



# AUSTRALIAN DENTAL HEALTH FOUNDATION

Volunteer Dental Programs

Quarterly Impact Report

1<sup>st</sup> January 2022 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022



AUSTRALIAN  
DENTAL HEALTH FOUNDATION  
ADVANCING AUSTRALIA'S ORAL HEALTH

## Chairman's Introduction



I am writing this as ANZAC Day 2022 approaches and this year we all have a solemn reminder of the tragedy of war and the importance of those who volunteer to protect the community's values. In Australia we have largely been shielded by remoteness from the need for most of us to engage in armed conflict, at least for the past 77 years. However, the dental profession has stepped up to help those who have participated at the behest of our Government in wars and Veterans and their dependents have enjoyed the unwavering support of the profession in cooperation with the Department of Veterans Affairs since its inception. The other cohorts of people also impacted by conflicts are the displaced peoples of conflict zones.

The ADHF looks forward to helping these groups as well.

COVID-19 continues to restrict the volume of volunteering along with the scope of dental practice in some jurisdictions. Nevertheless, our volunteers have contributed more than \$230K impact of pro bono dental care in the January to March quarter. Rebuilding Smiles continues to grow as a programme with \$75K reported. Over the past 3 months I have met electronically with two of the ADHF State Committees who support the State Co-ordinators to facilitate the connection of patients and referral agencies with volunteer practitioners. These meetings bubble with energy and enthusiasm and I congratulate all involved for their efforts.

On behalf of the Advisory Board, I again commend and sincerely thank everyone who contributed to another successful quarter. As the end of the financial year approaches, I hope that more sponsors and donors will financially support the Foundation's work and that regular donors will continue their valuable support.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Rick Olive'.

Dr. Rick Olive AM RFD

Chairman,  
Australian Dental Health Foundation

**Cover:** Dr Erick Gonzales, Queensland Country Dental, Townsville, and patient at a recent Dental Rescue Day.

## Creating impact with the Australian Dental Health Foundation

Our mission is to address the inequality between those Australians who can access the dental care they need, and those who can't.

Our vision is an Australia where no disadvantaged member of our community falls through the cracks and needlessly suffers from a lack of access to dignified professional oral health care.

Through the work that we do, we deliver better access to quality oral health care for all Australians regardless of their financial, geographical or social situation.

From men and women who have overcome addiction, who are enduring long-term economic hardship or suffering from mental and physical health challenges; to those establishing their independence after domestic violence has stolen their freedom, and the homeless whose needless dental suffering no longer compounds their more basic struggles; we're there to provide life changing oral health treatment wherever we can help.

Through our Dental Rescue Days, Adopt a Patient and Rebuilding Smiles® programs, our national team connects eligible individuals with specialist oral health volunteers who provide their time, expertise and practice facilities at no cost to patients.

We also fund programs that facilitate better long-term oral health outcomes through our Healthier Smiles Community Service Grants and Oral Health Education Projects and reduce the inequality of access to education through our Indigenous Study Grants.

To date, we've created change for thousands of community members by enabling the pro bono delivery of more than \$6,000,000 of professional oral health services.

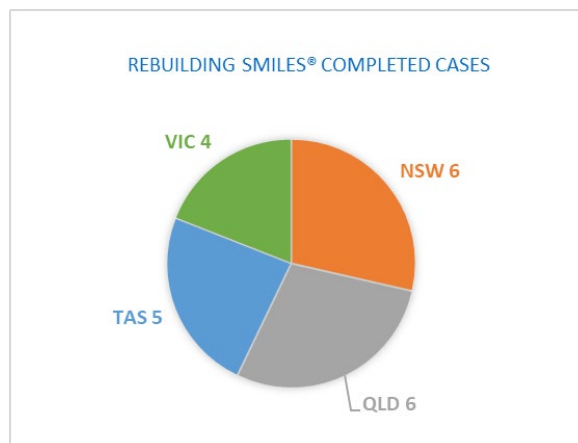
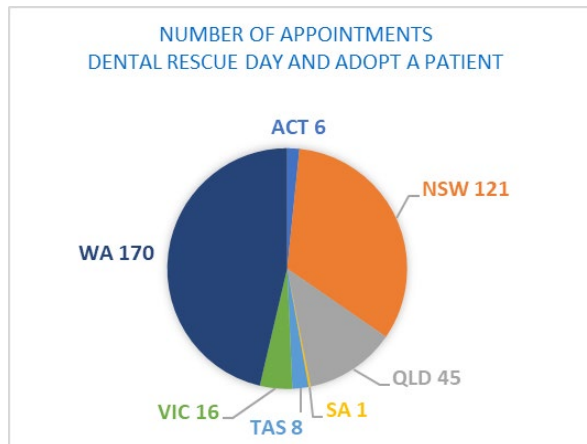
## Volunteer Program Outcomes

