

Congratulations

The Wrigley Company Foundation and Australian Dental Association Foundation announce 2013 Community Service Grant recipients

Access to dental services is still a cause for concern in Australia. More than 90% of adults show signs of treated or untreated dental decay' and waiting lists still present a major issue. Serious gaps also exist in dental care for some of the country's most deprived communities: the elderly, disabled, disadvantaged, and rural and remote Australians.

One initiative helping to tackle the gap in access to oral care services and education is a partnership between the Australian Dental Association Foundation (ADAF) and the Wrigley Company Foundation - the Community Service Grants.

Introduced in collaboration with ADA Inc in 2011, the program provides much needed funding to volunteer dentists, dentistry students and teams of allied dental professionals, to cover the purchase of supplies, treatments and other expenses to either commence or expand existing oral health community service programs.

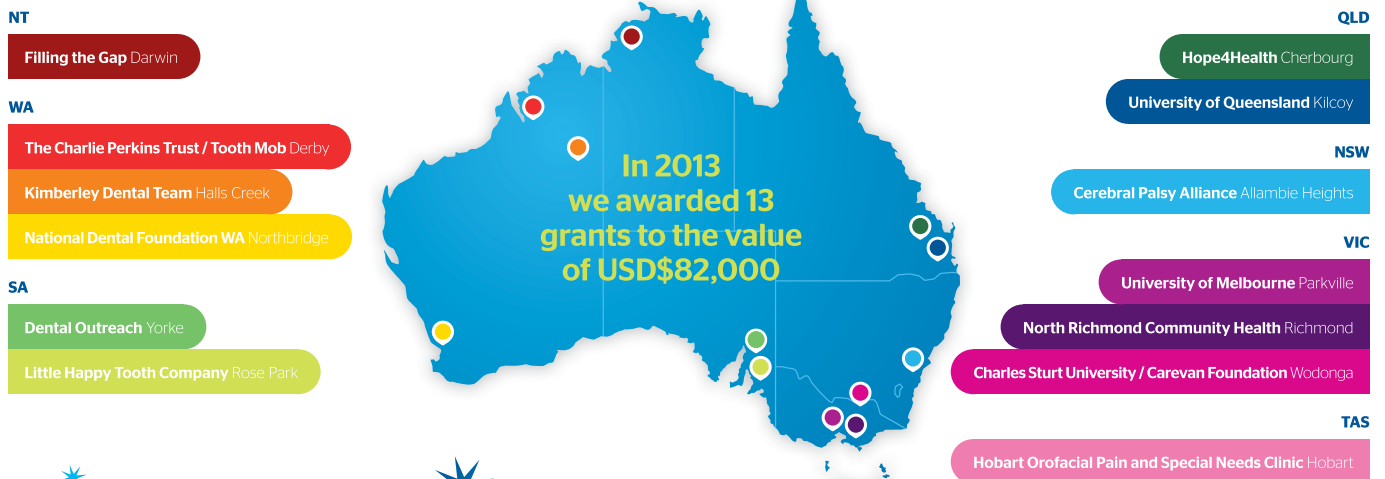
2013 grants program - bigger and better

- A new category was added 'Principles In Action' which supports a large scale project with USD\$10,000 and joins the existing Student and Dental categories
- More funds were awarded - total annual grant funding increased by 46% in 2013 compared with 2012 Community Service Grants
- This year the Wrigley Company Foundation has signed a three year partnership to provide USD\$295,000 in grant funds over the next three years
- The quality and quantity of this year's grant applications has been outstanding with a 26% increase in grant applications from the previous year

"Our core business is to provide portable, accessible and enjoyable oral care that gives everyone the confidence of a happy, healthy mouth and we are committed to improving Australians' dental health. Effective partnership continues to drive the success of the Community Service Grant program, from the alliance between the Wrigley Company Foundation and the ADAF, to our collaboration with the hard working dentists and dental student grantees on their grassroots programs. We applaud all of the 2013 grant applicants who will put their Principles into Action and make a real difference in the community," said Andrew Leakey, General Manager, Wrigley Pacific.

"The Wrigley Company Foundation ADAF Community Service Grants support dentists and students across Australia who volunteer their time and services to assist some of Australia's most deprived communities. The grants are vitally important, they help dental professionals' set-up oral health education and provide treatments free-of-charge to either commence or expand existing community service programs," said Wendy Tancred, Chairman Advisory Board, Australian Dental Association Foundation.

