

6737 W. Washington St., Suite 2360, West Allis, WI 53214

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE May 30, 2019

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: Vicki Bohman, Executive Director 414-755-4198 (direct) or <u>vbohman@wda.org</u>

WDA Foundation Smile grants help another 6,912 have healthier smiles

Nine community outreach programs in Wisconsin helped 6,912 children and adults have healthier smiles during 2018 thanks to toothbrushes and tubes of toothpaste donated by the <u>Wisconsin Dental Association</u> <u>Foundation</u>.

The WDA Foundation's <u>Smile Program</u> was created to help underprivileged children, adults and seniors get on the right track toward good dental health. The program focuses on oral health intervention with early care, educational information and support of positive behavior.

WDA Foundation Smile Program grants were awarded to these charitable organizations:

- <u>Altrusa International</u> in Sturgeon Bay.
- Fondy Food Pantry in Fond du Lac.
- Red Cliff Community Health Center in Bayfield.
- Social Development Foundation in Milwaukee.
- Encompass Early Education & Care, Inc. in Green Bay.
- Family Sharing of Ozaukee County in Grafton.
- Bridges Community Center in Kenosha.
- Health Care Network, Inc. in Racine.
- LEAVEN, Inc. in Menasha.

Since launching its Smile Program in 2012, the WDA Foundation has provided nearly \$6,500 worth of toothbrushes and toothpaste to 23,256 Badger State residents.

WDAF Smile Program grant applications are accepted on an ongoing basis until the year's budget is met. Nonprofit organizations that need help in obtaining personal dental hygiene supplies for distribution to clients can find Smile Program application details on the WDA.org website under grants on the WDA Foundation tab. The WDA Foundation thanks the Marquette University School of Dentistry for its assistance with this program.

About the Wisconsin Dental Association Foundation

The Wisconsin Dental Association Foundation was established in 1957 as an independent 501(c)(3) tax-exempt charitable organization that works closely with the WDA. The Foundation is committed to improving the oral health and overall wellbeing of Wisconsin resident while supporting the needs of the dental community. It does this by awarding scholarships to qualified students, providing financial support to projects that deliver dental care to the underserved and administering Donated Dental Services and the Mission of Mercy program.

About the Wisconsin Dental Association

The Wisconsin Dental Association, with 3,100 member dentists and a number of dental hygienists, is the leading voice for dentistry in Wisconsin. WDA members are committed to promoting professional excellence and quality oral health care. Established in 1870, the WDA is headquartered in West Allis and has a legislative office in Madison. The WDA is affiliated with the American Dental Association - the largest and oldest national dental association in the world. For more information, call 414-276-4520, visit <u>WDA.org</u> and find us on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Flickr</u>, <u>YouTube</u>, <u>Instagram</u> and <u>LinkedIn</u>.