The Southeastern District Dental Society (SEDDS) is again hosting a free one-day dental clinic for children 21 and under. The clinic will begin at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, October 5, 2019 and will serve up to 150 patients with comprehensive dental care services, from cleanings and exams to surgical and restorative treatments.

Children’s Dental Center has once again donated the use of their facility for the event. Funding for the clinic has been committed by the Sioux Empire United Way and in-kind donations of supplies and materials has been sought from dental vendors and Sioux Falls area retailers.

A clinic of this size needs the participation of many volunteers. Dentists, dental hygienists, and dental assistants are needed to make this clinic a success. Please contact Dr. Damon Thilen at damon.thielen@gmail.com if you would like to volunteer.

This clinic promises to be a rewarding experience for all volunteers coming together with a common goal of providing dental care to underserved populations of children and adults who cannot, for whatever reason, obtain care.

In addition to receiving needed dental treatment, patients will learn the importance of good daily oral hygiene practices, healthy diet and routine preventive dental care.

Delta Dental of South Dakota Launches Health through Oral Wellness®

What is Health through Oral Wellness®?

Health through Oral Wellness is a patient-centered program that adds benefits to a Delta Dental plan based on an individual patient’s oral health needs. An online clinical risk assessment can be performed during a regular preventive visit. Additional benefits are unlocked immediately so they can be provided the same day or at a future visit.

The scientifically-validated risk assessment tool is provided by PreViser™. Assessments include a series of questions about brushing and flossing, clinical information (probe depths, previous restorative work, etc.), the frequency of dental visits, and other oral behaviors and medical conditions. PreViser then calculates a numeric score that reflects the patient’s current oral disease status and the risk for future diseases. Patients at high risk unlock additional benefits, empowering clinicians to intercept diseases before they ever occur.

What are the additional benefits?

The assessment measures the risk and severity of periodontal disease, and the risk of tooth decay. Additional benefits are based on an individual’s risk and severity scores and may include:

- Additional cleanings
- Sealants (child and adult)
- Periodontal maintenance
- Fluoride (child and adult)
- And more…

When does the program launch?

In January 2019, Delta Dental began a pilot program with Delta Dental employees and primarily Pierre dentists, to ensure all program elements were working properly. On January 1, 2020 most Delta Dental of South Dakota plans will be automatically migrated to the Health through Oral Wellness program. Others will migrate on their renewal dates throughout the year.

Rollout to Delta Dental network dentists will begin in September 2019. In preparation for the 2020 launch, a Delta Dental Health through Oral Wellness employee will help your office get trained and enrolled. Offices that would like to register for a Health through Oral Wellness fall training should call: 1-877-841-1478.

Where can I learn more about the program?

There is a wealth of information on the PreViser website www.previser.com. Also, check out Delta Dental’s Health through Oral Wellness introductory video at: www.deltadentalsd.com.
Greetings SDDA! As current president of the SDDHA I am excited to share that we have a lot in store for this year! We have a very dedicated and motivated board of hygienists who are eager to grow our profession. We are excited to work cohesively with all of you and would like to make it a goal to work together to grow this field prosperously! Most recently we were at Annual Session in Rapid City, SD. We had a great turn out and have received positive feedback in this regard. We are now prepping to attend ADHA in Louisville, Kentucky at the end of June. This event provides us with the opportunity to further our education as well as network with others in this prosperous field of dental hygiene. We are excited to work collaboratively with other dental/health care associations to grow this profession as one. Thanks to all of you at the SDDA for your continued support of us and our profession. Together we can work to achieve anything and provide the best care for our patients. Cheers to 2019-2020!

By Nicole Pahl, CDA, BA
DA Program Director

We have just wrapped up our school year of classes and students are currently participating in their Clinical Experiences in your dental offices. This group of students have had excellent attendance, work ethic and a desire to learn about the dental profession. We have had them hard at work, since August, by participating in Community Service hours and projects which is a requirement for our program. Some of the events they attended and educated people were: October Fest, Senior and Junior Tech days, Scrubs Camps in many towns, professional workshops, Smiles on Us, Zoo Boo, Career Fairs and Expos, Women in Science, and Boys and Girls Club events. They were also instrumental in assisting in Fluoride Clinics in Sioux Falls with USD Hygiene and Delta Dental; as well as, visiting local retirement homes, nursing homes and daycares to present Oral Hygiene demonstrations and distribute toothbrushes. We also had students volunteer to serve at St Francis Mission. After documenting all of their hours, our students participated in 3317 hours of community service! They are also adding 7140 hours of donated clinical experience hours by assisting in your clinics. That’s a grand total of over 10000 hours of their time to show others their passion for this profession!

This May, we had 31 on-campus students and 3 online students graduate. We direct them to research job employment options that are posted on our LATI website. If you have a job opening, please go to the www.lakeareatech.edu, click About Us, then Employment. You will be able to post about your opening, as well as upload your website for review. We refer current students AND alumni to check the site when looking for employment.

We would like to mention our online program. This program fills the need for students that may not be able to come to campus daily, whether it is a location issue or employment issue. We currently have 8 online students that started in January and they are currently working on securing employment in dental offices. This fall, they will be working full-time while completing their education with us during a 16-month timespan. The students are required to participate in the coursework online and to complete their hands-on portion during on-campus labs. It has been working well for the last 9 years and we hope to improve every year! We feel this is an excellent way to fill the need of dental assistants across the state. If you have any questions, please contact us for information and clarification.

Lastly, our program would like to thank you! Without the help of the dental community, members of our advisory board, and supporters of our program, we would not be able to graduate dental assistants and help our profession! Our students thoroughly enjoy the offices they visit, professionals they work with, and patients they see.

