Dental Lifeline Network · Louisiana Annull Report

The Story

Lionel, 68, is an elderly widower and Air Force veteran who lives in New Orleans. After Lionel was discharged from the service he went on to work as a ship operator for a company that built vessels. He has multiple health conditions that forced him to stop working. Lionel has peripheral artery and chronic kidney disease, recurrent blood clots, asthma, chronic nerve pain, osteoarthritis and numerous other health problems. He also had a total right hip replacement a few years ago. Lionel tries to stay busy and upbeat and he loves to volunteer at the local Veteran Affairs (VA).

In addition to his health conditions, his dental health had deteriorated. Lionel had some teeth that were broken at the gum line, and others that were abscessed. Because of his health conditions, his doctor insisted that he seek help immediately for his deteriorating oral health, but Lionel was unable to afford the extensive dental treatment he needed. Although Lionel receives his health care through the VA, his dental care was not included.

How DDS Helped

Fortunately, the DDS program came to his aid and he was linked with two generous volunteers: Dr. Frank Martello and Selser Dental Lab. Thanks to these kind volunteers, Lionel received thousands of dollars in donated treatment that restored his dental health.

I love working with Dr. M and his staff. They are such good hearted people. They were wonderful from beginning to end. I appreciate your organization [DLN] and all it has done for me. Thank you so much.



Dr. Frank Martello and Lionel Perkins

When our team completed Lionel's treatment, he told us how wonderful he felt, and how happy his family was to see him smiling again, after so many years of suffering. Thanks to all the DLN staff who make it possible for us to provide care to those in need in Louisiana.
Dr. Frank Martello, DDS volunteer

—Lionel, DDS patient

Louisiana Donated Dental Services (DDS) is a program of Dental Lifeline Network, a national humanitarian organization and strategic partner 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.



American Dental Partners Foundation Foundation of the Pierre Fauchard Academy Grayson Foundation Irene W. and C.B. Pennington Family Foundation Joe W. and Dorothy Dorsett Brown Foundation Louisiana Dental Association NFL Alumni Association

Frank Martello, DDS, President Charlie Foy, DDS, Vice President Mohammed Zadeh, DDS, Secretary/Treasurer David J. Hildebrandt, DDS, Past President Steve Brisco, DDS Jerry Clark Timothy Delcambre, DDS William Hall, DDS Jennifer Hew Laurie Moeller, DDS L. Stephen Ortega, DDS