recruiting. Children's Dental Center has donated the use of their facility for the event. Funding is being sought from the Sioux Empire United Way and Delta Dental of South Dakota. In-kind donations of supplies and materials will all be sought from dental vendors. Anyone interested in volunteering can contact Dr. Thielen at [damon.thielen@gmail.com](mailto:damon.thielen@gmail.com).

In addition to helping a large number of children in need, the event will also highlight the ongoing challenges that disadvantaged families face in finding dental care, so an added purpose of the event is to influence government and society at large to work with dentistry to craft common sense, market-based solutions to access disparities.

## Mission Volunterism Available Close to Home



Over the past two years, dozens of members of the South Dakota Dental Association (SDDA) have traveled to a sleepy outpost located in the extreme southcentral part of the state to provide much-needed dental care to patients of the St. Francis Mission Dental Clinic. The clinic is located in the heart of the Rosebud Reservation which is home to approximately 8,000 members of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe. The Mission has been on the Rosebud Reservation, meeting the needs of the Lakota people for more than 135 years. About five years ago the Mission decided it could no longer stand by and do nothing about the untreated dental disease that was rampant on Rosebud. In an effort to meet need for dental care, the Mission converted a former office building to a dental clinic and equipped it in a modest fashion. The clinic opened its doors in 2013. Shortly thereafter the SDDA committed to helping secure volunteer dentists and allied staff to provide care to the clinic's patients.

Marty Jones, a registered dental hygienist, serves as the clinic's only full-time staff person. She serves as the office manager, patient coordinator, hygienist and top recruiter of volunteer help. As a member of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe Marty has gained the trust and confidence of the local Lakota people and is building a system of dental care from the ground up. She is perpetually seeking donations of cash, equipment and time. While financial assistance can come from anyone, dental care can only be provided by someone licensed to do so. The volunteer time of dentists is the most precious commodity she can receive.

This year the SDDA and the Mission are hosting spring, summer and fall clinics at the Mission. The Spring Rosebud Dental Days event will be March 23-27. Summer events are scheduled for June 22-26 and July 20-24. The Fall event will take place September 14-18. Dentists, assistants and hygienists are needed for all four events. Generally speaking an event is split into two shifts with the first group of volunteers arriving on Sunday night, caring for patients Monday through mid-day Wednesday and the second group providing care Wednesday through mid-day Friday. The shifts are only a suggestion as past volunteers have worked anywhere from one day to a full week. Housing and meals are provided on the Mission campus for all volunteers.

Dentists or staff who want to volunteer should contact Paul Knecht or Brenda Goeden at the SDDA office by calling 605-224-9133 or email to [paul.knecht@sddental](mailto:paul.knecht@sddental) or [brenda.goeden@sddental.org](mailto:brenda.goeden@sddental.org). For more information about the clinic visit their website at: [www.sfmdental.org](http://www.sfmdental.org).

## USD Dental Hygiene Update

By Ann Brunick

The USD Department of Dental Hygiene is pleased to report the satisfactory completion of the 2014 accreditation site visit. The Commission on Dental Accreditation has designated USD as having "approval without reporting requirements" until the next scheduled visit in 2021. The Department faculty and staff have worked hard over the past seven years to meet and exceed the standards. The site visitors were very complimentary and indicated we were a "premier" program. I'm grateful to the support of so many individuals, especially those dentists and hygienists on our Advisory Board. They are Drs. Dick Koch, Ed Kusek, Denis Miller, Matt Knutson, and Jon Baumann as well as Amy Ripperda, Kathleen Lohr, Lonna Jones, Audrey Ticknor, Eunice Burgraff, and Marti Pollard. We're grateful to many others as well; we cannot do our work without the involvement of so many professionals.

The senior students will take their National Board exam the first week of April and their CRDTS exam in May during the Annual Session. All are excited about entering the workforce. If you have any job openings, please contact me or the Department office in order to get the information to the students. The junior students are finalizing their posters to present during Annual Session and will soon be in your offices for their internship experiences. Thank you for allowing them to observe clinical practice.

Our annual 5K run/walk is scheduled for April 11<sup>th</sup>. Please let us know if you are interested in participating. Dr. Smith, our resident marathoner, is in charge of the event and has created a unique event this year that revolves around "tooth fairies".

We're happy to have brought on a new full-time faculty member this year. Mr. Erik Mutterer brings a wealth of experience from both a clinical and academic background. He's taken the helm as Clinical Coordinator and has done very well. I hope you have the chance to meet him in May.

The University is in the midst of a capital fundraising campaign that includes a new Health Sciences facility. Our Department could potentially be relocated to a new building at a future date. The planning has been exciting and we're hopeful for change.

Thanks again for all the support that we receive in so many ways.

