



*Making
smiles
brighter
for all
New
Yorkers.*

In This Issue

~ NYSDF Releases Report Regarding Data Collected from the 2008 Dentist Survey on the Issuance of Volunteer Licenses.

~ Foundation Launches Survey on the Increasing Childhood Obesity Epidemic.

~ Four Honorees Chosen for 2008 Foundations of Excellence Awards.

~ Foundation to host 2008 Summit on Oral Health Care, HIV and AIDS.

New York State Dental Foundation Releases Report Regarding Data Collected from 2008 Dentist Survey on Issuance of Volunteer Licenses

Amid concerns regarding dental care provided rural areas and underserved populations, the New York State Dental Foundation asked retired dentists whether they would consider volunteering their professional services to treat underserved populations and, if so, under what conditions. The survey, conducted in March 2008, was sent to 2,900 dentists, forty-nine years of age or older.

Seven hundred sixty-one dentists, or one-third of the recipients, responded to the questionnaire.

Ninety-six percent of those who responded said they would volunteer, with preference populations as follows: seniors and adults; children; and people with special needs. Most respondents said they would volunteer if they didn't have to pay for malpractice insurance; if the State Education Department would waive all exam and licensure fees; and if they could receive CE for free or at reduced fees.

The New York State Dental Foundation has prepared this report to share the findings of the survey. The report is also intended to demonstrate the willingness of New York's dentists to reach out to and be a part of a solution to ensure that all New Yorkers have access to quality oral health care. [Click here to read the report.](#)

Foundation Launches Survey on Increasing Childhood Obesity Epidemic

A recently published article in the Journal of Pediatrics entitled "Integrating Oral Health to the Care of Overweight Children: A Model of Care Whose Time Has Come"⁽¹⁾ reports on the American Academy of Pediatrics' (AAP) Oral Health Initiative. The AAP has launched this initiative in partnership with the Federal Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB) and with the endorsement of the American Dental Association (ADA), the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry and supporting organizations, such as Bright Futures.

The overall goal of the initiative is to provide support and tools for improving children's oral health care to community-based, collaborative-care providers, but is also intended to encourage collaborations between pediatricians and dental professionals to increase awareness of the connection between oral health and overall health. A main objective is to increase oral health screenings and referrals by pediatricians' to dentists.

The New York State Foundation for Healthy Living's Center for Best Practice for the Prevention of Early Childhood Obesity and Overweight, the New York State Dental Association (NYSDA), and the Foundation are working together to examine this very issue, however, from a different angle. The Center and the Foundation are exploring the possibility of developing and piloting an early childhood obesity screening and prevention tool kit for pediatric dentists to encourage strong consistent messaging between pediatricians and dental professionals.

Please take a few minutes to complete the survey. Your responses will be tremendously helpful in determining how pediatricians and dental professionals can work together to help fight the rapidly increasing childhood obesity epidemic. [Click here to take the survey.](#)

(1) SG Grossi, DN Collier, RM Perkin. Integrating Oral Health to the Care of Overweight Children: A Model of Care Whose Time Has Come. Journal of Pediatrics. 2008;52:451-2.

Four Honorees Chosen for 2008 Foundations of Excellence Awards

For the third year in a row, the New York State Dental Foundation will honor innovation and leadership in dentistry at its Foundations of Excellence Awards Luncheon, Friday, Oct. 24, at the St. Regis Hotel in New York City. The foundation recognizes individuals and organizations in up to four categories, each of which has an impact upon oral health care. This year's recipients are listed below.

Allan J. Formicola, D.D.S., M.S.: Foundation of Excellence in Academics Award, in recognition for demonstrated creative and innovative use of science curricula to teach oral health.

Donated Dental Services: Foundation of Excellence in Community Service Awards, in honor of its efforts to improve oral health care for individuals, particularly underserved and at-risk populations, through advocacy efforts that emphasize education and prevention, and foster ongoing partnerships among a wide spectrum of stakeholders.

Suzan F. Harrison, Vice President-Marketing, Colgate Palmolive Co.: Foundation of Excellence in Corporate Leadership Award, for exemplary leadership that demonstrates a deep commitment to innovative initiatives that empower employees and communities and advance strategic business interests.

Daniel H. Fine, D.M.D.: Foundation of Excellence in Research Award, in recognition of a commitment to applying creative, science-based methods to foster greater understanding of and improvement of overall oral health.

[Click here to download ticket reservation form and sponsorship opportunities form.](#)

Foundation to host 2008 Summit on Oral Health Care, HIV and AIDS

On October 3rd, the New York State Dental Foundation, in cooperation with the [New York and New Jersey AIDS Education and Training Center](#), will host the 2008 Summit on Oral Health Care, HIV and AIDS. The program, which will take place at the University Club in Manhattan, will present an array of experts, who will present on the following topics:

- Oral Lesions
- Post-Exposure Prophylaxis
- Confidentiality and Human Rights
- Counseling and Testing in the Dental Chair

Confirmed speakers to date include:

Helene Bednarsh, RDH, MPH

Director, Boston EMA HIV Dental Program
Vice President, HIVdent

Kathy Eklund

Director & Research Subject Advocate
Infection Control and Occupational Health, The Forsyth Institute

David Reznik, DDS

Director, Oral Health Center of the Infectious Disease Program, Grady Health Systems
President, HIVdent

Additional speakers will be announced in coming weeks. Be sure to check our Web site for updated information.

The goal of the Summit, which will take place from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., is to approach HIV and AIDS through a multidisciplinary lens. Additional details and online registration for this event will be available soon. Please continue to check back for updates. Dental professionals will receive seven continuing education credits for their participation. In the meantime, if you have questions, contact the New York State Dental Foundation at (800) 255-2100. [Click here to learn more about the Summit.](#)

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