This year's grant recipients



New Category for 2013 – Principles in Action Grant (USD\$10,000 X 1)

Dental Outreach

This program, which helps to improve the oral health of up to 800 elderly patients in aged care facilities within the Yorke Peninsula and Mid North regions of South Australia, was a successful grant recipient back in 2012. This year the grant funds will go towards delivering on-site dental screening, education, prevention and treatment to mobility constrained nursing home residents through a mobile dental clinic.

The Yorke Peninsula and Mid-North regions of South Australia have limited access to dental services. As a result, local residents, particularly elderly residents living in aged-care facilities are suffering from oral health problems.

This year the grant will deliver education to care givers providing both treatment and prevention. Elderly residents will directly benefit from the program as patient travel is eliminated, professional dental assessment and treatment is provided, and overall oral health is improved.



Dental Student Grant Category (USD\$6,000 X 4)

University of Queensland

People living with severe mental illness, personality disorders and substance misuse have a much greater risk of poor oral health. Providing dental students with the confidence to engage with people with mental illness is a key component in enhancing access to oral health care for this underserved group. This project - which is part of an ongoing Metro North Mental Health Service program in Brisbane - facilitates student awareness, engagement and competence in treating patients with mental illness through a tailored program and community projects for third, fourth and fifth year students.



Charles Sturt University / Carevan Foundation

Grant funds have been awarded to a volunteer team of oral health therapy and dental students at Charles Sturt University (CSU) to help roll-out the Sun Smiles program, in partnership with The Carevan Foundation. The program aims to improve access to preventative dental care for disadvantaged primary school children at the Wodonga West Primary School.



The project will provide oral hygiene instruction, a school fluoride varnish program and dental screening. A two year pilot program undertaken at the Wodonga West Primary School by Carevan found: 14% of local children required urgent dental care, 89% had never received a fluoride varnish treatment and a large number had not received a dental exam within the last year.

University of Melbourne

Formed in 2008, the D3 Group is a cross-sector initiative comprising of academics, practitioners, students, public health, industry and researchers who work together to increase understanding and awareness of developmental dental defects (D3). To achieve these goals their primary mission is to help educate people about D3s as it pertains to them - families and patients, the public health sector and politicians, practitioners and industry researchers. This grant will support a new national platform - the D3 website - which was recently unveiled at the ADA Congress by supporting student engagement and education of the D3 issues in order to create advocacy and awareness.



Hope4Health

This volunteer dental program operated only by students provides services, oral care education and dental supplies to remote Aboriginal townships in Queensland. For the third consecutive year grant funds will go towards supporting dental students from Griffith University to provide emergency dental treatment, purchase essential instruments and oral health education to local Indigenous people. This long-standing program has benefitted the local Cherbourg community over the past five years in improving resident's oral health status and the participating students' experience. The majority of patients presenting to the clinic need extensive treatment with many requiring full clearances due to extremely poor oral health. Due to the ongoing program, there has been a transition, although very slowly, from emergency dentistry to maintenance and prevention.



Dentist Practitioner Grant Category (USD\$6,000 X 8)

Hobart Orofacial Pain and Special Needs Clinic

Until recently there has been a significant lack of specialist dental and oral health facilities in Tasmania for people with special needs. This includes the elderly and people in aged care, those with physical and intellectual disabilities, dental fears and phobias, and complicated medical histories. This grant will assist the ongoing development of Tasmania's first dedicated Special Needs Dental Clinic to improve disability and wheelchair access, and fund facility renovations and local community marketing. The Special Needs Clinic will run alongside an existing Orofacial Pain Practice and will utilise the expert skills of general dentists with experience in special needs dentistry as well as visiting specialists as required. As part of routine oral hygiene promotion and dental disease prevention, patients will be regularly provided with complimentary oral hygiene promotional material and kits, and home oral care instructions specifically tailored to their needs, all of which are vital to their ongoing preventive care and maintenance.



Cerebral Palsy Alliance

The Cerebral Palsy Alliance runs a specialised dental clinic assisting 600 people with cerebral palsy each year. In 2012, the Wrigley Company Foundation ADAF grant program awarded the Alliance a grant which was used to purchase a specialised autoclave machine, assisting in the sterilization of instruments in the dental clinic. Continuing to support the clinic in 2013, this year's grant funds will purchase eight brand new high speed and low speed dental hand pieces. With their new equipment the team can provide the highest of quality care for community members suffering from Cerebral Palsy.