### Classified Ads

#### Full Time Expanded Duty Dental Assistant Opening.

Please contact Dakota Family Dentistry, 1010 Dakota Ave S, Huron, SD 57350; 605-352-6999 for an application and job description. Please visit our website at [dakotafamilydentistry.org](http://dakotafamilydentistry.org).

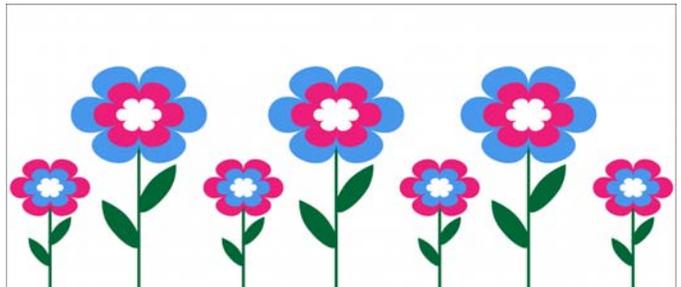
**Certified Dental Assistant** (Full Time). Prairie Winds Dental Clinic an office of Horizon Health Care, Inc has a full time dental assistant opening. The position requires comprehensive knowledge of dental assisting techniques and procedures for all phases of general dentistry. Knowledge of modern dental materials, their storage, handling and applications required. The ability to work with persons from a wide diversity of social, ethnic and economic backgrounds is necessary. The Dental Assistant will assist with various clinical and administrative functions of the center as needed. Experience with computers and dental software would be beneficial. Apply on-line @ [www.horizonhealthcare.org/careers](http://www.horizonhealthcare.org/careers); Resumes can be emailed to [ksumpter@horizonhealthcare.org](mailto:ksumpter@horizonhealthcare.org). *Horizon Heal Care is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer. We strongly encourage applications from those who identify as diverse in terms of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability and/or veteran status.*

### SDDAA Newsnotes

Our association was pleased to work with the Dentist and Hygienist Associations in the passing of the House Bill 1045. With this bill, dental assistant credentials will be changing from Advanced Dental Assistant (ADA) to Registered Dental Assistant (RDA).

The South Dakota Dental Assistants will be sponsoring a two hour continuing education course in radiography at the State Meeting in Sioux Falls. Pat Aylward, RDH will be lecturing on "Dental Effects of Radiation Therapy" on May 16, 2015. We will look forward to seeing you at this Lunch and Learn.

Luann Brownson  
SDDAA President



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### **CONTINUING EDUCATION CALENDAR Spring 2015**

The listing of these programs is provided as a service to SDDA Newsletter subscribers, and does not mean that these programs have been endorsed or approved by the SD Dental Association or the SD State Board of Dentistry. All members are cautioned to evaluate the programs on their own merit.

#### **SD DENTAL ASSOCIATION 2015 ANNUAL SESSION**

Contact: Brenda Goeden 605-224-9133  
[www.sddental.org](http://www.sddental.org)

#### **May 14-16, 2015 Sioux Falls, SD**

For a list of speakers go to [www.sddental.org](http://www.sddental.org), click on Annual Session, CE Speakers

#### **WESTERN DAKOTA TECHNICAL INSTITUTE**

Contact: 605-718-2410

#### **Third Friday of the Month, mornings**

- American Heart Association CPR Class for Healthcare Professionals

#### **Third Friday of the Month, afternoons**

- American Heart Association Healthcare Provider CPR Recertification

#### **LAKE AREA TECHNICAL INSTITUTE**

Contact: Rhonda Bradberry 605-882-5284, ext. 214

[bradberr@lakeareatech.edu](mailto:bradberr@lakeareatech.edu)

#### **April 10, 2015; 9 am—Noon**

- Gayle Christensen "Can't Wait To Get There"

#### **Home Study Radiology Courses available:**

- Radiology Safety
- Radiography Production

#### **UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

Contact: Dept. of Dental Hygiene  
605-677-5379

#### **Home Study Radiology Courses available:**

- Digital Radiography, Advantages & Disadvantages
- Exposure Errors of Periapicals & Bitewings
- Processing Errors
- Occlusal Exposures for Children
- Oral Effects of Head & Neck Radiation Therapy
- Panoramic Radiography
- Radiation Safety
- Vertical Bitewings
- Fluoride Varnish, Indication & Application

#### **STEPPING STONES TO SUCCESS**

Contact: [www.steppingstonestosuccess.com](http://www.steppingstonestosuccess.com)

- "Record Keeping Basics/Self-Study Program"

#### **ADA CE ONLINE**

Contact: [www.ada.org/goto/ceonline](http://www.ada.org/goto/ceonline)

## ***Dentistry in South Dakota***

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