



NORTHEAST DELTA DENTAL FOUNDATION, INC.



Helping to meet
the oral health needs
of people in our
communities in
Maine, New Hampshire,
and Vermont.

 **DELTA DENTAL**[®]
Northeast Delta Dental



ABOUT THE
Foundation

The Northeast Delta Dental Foundation was established in December of 1995 to help meet the oral health needs of people in our communities of the states we serve—Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont. The Foundation is dedicated exclusively to improving oral health. The importance of dental education and preventive oral health care makes the Foundation a critical arm of Northeast Delta Dental.

Located in Concord, New Hampshire, Northeast Delta Dental is an umbrella organization providing dental benefits to companies of all sizes, covering individuals in our tri-state area through Delta Dental Plan of Maine, Delta Dental Plan of New Hampshire, and Delta Dental Plan of Vermont.

The Foundation is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization funded by annual contributions from Delta Dental Plans of Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont, together doing business as Northeast Delta Dental. The Internal Revenue Service grants this tax exempt status to a corporation formed for a *specific* charitable purpose. The Foundation also accepts gifts from individuals and organizations and hosts annual fundraisers.

Northeast Delta Dental is proud to be a leader among the philanthropic and community organizations whose services contribute to the improvement of oral health care. This brochure will explain the Foundation's purpose and guide you through the application process. We invite you to read the following pages highlighting some of the programs we have had the pleasure of supporting.

*The mission of
Northeast Delta Dental Foundation
is to improve the access to
and the quality of
dental health and education
for the public and
the dental communities in
Maine, New Hampshire,
and Vermont.*

E ducation



Melvin J. Severance III, CFP, Board Chair of the Northeast Delta Dental Foundation, presents a scholarship check to Ronald F. Borelli, Board Chair, New Hampshire Community Technical Colleges Foundation.

DENTAL EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN

Our school-based initiatives provide funds to develop and present dental education programs. The programs provide children with preventive skills and build awareness of how important oral health is as part of overall health. The programs are designed to be fun and interesting, and the children become eager to learn better brushing techniques. The Foundation also provides educational materials such as large models of teeth and toothbrushes, coloring books, oral health flyers, and videotapes to dental offices free of charge to be used to educate children about good oral health.

DENTAL EDUCATION FOR DENTAL PROFESSIONALS

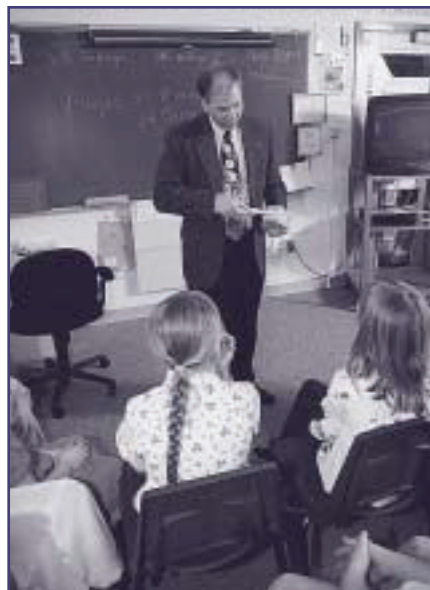
The Foundation sponsors continuing education courses at annual meetings of professional societies of dentists and dental hygienists. The Foundation also fights shortages of dental professionals by:

- ★ pledging to endow programs at universities and colleges that offer a dental education curriculum
- ★ awarding scholarships to students studying to become dental assistants or dental hygienists through an educational institution in Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont

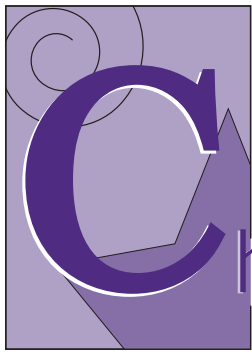
Delta Dental Plan of New Hampshire funded the Northeast Delta Dental Faculty Chair in Oral Hygiene in 2003 and 2004 at the New Hampshire Technical Institute (NHTI). NHTI is the only college in New Hampshire to offer degree programs in dental hygiene and dental assisting. Our gift enabled the college to accept additional students to address the shortage of hygienists that prevails throughout northern New England.

