

Delta Dental of Oklahoma / Summer 2010

Dentist Check Up

DDOK Commends Dr. Stephen McKeever for Devoted Service

Remarkable Changes & Growth Realized During 15-year Board Tenure



Delta Dental of Oklahoma wishes to recognize and extend our greatest appreciation to Dr. Stephen McKeever for his years of exemplary service to the DDOK Board of Directors. Dr. McKeever recently retired from the Board, having served from 1995 to 2010.

“Serving on the DDOK board gave me a greater appreciation for the corporate world and the efficiencies of a well-run organization,” said Dr. McKeever. “Watching this company grow from a few million dollars to more than \$100 million dollars today has been a real joy and is a testament to Delta Dental’s leadership, focus and service. I’m very proud to have served.”

Dr. McKeever served as chairman of the Board, Executive, Appeals/Mediation, Provider Review and Dental Policy committees and also served on the Dental Health, Governance, Finance, Bylaws and Charitable Foundation committees.



“Steve has been an active counselor for our entire organization since his very first day on the job, and his service to the Enid community for all these years provided real-world insight into the challenges facing sole-practitioners in rural Oklahoma,” said John Gladden, President & CEO. “During his time as chairman, he also guided DDOK through a period of structural change and worked to bring disparate positions together for a positive and mutually beneficial outcome. In an effort to ease the burden of representation for smaller dental societies, his final achievement as a board member was to bring two rural districts

together to create a collective influence. We are very appreciative of Steve McKeever and are a better organization as a result of his service.”

Asked about the future of the dental industry, McKeever says, “There will be some eventual challenges from health care reform and it will be interesting to see how much government influence will ultimately affect our practices and the delivery of dental care.”

Dr. McKeever has operated a dental practice in Enid, Okla. for 44 years and plans to continue until he can find a successor.

Delta Dental of Oklahoma honored by Beacon Awards



Delta Dental of Oklahoma has been honored as the winner of the **2010 Journal Record Beacon Award** in the Small Business Category. The awards program, now in its third year, recognizes businesses and organizations “Lighting the Way” in Oklahoma by giving back to the communities that support them. Delta Dental was recognized for contributing more than \$1.4 million to its Foundation in 2009 for

the support of dental health and education related programs statewide.

While we appreciate the honor, we salute the tireless volunteer dental professionals on the front lines who provide free and low-cost dental care to thousands of Oklahomans who need it most. *It’s our privilege to partner with you.*

Lt. Governor presents commendations for OkMOM



In February 2010, the Oklahoma dental community and other volunteers provided \$860,000 in donated dental services to more than 1,800 Oklahomans in need. At the ODA annual meeting in April, Lt. Gov. Jari Askins presented commendations to the Delta Dental of Oklahoma Charitable Foundation, the Oklahoma Dental Association, and the Oklahoma Dental Foundation for their efforts in bringing the first Oklahoma Mission of Mercy to the state.

Left: Dr. Michael McLeod, foundation chair, accepts the OkMOM commendation from Lt. Gov. Jari Askins on behalf of the foundation

SAVE THE DATE!
OkMOM 2011 will be held February 4-5 at the Cox Convention Center in Oklahoma City. Details and volunteer registration coming soon to the OkMOM website: www.okmom.org.

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Foundation Spotlight

Neighbor for Neighbor announces new dental coordinator

by Ann N. Smith, Executive Director of Neighbor for Neighbor



Cheryl Brewer, new dental coordinator for Neighbor for Neighbor

Neighbor for Neighbor is proud to announce the appointment of Cheryl Brewer to the position of dental coordinator of the NFN Dental Clinic. In this article, NFN Executive Director Ann Smith shares Cheryl's amazing success story.

When Cheryl was 6 years old her parents divorced. By the time she was 12 years old, her single mother was working three jobs and her slightly older sister was basically raising her. Without a good support system, the door was open for trouble. Crisis after crisis followed in her adult life, culminating when her 15 year old son died of leukemia and her 19 year old son died of a sudden brain aneurism soon after. These painful experiences

turned Cheryl toward an addictive life which dead-ended with incarceration.

In her darkest hours while incarcerated, she cried out to God begging for help. One of her continuous prayers was to have her teeth fixed. She had lost and damaged her front teeth and knew it would be hard to get a job without some dental care and restoration. After incarceration, she heard about the Neighbor for Neighbor dental program. She was able get an appointment at NFN with volunteer dentist Dr. Bruce Stewart, who restored her teeth. Dr. Stewart invited her to NFN for training to become a dental assistant.

With the blessing of this advanced training and experience from Dr. Stewart, Cheryl went on to get a job in the office of Tulsa dentist Dr. Joe Massad. For the next four years, she obtained additional training and experience as a dental assistant and patient care specialist in Dr. Massad's office. During this time, Cheryl continued to volunteer at the NFN Dental Clinic and was eventually hired to work evenings.

In April 2010, Cheryl was offered and accepted the position of NFN Dental Coordinator.

Cheryl is a remarkable role model for other NFN patients and clients. Neighbor for Neighbor is blessed to have her as NFN Dental Coordinator.

Neighbor for Neighbor has been a Delta Dental of Oklahoma Charitable Foundation grant recipient for eight years.

Volunteer at NFN

If you are a dental professional in the Tulsa area looking for a rewarding volunteer opportunity, please contact Cheryl Brewer directly at 918-902-5565.

Foundation announces mid-year grants

Delta Dental of Oklahoma will provide more than \$1.4 million in funding to support oral health and education related initiatives through its Charitable Foundation in 2010. The Foundation congratulates the following mid-year grant recipients:

- » **King's Klinik** (Oklahoma City) - \$20,000 for its free dental clinic
- » **Free Clinic of Mayes County** (Pryor) - \$5,000 for its free dental care program
- » **EODDS** (Eastern Okla. Donated Dental Services) - \$28,000 supplemental grant
- » **Neighbor for Neighbor Dental Clinic** (Tulsa) - \$20,000 supplemental grant
- » **Ministries of Jesus Dental Clinic** (Edmond) - \$5,000 supplemental grant





GETTING NEW EQUIPMENT?
Donate the old equipment to a worthy cause!

If you have dental equipment or supplies you'd like to donate to a charitable dental organization, please contact Terrisa Singleton at 800-522-0188, Ext. 771 (Toll Free) or 405-607-4771 (OKC Metro) or email tsingleton@DeltaDentalOK.org.



Delta Dental of Oklahoma, Winner of the 2009 & 2010 Best Places to Work!