

# Volunteer dental programs

**Quarterly impact report** 

1 July to 30 September 2023



#### Chairman's Introduction



Welcome to the first Quarterly Impact Report for the newly rebranded ADA Dental Health Foundation. In the six years since the ADA Foundation merged with the National Dental Foundation to form the ADHF, the Foundation has grown and facilitated hundreds of volunteering dental practitioners in Australia to help many of the Australian residents who fall through the cracks of our public and private delivery services. I hope the rebranded ADA Dental Health Foundation which was launched during the recent FDI World Dental Congress in September will enhance this growth and the impact our volunteers generate. This theme of change extends to the appointment of four new

members to the Advisory Board, Drs Denise Salvestro, Susan Wise, Gavin Quek and Mr Bradley Abraham, CEO of ADA South Australian Branch. Dr Neil Hewson has also been reappointed. I welcome the new Board appointees and thank them for their willingness and enthusiasm to guide the Foundation.

One thing that has not changed is the generosity and dedication of the volunteering dental practitioners who provide pro bono dental services to those who would otherwise miss out on needed dental care. In the three months July to September our volunteers provided dental services to the value of \$312K. I applaud their achievements and also welcome the many dentists who came forward during Congress to offer their services to the Foundation. There seems to be an ever-increasing demand for our volunteers' care and there are two limiting factors for the Foundation. One is the availability of volunteers in locations where there is identified demand and the other is the funding to employ our coordinators who link the patients to our volunteers. I thank everyone who made donations to the Foundation or took part in the Charity Run during Congress as well as some new corporate sponsors. They join the logos and lists of Sponsors and Donors at the end of this report. I commend them all.

During the last Quarter, the Foundation finalised its First Nations Student Grants for Dental Hygiene and Oral Health Therapy students. The four successful students were announced during NAIDOC Week and we congratulate them and look forward to their progress through their courses. It also announced the 10 successful Healthier Smiles Community Service Grants winners for 2023. We conduct these grants in association with the Mars Wrigley Foundation. For both grants, the recipients have been detailed in recent ADA News Bulletins.

Resuming the theme of change, I note the retirement from the Foundation of Mr Robert Boyd-Boland at the end of August. His retirement marks the end of continuous association with the Foundation since its conception more than two decades ago. As ADA CEO he organised the establishment of the Foundation, forged the Founding Advisory Board and was the Foundation Secretary until his retirement as ADA CEO when he continued as Honorary Secretary of ADHF. Along the way he conceived and steered the Rebuilding Smiles Program and oversaw the merger with the National Dental Foundation. On behalf of the Advisory Boards past and present I extend my sincere thanks to Robert and wish him well in retirement.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Rick Olive AM RFD

Chairman, ADA Dental Health Foundation

# **Creating impact with the ADA 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 are 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.

We would like to thank all of our volunteer dental practices who make our programs possible as well as those companies who generously offer their financial support to our programs.

# **Volunteer Program Outcomes**

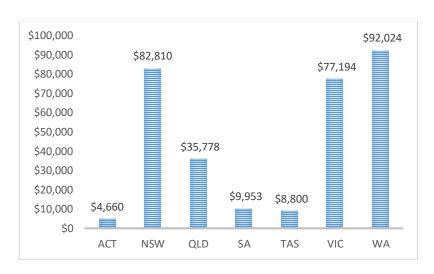
In this first quarter of financial year 2023 (July-Sept), the Foundation coordinated **7 Dental Rescue Days**® around Australia, providing **99** appointments to disadvantaged patients. The Dental Rescue Day® program coordinates access to local private practices and clinics for eligible patients, whereby a group of patients will receive a comprehensive general oral check-up in a single day as well as treatment for acute concerns.

**222** 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.

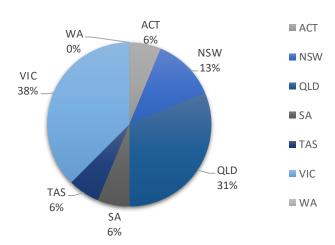
The **Rebuilding Smiles**® program focuses on providing assistance to individuals and families who have experienced family and domestic violence. During this quarter, **16** cases were completed with **53** patients currently connected to a practice or receiving treatment.

