



Delta Dental of Oklahoma  
**ORAL HEALTH**  
FOUNDATION

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# Epicenter

Spring 2014

Foundation News from Delta Dental of Oklahoma

## Volunteers Needed for RAM Oklahoma

Remote Area Medical (RAM) Oklahoma will conduct its third free health care expedition August 16-17 at the state fairgrounds in Oklahoma City. The two-day event will provide free medical, dental and vision care to Oklahomans in need.

Barry Amos, DDS, of Designs in Dentistry serves as RAM's Dental Services Lead.

"As we approach our August 2014 event, I hope that many of my colleagues consider volunteering to help us help the thousands of Oklahomans who lack access to life-changing dental care," said Amos.

DDOK Oral Health Foundation has awarded a \$17,500 grant for the event and DDOK employees are signing on to help make the event a success.

"Each year we have done RAM, more DDOK staff volunteer and more foundation resources are available to help us make improvements in patient care, volunteer experience and overall quality," said Tres Savage, RAM Oklahoma president. "We are looking forward to RAM Oklahoma 2014 being our best event yet."



Aug. 16-17, 2014

Volunteer Registration is now open!  
[www.ramok.org/volunteer](http://www.ramok.org/volunteer)



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 **DELTA DENTAL**

## OU-COD Kid's Day Success

Each spring, the dental students at the University of Oklahoma College of Dentistry organize and conduct OU Kids' Dental Day. Under the supervision of faculty, the dental students provide free screenings, cleanings, fillings and crowns to children ages 4-12.

This year's event was held March 1st and served 170 children. Priyanka Kainthla, a fourth-year dental student, coordinated the event. "The patient turnout was the best it has been in years," Kainthla said. "We were able to help a lot of kids that were in great need."

DDOK Oral Health Foundation supported the event by handling pre-registration to ensure the maximum number of children could be served.



"The dental profession has an obligation to give back to the communities in which we live," said Kevin Haney, D.D.S., professor and co-chair of the Department of Pediatric Dentistry. "Kids' Day allows us to reach out and provide care to those who may not have readily available access."

< Captain Supertooth was a big hit at Kids' Day.

## Children's Oral Health Coalition Launches Website

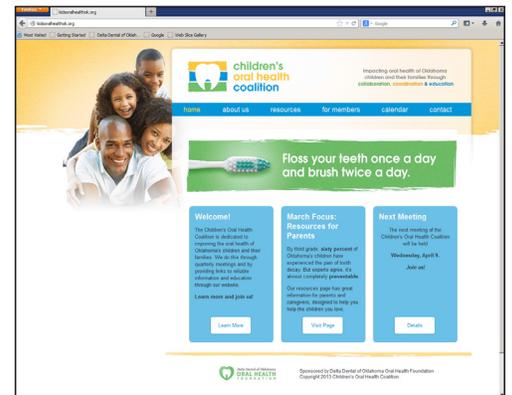
Just in time for Children's Dental Health Month, the Children's Oral Health Coalition launched their new website at [www.kidsoralhealthok.org](http://www.kidsoralhealthok.org). The site offers resources and information to parents, caregivers, patients with special needs, teachers and dental professionals.

"By the third grade, almost 60% of Oklahoma's children have experienced the pain of tooth decay," said Patricia Christensen, Coalition chairwoman. "Dental disease is so common that many people consider it unavoidable but experts agree that it's almost entirely preventable. We're working to empower Oklahomans with the information they need in order to avoid the pain and cost of dental disease."

The site is made possible by funding and technical support from the Delta Dental of Oklahoma Oral Health Foundation.

"Dental health education and access to resources are crucial to improving children's oral health," said DDOK Foundation Director Terrisa Singleton. "Many Oklahomans simply don't know where to turn. Our Foundation is very proud to partner with the Coalition to provide this valuable website resource."

The Coalition consists of nonprofits, state agencies and others who are concerned with the oral health of Oklahomans. This collaboration allows for the coordination of various programs and initiatives in order to maximize their impact and results. If you are interested in joining the Coalition, visit [www.kidsoralhealthok.org](http://www.kidsoralhealthok.org) to learn more!



## Oklahoma Mission of Mercy Serves Enid, Surrounding Area

### OkMOM 2014 By the Numbers

**Patients:**  
1,465

**Value of Care Delivered:**  
\$1.35 million+

**Average Value Per Patient:**  
\$917

**Procedures Performed:**  
11,786

*Enid*

On Feb. 7 and 8, the Chisholm Trail Expo Center in Enid welcomed the 2014 Oklahoma Mission of Mercy, a two-day free dental clinic designed to serve those in need. Despite frosty weather and rough road conditions across the state, the event was a great success. Almost 1,500 patients, including more than 200 transported from the panhandle area via church buses, were treated. The number of procedures performed and the value of the services delivered set new OkMOM records.

The Delta Dental of Oklahoma Oral Health Foundation has partnered with the Oklahoma Dental Association and Oklahoma Dental Foundation to conduct five OkMOMs since 2010. Past events were held in Tulsa, Oklahoma City, McAlester, Lawton and Enid. Thanks to thousands of volunteers and a great deal of support from local businesses in each community, almost 9,000 patients have been served at these events!

"The Oklahoma Mission of Mercy is a top priority for

our Foundation," said John Gladden, president and CEO of Delta Dental of Oklahoma. "We are proud to work alongside the ODA and ODF to ensure an event can be held every year. As long as there are hurting patients and willing volunteers, we want to be sure there is an OkMOM."

The sixth annual OkMOM will held Feb. 6 and 7, 2015, in Tulsa. Volunteer registration opens in October at [www.okmom.org](http://www.okmom.org).