Delta Dental’s Foundation Boosts Dental Assistant Training

By Connie Halverson

The Delta Dental of South Dakota Foundation is putting substantial financial support behind Dental Assistant programs at two of South Dakota’s technical institutes. The DDSD Foundation awarded $50,000 to help start a new dental assistant program at Southeast Technical Institute in Sioux Falls. The program would be the only one in Sioux Falls. Southeast Tech is planning to accept up to 24 students in the 1-year program, with graduates prepared to meet the SD Board of Dentistry requirements to become a Registered Dental Assistant.

A grant of $49,725 was also awarded to provide equipment and supplies to expand and enhance training opportunities for dental assisting students in the existing program at Western Dakota Tech in Rapid City. The funds will be used to add specialized manikins for students’ lab practice as well as supplies for community rotations where students gain practical experience providing oral care and education for local seniors and children who are without a dental home.

The SD Department of Health’s 2017 Healthcare Workforce Report noted that dental assistant is one of the fastest growing professions in healthcare in South Dakota, ranking 4th in overall projected growth in job openings from 2014-2024.
Greetings from Western Dakota Tech Dental Assisting Program! Our semester seems to be flying by with many exciting advancements; progressing through our CODA accreditation self-study and making necessary adjustments where needed, and implementing our new curriculum. The students now have more time in expanded functions lab as well as dental materials lab.

The students began their first clinical course this spring semester and are putting into practice the skills they learned during their hands-on lab courses. We currently have 16 offices that have agreed to work with our students and WDT as a clinical site, helping students to become successful and well-trained dental assistants. We are very grateful to the supporters of our program! The students are very enthusiastic about their career in dentistry and have had many good experiences already to share with the class.

In January our program was awarded a generous grant from Delta Dental Foundation to purchase additional learning manikins and digital sensors for radiology, instrument kits for expanded functions lab and to fund a student community project called “smiles for a lifetime”. The students will be doing a rotation in a nursing home to do denture cleaning or brushing and flossing and a rotation to Youth and Family Services to present oral hygiene education. The grant has provided an enriched learning experience for the students and in turn the oral health workforce!

The WDT dental assisting club has been busy doing fund raising for their goals of community service and professional development. They went to Girls Inc. and provided hygiene supplies and oral health education activities with 20 kindergarten girls. They have also arranged a continuing education course to take place here at the WDT event center on March 14 at 6pm. Joe Mayne from Crosstex will speak about infection control, this is worth 2 continuing ed credits and only $10 including a light meal. The money raised is going to be used to purchase oral hygiene supplies for WAVI and The Hope Center in Rapid City.

The Dental Assisting Program participated in a school-wide mass casualty simulation this April. The students are able to practice their skills in handling an emergency situation, the use of dental software, and also gain experience with taking necessary x-rays images unique to the patient’s needs. Lastly, we were active in school events that showcased our profession and facility, speaking with a variety middle school and high school students.

May 10th concluded the spring semester for the 2018-2019 school year at Western Dakota Tech with 16 students on track to graduate. Our students are working hard and getting prepared to transition into the summer semester where they will complete their clinical experience in community dental offices in Rapid City and the Northern Hills. If you are not already a clinical site and would like to participate as one, please contact me as we are always eager to have as much community participation as possible. If you have any questions about the program, or would like to participate in any capacity, please contact me at Jenna.Golden@wdt.edu or my phone number, (605) 718-3057. Thanks again to our advisory board, the community dentists, volunteer speakers, and Delta Dental Foundation for contributing to the Dental Assisting Program!

Jenna Golden, CDA, RDH, MSDH ~ Director of Dental Assisting
Jenna.Golden@wdt.edu

Remote Area Medical—RAM Is Coming to the Rosebud Reservation

RAM™ will be operating at the St. Francis Mission the weekend of August 16-18, 2019 and they are looking for volunteers from South Dakota. RAM™’s mission is to prevent pain and alleviate suffering through operation of free mobile clinics that deliver high quality vision, dental and medical service to individuals who do not have access or cannot afford care.

RAM™ is seeking 10 dentists; 10 assistants and five dental hygienists to donate their professional expertise to help those who need it most. If you can help, please contact Marty Jones at the St. Francis Mission Dental Clinic (605-747-2142 or marty.jones@sfmission.net) to sign up.

For more information about RAM™ go to: www.ramusa.org.

For more information about the St. Francis Mission Dental Clinic go to: http://www.sfmdental.org.
CONTINUING EDUCATION CALENDAR

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.

SDDA ANNUAL SESSION
Contact: Brenda Goeden 605-224-9133
www.sddental.org
May 14-16, 2020 Sioux Falls, SD

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: Nicole Pahl, 605-882-5284, ext. 362
Nicole.pahl@lakeareatech.edu
https://www.lakeareatech.edu/corporate-education/corporate-education-registration/

Expanded Functions Dental Assistant Program
Feb-June each year

Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support (ACLS)
June 10, 2019

LATI DA Annual Fall Workshop CE
October 4, 2019

16-hr Intro to Basic Concepts in Radiography
March 5 & 6, 2020

Home Study Radiology Courses available:
Radiology Safety
Radiography Production

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA
Contact: Dept. of Dental Hygiene 605-677-5379

Nitrous Oxide/Oxygen Sedation Course
June 13-14, 2019

Radiotherapy Certification Course for Dental Assistants
June 6-7, 2019

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

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March 5 & 6, 2020

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Panoramic Radiography
Radiation Safety
Vertical Bitewings
Fluoride Varnish, Indication & Application