Little Happy Tooth Company

About 1 in 100 children have an Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). The team at Little Happy Tooth Co. has been looking after children with ASD for many years and is passionate in promoting better oral care for all children. Some parents may find bringing their children with ASD to the dentist or brushing their teeth particularly challenging.

The Wrigley Company Foundation and ADAF Community Service Grant supports the 'Making Things Easier' project by funding dental information workshops to parents with children with ASD and the development of a set of free visual tools and Apps to help going to the dentist and teeth brushing easier for these children.



North Richmond Community Health

Although older people are a focus of the National Oral Health Plan, many residents of aged care facilities have limited access to an oral health care provider. This is where initiatives such as the North Richmond Community Health program aims to provide oral health assessments and education to more than 40 residents and staff at two aged care facilities within inner city Melbourne. This program aims to visit two Aged Care facilities on four occasions over a six month period. During the visits, a dentist will undertake oral health risk assessment and education will be provided by a Dental Assistant trained in oral health promotion.



The Charlie Perkins Trust / Tooth Mob

This is the third consecutive year that the Tooth Mob program has received funding from the Wrigley Company Foundation ADAF grants. This year the funding will enable volunteer dental teams from Canberra, Melbourne, Brisbane and Sydney to visit remote communities in Derby, Western Australia. Teams of 4 dental professionals will provide 2 weeks of volunteer service each month and aim to treat more than 80 patients in order to clear the back log of patients, transition to a model of preventative oral care and facilitate community engagement. The overall aim of the Tooth Mob is to create a self-sustaining program that can be replicated in rural and remote towns and communities around Australia.





Filling the Gap

This vital long-term volunteer initiative, which delivers oral health care to Indigenous communities near Darwin, receives a second grant from the Wrigley Company Foundation ADAF program after being awarded a grant in 2011. The core business of Filling the Gap is to recruit volunteer dentists for Aboriginal communities that lack access to dental services, whilst at the same time empowering those communities to become self-sufficient in running their own dental programs. Filling The Gap, run in conjunction with Danila Dilba Health Services near Darwin, is unique in that there is a commitment to provide continuous volunteer dentists and dental ancillary staff throughout most of the year. This continuation is critical to enable closely coordinated treatment plans that provide ongoing comprehensive dentistry, rather than just an emergency only approach.

Kimberley Dental Team

Recipients of a Wrigley Company Foundation ADAF grant in 2012, this year the funding will go towards a mobile dental trailer to provide remote, community based oral health care and education over a four week period to the local Kimberley Aboriginal population in and around Halls Creek. While there is no official dental health data for the Halls Creek population, Kimberley Dental Team screening has found that up to 75% of primary school children in East Kimberley Aboriginal communities have widespread decay requiring treatment urgently or within 6 months.



Get ready for the 2014 grants

We encourage you to apply for next year's grants. Applications for the Community Service Grants program will open in April 2014. To keep up-to-date with the program and application criteria visit www.adaf.org.au. For any questions please contact Sophie Hughes, Corporate Communications Manager, Wrigley Pacific on extraoralcare@wrigley.com

National Dental Foundation WA

The 2013 grant will support the establishment of a volunteer dental clinic at a Perth inner city centre (The Ruah Centre) to provide dental care to individuals marginalised or disadvantaged within the community. This includes special needs and mental health patients, homeless or at risk of becoming homeless, those overcoming substance dependency and those seeking refuge for domestic violence. The clinic will be equipped to provide all aspects of general dentistry (examinations, cleans, restorations and extractions) with an emphasis on preventive care and patient education. The program will gradually be expanded to obtain equipment for a mobile dental unit that can be taken directly to care facilities to treat special needs or elderly patients. Some general restorative work can be provided, as well as extractions and relief of pain. This program will assist in identifying and treating aspects of oral health care that are missing within these patient groups.

WRIGLEY Company Foundation

1. The Standing Committee on Health and Ageing report on the Inquiry into Adult Dental Services in Australia, (2013), *Bridging the Dental Gap: Report on the inquiry into adult dental services*

About the Wrigley Company Foundation

Established in 1987, The Wrigley Company Foundation (WCF) aspires to support people & planet through oral health education, environmental stewardship, and local community partnerships. For more than 25 years, Wrigley has supported independent, clinical research into the benefits of chewing gum including saliva stimulation and plaque acid neutralisation. The EXTRA Oral Healthcare Program supports oral health professionals in the promotion of oral health benefits of chewing sugarfree gum as part of a regular oral care routine.