



Leaving An Incredible Legacy

Quarterly Newsletter Q3 2021

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A Letter From Kyle

“Hi, I’m Eddie, pleased to meet you”. Eddie is one of our favorite patients and shares why we do what we do. If you haven’t had the opportunity to meet Eddie, listen to his story [here](#).

Sadly, Eddie isn't the only one with a story like this. There are 52 million Americans with an intellectual or developmental disability and one of their biggest challenges is access to oral healthcare. Now I don't know about you but going to the dentist is not one of my favorite things....and I love my dentist. I'm able to control my anxiety to talk myself through it. For patients with special needs it's a different experience.

As Debbie, Eddie's mother, says in the video, the past was scary. There was never an alternative to care, there was never anyone that would even give them a chance. Now that is no longer the case for Eddie and so many other patients at the Dentists for Special Needs. Every day we're striving to not put patients into our box but to create partnerships in building their box together.

It takes all of us to make this happen. We can't do it alone and we've been so thrilled by all the efforts of friends like you to support the PDS Foundation. Maybe you joined the [Legacy Club](#), or helped raise funds through our [Smile for Special Needs Campaign](#) or maybe you can't wait to participate in our [Stroll for Special Needs Virtual 5k](#) later this year. Together we're helping patients like Eddie, but in reality, it's Eddie who's really helping us.

Thank you again for your hearts to serve.



Kyle Guerin

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Students Achieving Their Dreams

This month the PDS Foundation awarded scholarships to 12 dental assistant students from across the country. Six different schools were represented in the recent scholarship awarding including: Carrington College, Concorde Career College, UEI College, Florida Career College, Herzing University and Unitek College. Since 2016 the Foundation has awarded 119 scholarships across 13 states. [Watch the most recent scholarship awarding!](#)

We are thrilled to be able to provide continual educational support to students who want to make a positive impact on the lives of others through a career in dental assisting. You can support students by donating [here!](#)

"Thank you so much! The achievement of winning this scholarship was beyond belief. It is an honor to be able to use these funds to help people learn to care for their oral health. Achieving this scholarship has been glorious! - Anome Sarkisharatounian

Since she was a child, Anome has had a passion for healthcare. When she was young she faced a serious health condition which made her more passionate about pursuing a career in healthcare. Anome hopes to be able to provide smiles to others and be able to give back to her community.

If you are a dental assistant student or know one make sure to spread the word that November 1st is the next deadline to submit scholarship applications. [Apply today!](#)



Bringing Joy To Each Patient

This month at Dentists for Special Needs we started our hygiene rotation with Carrington College. We are rotating through approximately 90 dental hygiene students giving them the additional training and opportunity to see patients with special healthcare needs. We are also currently hosting an extern, Gabbi, who was also a recipient of the Pacific Dental Services® Foundation Dr. Carolyn Ghazal Dental Assistant Scholarship. Having additional hands in the office has been very helpful!

Meet Lauren, she is always incredibly interested in our treasure chest, though despite our best efforts (we have even filled it while she was completing her visit), there has never been the perfect surprise for her in the chest.

The last visit we had with Lauren, she immediately checked out the treasure chest and let us know she didn't see anything that sparked her interest.

After some questions and answers we finally came to a satisfactory treasure... a PDS Foundation t-shirt!

In our first ever Smile for Special Needs in-office drive benefitting the Pacific Dental Services® Foundation we have raised over \$120,000. There is still time to support this campaign. Donate now through the end of October. For more information or to make a donation click [here!](#)



Celebrating The Work In Guatemala

The PDS Foundation Clinica Dental in Xenacoj, Guatemala hit their 2021 record month in July! The students were able to provide over \$102,000 in donated dentistry to over 121 patients. We are so proud of these three students for their hard work.

Two of our three dental students from Universidad de San Carlos de Guatemala graduated in July 2021. Upon their graduation, their dental assistant students also received their dental assistant certificates. We now have one student, Alejandra, who is working at the clinic along with her dental assistant student, Hilda, and Kevin.

We are also pleased to announce the return of our International Service Trips in 2022!

If interested in learning more about the dates of these trips or how to attend, please email Carli Kingsley at Kingsleyc@pacden.com.

Make sure to follow us on social media below!

Do you know someone who would be interested in updates on the PDS Foundation? They can sign up for our newsletter [here](#).