The Story
Juanita, 55, lives in Denver and likes to relax by completing puzzles, reading and getting together with friends. She has several health issues including asthma, lupus, diabetes, fibromyalgia, and neuropathy. Due to the significant pain she endures, she finds it hard to get around and uses a walker. In addition to her medical conditions, Juanita’s teeth were deteriorating and her gums would often swell and bleed, making eating very difficult.

After a long career in administration and as a concierge, Juanita’s health became increasingly worse and forced her to stop working. Managing health costs had taken a toll on Juanita’s finances and she could not afford the dental treatment she needed. Her broken, decaying teeth were impacting her health and quality of life and she refused to go out in public. Sadly, she didn’t know where to turn for help.

How DDS Helped
Juanita was referred to the Donated Dental Services (DDS) program and she was linked with a team of generous volunteers:

- Oral Surgeon Dr. Randall Russell performed extractions.
- Dr. Ashleigh Harrison donated full upper and lower dentures.
- Denver Dental Arts fabricated the dentures at no cost.

Thanks to this team, Juanita’s overall health has significantly improved and she is happily back on the job market.

I can’t thank them enough! Before, I would not smile or talk—now I can’t keep my mouth closed! Since getting my new teeth, I have lost 43 pounds, I am off at least one third of my medications. I am more active and more social.
-Juanita, DDS Patient

Once Juanita had her teeth back, she could not only chew, but was able to start interviewing for jobs. That is what dentistry is all about—getting people out of pain, but also restoring their confidence.
-Dr. Ashleigh Harrison, DDS Volunteer

Dental School Graduate Honored
Dental Lifeline Network partners with dental schools through the Brian D. Stone Memorial Award to recognize graduating students who are committed to volunteerism or to helping people with special needs. At the University of Colorado School of Dental Medicine, the 2017 recipient was Dr. Michael Murphy, pictured below.
Patient Treatment

- 658 Patients Served
- 314 Patients on Wait List
- 739 Volunteer Dentists
- 206 Volunteer Labs

Financial

- Value of Care to Patients Treated: $1,922,260
- Average Value of Treatment/Case: $4,180\(^1\)
- Value of Donated Lab Services: $164,437\(^2\)

Since Colorado Program Inception (1985)

- Total Patients Treated: 12,205
- Total Value of Care to Patients Treated: $30,954,253

1 Average does not include treatment from DDS volunteer dentists who provided patients with initial restorative treatment and have elected to continue providing routine and ongoing care.

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

Strategic Partners:

- American Dental Association
- Academy of General Dentistry
- American Academy of Implant Dentistry
- American Academy of Periodontology
- American Association of Endodontists
- American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons
- American Association of Orthodontists
- American Association of Women Dentists
- American College of Dentists
- American College of Prosthodontists
- American Dental Assistants Association
- Hispanic Dental Association
- National Association of Dental Laboratories
- National Dental Association
- The Pankey Institute
- Seattle Study Club®
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Sponsors and Funders:

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- Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing
- Colorado Department of Human Services- Division of Developmental Disabilities
- Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
- Colorado Prosthodontic Society
- Colorado Springs Health Foundation
- The Daniels Fund
- Delta Dental of Colorado
- Dentists Professional Liability Trust of Colorado
- Denver Foundation- Lowe Fund
- John G. Duncan Trust
- Metro Denver Dental Society
- Peebles Prosthetics, Inc.
- Tipton Family Foundation
- Virginia W. Hill Foundation

With Assistance From:

- 3M ESPE
- Dentsply Sirona
- Henry Schein Dental
- Implant Direct
- Ivoclar Vivadent
- Keystone Dental
- Nobel Biocare
- Patterson Dental Company
- Patterson Foundation
- Philips Oral Healthcare
- Shatkin F.I.R.S.T., LLC
- Straumann
- Vident
- Zest Anchors
- Zimmer Biomet

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