In this third quarter of financial year 2022 (January to March), the Foundation coordinated **10 Dental Rescue Days** around Australia, providing **94** appointments to disadvantaged patients. The Dental Rescue Day program coordinates access to local private practices and clinics for eligible patients, whereby a group of patients will receive a comprehensive general oral check-up in a single day.

**273** appointments were attended by patients under the **Adopt a Patient** program. Under this program, an individual patient attends a local private practice or clinic to receive dental treatment and will usually require several appointments to address their often more complex oral health issues.

The **Rebuilding Smiles®** program focuses on providing assistance to individuals and families who have experienced family and domestic violence. During this quarter, **21** cases were completed with **181** patients currently connected to a practice or receiving treatment.

Across all three volunteer programs, pro bono treatment of **\$230,926** has been delivered by our volunteer general practitioners and specialists during the quarter.

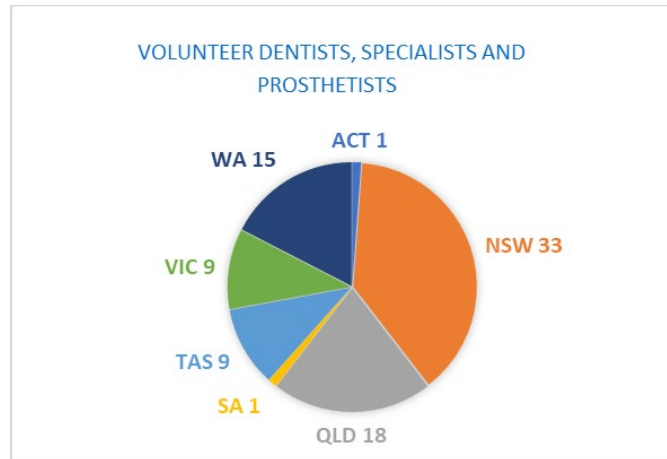


Delivery of treatment under each of the three volunteer programs during Q4 is shown below:

- Dental Rescue Days **\$53,042**
- Adopt a Patient **\$102,858**
- Rebuilding Smiles® **\$75,026**

## Volunteers

During the quarter, **86 general dentists, prosthetists and specialists** around Australia provided pro bono services to patients. Additionally, many of their staff were involved with coordinating appointments, assisting in surgery and providing oral hygiene and education to patients.



## Volunteer Spotlight

### Dr Paul McKay, Brisbane Smiles

Patient Zoe was referred to the Rebuilding Smiles program by Anglicare Southern Queensland, who are supporting Zoe following her experience of domestic violence. Zoe was accepted by new volunteer Dr McKay and treatment commenced in late 2021. The patient required a full upper clearance, done under anaesthetic due to her anxiety, and was fitted with a denture.

Brisbane Smiles completed the work pro bono, including the laboratory costs for the denture. This program has funding available to cover additional costs associated with providing sedation for the patient.



# Sponsors and Supporters

## The Foundation Trustee and Donor



## Supporting Sponsors



## Community Sponsors



## Partners



St Patrick's Community Support Centre, Fremantle



Southbank Denture Clinic, Brisbane



Dental Rescue Day and Adopt a Patient Programs are delivered in NSW with the support of ADA NSW, NSW Department of Health and Filling the Gap



The volunteer dental programs are delivered in WA with the support of ADA WA



## Sponsors and Supporters

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