ORAL HEALTH FLYERS

The Foundation created colorful and entertaining oral health flyers that are available to health clinics, schools, public health organizations, dental offices, and group customers. These flyers communicate oral health messages on such topics as baby bottle tooth decay, fighting tooth decay in babies and young children, tongue piercing, and the proper ways to take care of teeth for a lifetime. These and other oral health flyers are very popular and can be ordered free of charge.



Gerald R. Theberge, DDS, of Brattleboro, Vermont, is volunteering his time in the third-grade classroom of Brattleboro's Oak Grove School to teach young children how to care for their teeth using instructional material provided by the Foundation.



Children



NEW HAMPSHIRE ORAL HEALTH CURRICULUM

In 2002, the Northeast Delta Dental Foundation partnered with the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services and the New Hampshire Department of Education to publish a grade-specific oral health curriculum for kindergarten through grade three. These binders were shipped to over 400 elementary schools in New Hampshire.

VERMONT BABY BOTTLE TOOTH DECAY

The Foundation was a major contributor to the design and printing of educational materials used to launch a statewide initiative in Vermont concerning baby bottle tooth decay. The Vermont Department of Health formed the Vermont Baby Bottle Tooth Decay Coalition of health professionals consisting of representatives from the Vermont State Dental Society, the Vermont Chapter of the Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, the Vermont Chapter of the Academy of Pediatrics, the Vermont Chapter of the Academy of Family Practice, and the Vermont Nurse Practitioners/Nurse Midwives. This material is still widely circulated in Vermont.



A young boy from Hollis participates in kindergarten registration dental screenings held at Hollis Town Hall, Hollis, Maine.

During the school-based fluoride rinse program at Thornton School in Thornton, New Hampshire, kindergarten teacher Paul Karinja played his guitar, singing a song called "Swish, Swish, Swish" while the children rinsed, aided by Barbara Laverack, RDH.



GIVE KIDS A SMILE

In 2002, the Northeast Delta Dental Foundation began working closely with dental societies in Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont to support the efforts of dentists and their staffs to provide care to children with unmet dental needs. In Maine, we paid for dental supplies for treatment provided at the Jessie Albert Memorial Dental Center in Bath. In New Hampshire, we communicated the efforts of volunteers at locations throughout the state with press releases, public service announcements, and photographs. In Vermont, we designed and printed 94,000 copies of a two-sided oral health flyer that was inserted into eight newspapers covering ten counties. The funding support will be offered annually.



SCHOOL-BASED FLUORIDE RINSE PROGRAMS

To spread the word about the importance of oral health issues, we sponsor school-based fluoride rinse programs in areas where there is no public funding for such programs.

Fluoride is widely known for its decay prevention properties, yet only a small percentage of communities in Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont have a fluoridated water supply. Several school-based fluoride rinse programs receive Foundation support each year for the cost of fluoride and related supplies. Many of these programs offer oral health education, and some conduct free dental screenings. The Foundation looks favorably on an application from a program that has a strong preventive emphasis.

P.A.N.D.A. PROGRAM

In 1994, Delta Dental Plan of New Hampshire formed a coalition of individuals and agencies with a vested interest in the health and welfare of children who are neglected and abused. P.A.N.D.A. (Prevent Abuse and Neglect through Dental Awareness) is an educational program created to train and advise dental professionals of their legal responsibility to report suspected cases of child abuse and neglect. They learn how to recognize the physical and behavioral symptoms and what reporting mechanism to follow. Delta Dental Plans of Maine and Vermont have also formed coalitions.

Instructional videotapes and brochures that clarify reporting procedures in each state are available to the dental communities.

If you would like to schedule a presentation by a Northeast Delta Dental employee or wish to learn more about the P.A.N.D.A. program, contact Eleanor Vien, Manager of Professional Relations, at 603-223-1305, or evien@nedelta.com.



Clinics



Barry C. Saltz, DDS, Portland, volunteers at the Jessie Albert Memorial Dental Center in Bath, Maine.

DENTAL SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT

The Northeast Delta Dental Foundation attempts to address access issues through supporting dental clinics rather than paying for direct care for individuals who are not able to receive the care they need. The Foundation typically provides funds for dental supplies and equipment and related oral health educational materials to applying dental clinics.

