Dental Lifeline Network • Florida June 2017 Issue

The Story

Linda, 70, lives alone in Bradenton and has chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and osteoporosis, and walks with an unsteady gait. She enjoys spending time with her son and dogs. The last time she had seen a dentist was 25 years ago; this lack of access led to severe oral health problems. All but two of her teeth had broken off at the gum line, leaving multiple root tips behind. Linda's dentures had been broken for many years, leaving her toothless and unable to chew properly. This resulted in significant weight loss, painful digestive problems, and excruciating cysts in her mouth. Linda's doctor strongly urged her to address her dental problems. Though she had Medicaid and Medicare coverage, the benefits did not cover the extensive dental treatment she needed.

How DDS Helped

Meals on Wheels referred Linda to **Donated Dental Services (DDS)** and a team of volunteers agreed to help. Dr. Michael Dorociak extracted five teeth and root tips and donated full upper and lower dentures that DSG Group Practice Solutions laboratory fabricated.

66 She has struggled and suffered with her condition for more years than I can even remember, but your kindness and generosity has given her a new lease on life! Without your help she would still be suffering daily with no end in sight. Words cannot adequately express how grateful we are for the badly needed dental work you have done for her.
99 — The family of Linda, DDS patient



Linda with Dr. Dorociak

99

Dental Lifeline Network, • Florida

More than Dentistry. Life.

I've enjoyed working with Linda; she was a joy as a patient. It feels good to help someone in need, and when we can give back to someone who is in pain, it is truly satisfying. To any dentist considering volunteering, don't hesitate to donate your time and services. It's not a big burden at all. In fact, it's a privilege.
 Dr. Dorociak. DDS volunteer

Florida Donated Dental Services (DDS) is a program of Dental Lifeline Network, a national humanitarian organization and charitable affiliate of the ADA, providing access to comprehensive dental care for people with disabilities or who are elderly or medically fragile and have no other way to get help. Nationally, more than 15,000 dentists and 3,700 laboratories volunteer for DDS.



Donate

Visit: www.DentalLifeline.org/Donate



Purchase DentaCheques

To save money and make a difference, purchase a DentaCheques book. www.DentaCheques.org





Volunteer

Try One Case

- Review the patient profile in advance
- Choose to see or decline any patient
- Determine the treatment plan
- See patients in your office
- Never pay lab costs
- No paperwork for office staff

Please Visit: <u>www.DentalLifeline.org/Volunteer</u> Or contact: Megan Manor

850.577.1466 or mmanor@DentalLifeline.org

DDS is a Program of Dental Lifeline Network • Florida and the Florida Dental Association

Florida Donated Dental Services (DDS)

Fiscal Year July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016

Patient Treatment



Treated¹





Patients on Wait List



Volunteer

Average Value

\$4,896²

of Treatment/Case

Labs

Financial

Value of Care to **Patients Treated** \$872,559¹





Value of Donated Lab Services \$85,317³

Since Florida Program Inception (1997)





¹ Of this amount, 25 patients received \$25,510 in ongoing care from DDS volunteer dentists who provided these patients with initial restorative treatment and have elected to continue providing routine and ongoing care.

² Does not include treatment for patients receiving ongoing care.

³ Value also included in Value of Care to Patients Treated.

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Florida DDS

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