THE STORY

Richard, 64, joined the Navy at the age of 17 and served our country for two tours in Vietnam. When he returned, he suffered from severe post-traumatic stress disorder and for the next 30 years, he battled PTSD. As a result, he became unemployed and was homeless for a period of time.

He moved to Missouri to begin work as a veteran service manager at Missouri Veterans Endeavor (MOVE-STL), an independent nonprofit focused on housing for veterans and their families, and he is now able to give back in the same way he received help.

In addition to his other conditions, Richard's dental health was in terrible condition. He had periodontal disease he developed over the past decades that needed treatment. Richard's 40-year-old crown was breaking apart and several missing molars left him unable to chew. Although he receives healthcare through Veterans Affairs, it did not include dental care. While he currently works, Richard still was not able to afford the dental treatment he needed.

HOW DDS HELPED

Fortunately, Richard was referred to the Donated Dental Services (DDS) program and he was linked with three generous volunteers.

- Dr. Douglas Watanabe preformed a dental exam and restored five teeth.
- May Dental Arts donated a bridge.
- Pinnacle Dental Laboratory donated a partial lower denture.

So far, it’s made an amazing impact. I didn’t know if I’d get help and if I hadn’t, the periodontal disease would’ve progressed. Words can’t express the gratitude I have. What these dentists are doing is remarkable and it’s making a huge difference in veterans’ lives. It is a life changing experience.”

- RICHARD, DDS PATIENT

Richard is very appreciative. If other dentists took part in DDS, a bigger group could then be served. Sacrifice and service is a lesson for all to learn.”

- DR. DOUGLAS WATANABE, DDS VOLUNTEER

PURCHASE DENTACHEQUES

DentaCheques provides exclusive discounts on dental products to our volunteers. Save on items you already buy.

» Learn More at DentaCheques.org

DONATE

From clearing up painful dental infections to being able to eat again – providing comprehensive dental care will make a life-changing difference.

WillYouSeeONE.org
Missouri Donated Dental Services (DDS)
DD is a Program of Dental Lifeline Network • Missourion and the Missouri Dental Association

FISCAL YEAR 2018-2019

Patient Treatment

- 286 Patients Served
- 157 Patients on Wait List

- 374 Volunteer Dentists
- 89 Volunteer Labs

Financial

- $806,939 Value of Care to Patients Treated
- $4,533¹ Average Value of Treatment/Case
- $78,218² Value of Donated Lab Services

Since Missouri Program Inception (1999)

- 2,050 Total Patients Treated
- $9,365,347 Total Value of Care to Patients Treated

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.

Missouri DDS
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