Across all three volunteer programs, pro bono treatment of \$311,219 has been delivered by our volunteer general practitioners and specialists during the quarter.

#### Total treatment delivered by state



#### **Rebuilding Smiles completed cases**



<sup>\*</sup>updated report includes NSW/ACT activity

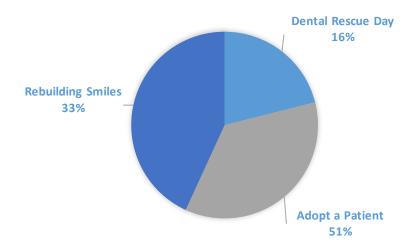
#### **Volunteers**

During the quarter, **93 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.

Our Volunteer lists are steadily growing and we have renewed interest and engagement in assisting our programs from new leads and those who continue to support our programs. We had great success at FDI Congress and will be following up on those leads in the coming quarter.

Our Coordinators continually strive to offer their utmost support to the clients referred to our waiting lists and to the dental practitioners who participate and volunteer in our programs.

#### Program activity by percentage



#### **Volunteers by state**



# **Quarterly Spotlight**

This quarter saw the successful launch of ADA Dental Health Foundation which took place at FDI Congress Sydney. The event was a huge success with most of the Coordinators meeting in person for the very first time.

The relaunch raised renewed awareness of our programs with many new leads from interested dental professionals wishing to be involved in assisting those from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Our Advisory Board, supporters, donors and some volunteers were present at the relaunch event held at the ADA stand on level 4 which was well received by all that attended.

Our fundraising efforts were astounding with many delegates taking part in both our Rebuilding Smiles Charity Run and our raffle which offered a chance to win a beautiful Opal necklace (Winner to be announced on socials soon).

Thank you to all who also made donations at our coffee, juice and ice cream stands throughout the event.



Picture L-R Back row: Lynda Cunningham (Vic) Claire Rawlinson (National Manager) Mel Wolfendale (SA)

Front row: Karen Smith (NSW) Andrea Paterson (WA)

#### **Other News**

#### **New Queensland Coordinator**



We're excited to welcome Natasha Dagley as our new State Coordinator in Queensland.

Natasha brings a wealth of dental knowledge to the role drawn from her time as a practice manager, and we're excited to be working alongside her making a real difference to the oral health of disadvantaged Australians.

Natasha has already settled well into her role and is available to contact at qld@adadhf.org.au

#### **Return and Earn Continues in NSW**



If you are a practice in NSW please keep in mind our return and earn project to raise funds for Rebuilding Smiles<sup>®</sup>.

All plastic bottles and cans can be returned and for every container that is 10c to Rebuilding Smiles <sup>®</sup>. Select Rebuilding Smiles <sup>®</sup> when you deposit your containers at selected drop off points.

#### We would like to extend out thanks

I would like to acknowledge and thank the following clinics for their continued support and offer of their facilities without which we would struggle to treat so many patients.

- St Pats Oral Health Clinic WA
- OHCWA/UWA Dental School Clinic WA
- Filling the Gap Clinic ADANSW

# **Sponsors and Supporters**

#### **The Foundation Trustee and Donor**



#### **Supporting Sponsors**











### **Community Sponsors**













#### **Partners**



St Patrick's Community Support Centre, Southbank Denture Dental Rescue Day and Adopt a Patient



Clinic, Brisbane Southbank Denture Clinic, Fremantle Brisbane



With the support of Filling the Gap











# **Sponsors and Supporters**

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**Anonymous** 

Dr Alison Hughes

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**Dentists Association** 

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Dr Mark Hutton

Dr Richard Olive AM RFD

Dr Helen McLean AM

Dr Susan Wise

Mrs Joan Landman

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**Dental Headstart** 

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University students

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