Many clinics that the Foundation assists are staffed by dentists, dental hygienists, and dental assistants who volunteer time outside their work hours to treat patients who critically need dental work. Some dental health professionals receive training in these clinics. The Foundation does not pay for staff salaries, nor does it contribute to capital campaigns to be used for buildings or the improvement of buildings.

Lack of funds, which often includes lack of dental insurance, brings people of all ages to the clinics we assist. Each clinic operates under its own established protocols and must be contacted directly for help. Patients who benefit from clinic services often experience a boost in self-confidence that helps them lead more productive lives. This is above and beyond the better general health often enjoyed when oral health needs are met.

MAINE

Center for Community Dental Health, Portland
Islands Community Dental Services, Vinalhaven
Jessie Albert Memorial Dental Center, Bath
Penobscot Community Health Center, Bangor
Portland Volunteer Dental Clinic
Kennebec Valley Dental Coalition, Waterville

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Avis Goodwin Community Health Center, Rochester
Capital Region Family Health Center Dental Clinic,
Concord
Dental Health Works, Keene
Families First Dental Center, Portsmouth
Manchester Dental Alliance
New Hampshire Technical Institute Dental Clinic,
Concord
Queen City Smiles, Manchester
The Greater Nashua Dental Connection, Inc.
The Rock Dental Clinic, Georges Mills
Valley Regional Hospital, Claremont

VERMONT

Estey Dental Clinic, Brattleboro
The Dental Center, Burlington



Guidelines



The Foundation accepts applications from nonprofit organizations whose mission is to help those who are underserved in dental care. The Foundation funds are expended solely for needs related to oral health. Dental supplies, dental equipment, and educational material are provided only when there is an educational program in place. For example, toothbrushes are provided only if they are part of an education program.

The Foundation does not support any community events or organizations unrelated to the promotion of oral health. For example, the arts, sporting events, or any agency providing services other than those related to oral health will not be considered for Foundation funding.

The Foundation Board of Directors meets four times a year to review applications submitted for requests over \$1,000. Deadlines vary yearly. Please contact us for dates. A committee of Northeast Delta Dental employees reviews requests of up to \$1,000 more frequently, and grant applications for these requests may be submitted at any time for consideration.

Northeast Delta Dental considers requests for community philanthropy and supports them selectively with funding. The Northeast Delta Dental Foundation, however, is empowered to fund only oral health initiatives, in keeping with its charter.

*Our application is available on our
Web site at www.nedelta.com
or contact*

*Kathleen B. Walker, APR
or*

Eleanor H. Vien

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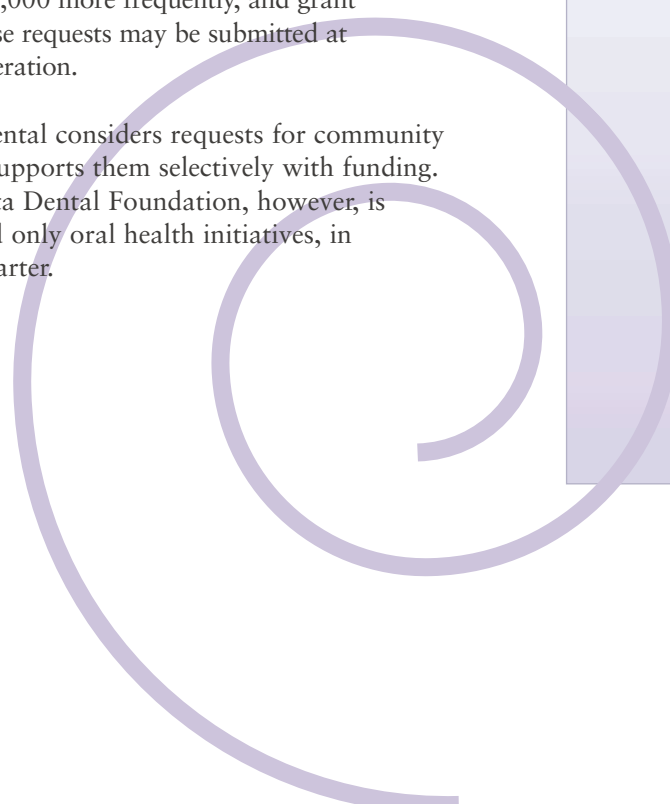
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Forging partnerships in Maine,
New Hampshire, and Vermont
to make a little magic...



one smile at a time.



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