

# LEARN ABOUT VOLUNTEERING FOR COLORADO DDS AT THE RMDC

If you have an opportunity during the Rocky Mountain Dental Convention in January, be sure to meet Arvada general dentist Dr. Jeff Lodl and ask him about volunteering for Donated Dental Services (DDS), a program of Dental Lifeline Network • Colorado.

Dr. Lodl has a busy role as the Chair of the RMDC Programming Committee. In addition to giving back to his profession, he very generously shares his time and expertise helping vulnerable people who have no way to get the dental treatment they desperately need. He takes his commitment to the next level as Vice President of Dental Lifeline Network • Colorado.

Since becoming a DDS volunteer more than 27 years ago, Dr. Lodl has donated over \$100,000 in treatment to patients with disabilities, the elderly and the medically fragile who cannot afford care. DDS volunteers generally treat one patient per year (or more, if they choose) in their own offices and on their own schedules. Patients are prescreened. Volunteers review a patient profile in advance and choose whether to see or decline any patient. They determine their own treatment plans, never pay lab costs and there is no extra paperwork required.

DDS Coordinator, Kevin McGrellis, ensures that patients arrive on time for appointments, arranges for assistance from specialists and laboratories and serves as the liaison between the staff and patient to facilitate everything.

Another metro Denver volunteer, Dr. Victor Burdick, commented, "DDS makes it simple and easy to give back and donate. They are phenomenal." Volunteers also say they never expected how much their staff would appreciate the DDS experience. Staff members celebrate the success of their patients and value the teamwork they provide with their dentists.



Denver Metro DDS Volunteer, Dr. Jeff Lodl with his patient, Susie

One of Dr. Lodl's current patients, Susie, 61, has chronic pain syndrome. Susie previously worked as a clipper in a jean factory. Now on a limited social security disability income with no dental insurance, she had few remaining teeth and painful dental disease. Susie was very concerned about the nutritional limitations of her soft food diet. Donating extractions, a full upper denture and partial lower denture, Dr. Lodl is in the process of restoring Susie's dental health.

"Susie was embarrassed by her smile, and tried to hide it. It gives me great personal satisfaction that she loves her smile now."

Try just one patient! Volunteer now! Join metro Denver's 209 DDS volunteer dentists! More volunteers are needed. For information about volunteering, contact Denver DDS Coordinator, Kevin McGrellis, at (303) 534-3931 or [kmcgrellis@DentalLifeline.org](mailto:kmcgrellis@DentalLifeline.org) or visit [DentalLifeline.org/colorado/](http://DentalLifeline.org/colorado/).

Visit the Dental Lifeline Network • Colorado booth at the RMDC to learn more about Colorado's DDS program! Our sincere thanks to MDDS for providing this booth!

#### About Dental Lifeline and DDS:

Donated Dental Services (DDS) is the flagship program of Dental Lifeline Network, a national nonprofit organization and a charitable affiliate of The American Dental Association. Now 30 years old, the DDS program was founded in Colorado where it has provided more than \$27 million to 11,600 patients. Nationally, DDS has provided \$300 million in donated care to more than 107,000 patients in 50 states and Washington DC.



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