



The Story

Charlene, 73, is a widower who lives alone in the Minneapolis area. She has five children living all over the country and loves when they are able to come visit. She has filled her entire front yard with pink flamingos and they bring her so much joy to see every morning.

Charlene suffers from several health challenges including diabetes, neuropathy, fibromyalgia, high blood pressure, as well as limited use of her arms and hands due to arthritis. In addition, Charlene's oral health was in poor condition. Many of her teeth were missing or broken at the gum line and she often found it difficult to eat and occasionally experienced throbbing pain in her gums.

Before retiring, Charlene worked in carpentry as a cabinet maker. Now she survives on a small Social Security benefit and struggles to make ends meet. Unfortunately she could not afford the extensive dental treatment she desperately needed. It seemed she had nowhere to turn for help.

How DDS Helped

Fortunately, Charlene was referred to the **Donated Dental Services (DDS)** program and she was linked with a team of generous volunteers.

- Dr. Tanya Schulz Peterson donated full upper denture and lower cast metal partial denture.
- Oral Surgeon Dr. Richard Pihlstrom performed nine extractions.
- Academy Dental Laboratory fabricated the dentures at no cost.
- Karas Dental Laboratory donated the lower cast metal frame.



Charlene with Dr. Tanya Schulz Peterson (lower right) and her staff

“ I just don't know how to thank everyone for this life-changing experience. I am so happy with my new teeth and love that I can eat meat again! Thank you! ”
—Charlene, DDS Patient

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 Minnesota School of Dentistry, the 2018 recipient was Dr. Hannah Rutten pictured below with Dr. Stephen Litton, DLN • MN Advisory Council.



Minnesota Donated Dental Services (DDS) is a program of Dental Lifeline Network, a national humanitarian organization and 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, 15,000 dentists and 3,500 laboratories volunteer for DDS.

Join Us

Volunteer

Please Visit:
WillYouSeeOne.org

Or contact:
Kathryn McGee
651.454.6290
kmcgee@DentalLifeline.org

Donate

Visit: www.DentalLifeline.org/Donate

Purchase DentaCheques

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

Connect With Us



Minnesota Donated Dental Services (DDS)

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

Fiscal Year 2017-2018

Dental Lifeline Network • Minnesota

Advisory Council

Stephen Litton, DDS
Rosalie Perpich, DDS

Patient Treatment



Patients Served



261

Patients on Wait List



425

Volunteer Dentists



94

Volunteer Labs

Financial



Value of Care to Patients Treated
\$1,038,787



Average Value of Treatment/Case
\$5,929¹



Value of Donated Lab Services
\$103,586²

Since Minnesota Program Inception (2003)



Total Patients Treated
2,122



Total Value of Care to Patients Treated
\$11,448,062

¹ Average value is based on patients that have completed comprehensive treatment; does not include active patients, or patients who continue to receive ongoing care from their DDS volunteer.

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

Sponsors and Funders:

Minnesota Dental Association
Delta Dental of Minnesota through a grant to the
Minnesota Dental Foundation

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Our National Annual Report is Available Online -
please visit www.dentallifeline.org/annualreport to review.

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Minnesota DDS

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