

Missouri Dental Association Foundation

Dr. Danielle Riordan, Chair, St. Peters
Dr. Robert Renger, Vice Chair, Joplin
Dr. Darren Mahaffey, Secretary-Treasurer, Springfield
Dr. Lynne Barbour, Director, Kahoka
Dr. Jeremy Bowen, Director, Independence
Dr. James Fox, Director, Cape Girardeau
Dr. Kirk Opdahl, Director, Independence
Dr. Elwood Rice, Director, Mexico
Dr. Emily Taylor, Director, Rolla
Dr. Timothy Taylor, Director, St. Joseph
Dr. Michael Berry, Ex-officio, MDA Immediate Past President
Vicki Wilbers, Ex-Officio, MDA Executive Director
Paul Roberts, MDA Foundation & Outreach Director

The MDA Foundation (MDAF) is the charitable arm of the MDA that works to create better oral health for Missourians through educational programs, access-to-care initiatives, and community collaborations. Its vision is "Improving Missouri Smiles."

Officers and Board Members: The MDAF board had many expiring terms this year: Drs. Jeremy Bowen, Darren Mahaffey, Rob Renger, Emily Taylor and Tim Taylor. Because of their passion for the Foundation, each has agreed to serve an additional term. The MDA Board of Trustees will officially elect the MDAF Board at its November 6 meeting. Due to officer term limits, the MDAF board elected a new slate of officers, contingent upon the MDA Board's election of these individuals: Dr. Darren Mahaffey, Chair; Dr. Robert Renger, Vice Chair; and, Dr. Jeremy Bowen, Secretary-Treasurer. No other addition or deletion was made to the Board. If you have an interest in serving on the MDAF Board, we have positions available. Contact Paul Roberts at the MDA Executive Office.

Scholarships: Education is a primary focus for the MDAF and as such, the long-standing Dental Scholarship Program continued in 2021. For the 2021-2022 academic year, the MDAF awarded three \$5,000 dental scholarships. To award scholarships to students who are more likely to stay in Missouri after graduation, scholarship eligibility requires all applicants to have been a resident of Missouri for a minimum of five years and be a graduate from a Missouri high school. This year, 13 eligible applications were received from both UMKC School of Dentistry and the ATSU Missouri School of Dentistry and Oral

Health. The Foundation awarded scholarships to three UMKC SOD students, as follows:

- David Brooks (Abeka Academy, St. Louis)
- Morgan Englebrecht (John F Hodge High School, St. James)
- Dev Patel (Marquette High School, Chesterfield)

Since 1999, the MDAF has awarded \$303,750 in dental and dental hygiene scholarships to students in Missouri. The MDAF Board and staff continue to work very hard to promote the scholarship program. With student debt a major issue and with the KCU School of Dental Medicine opening in 2023, the Board voted to expand the scholarship offerings beginning in 2022. Applications will be available in December 2021 for the 2022-2023 academic year. Additionally, the MDAF Board allocates a maximum of \$1,000 in scholarship funds to support Missouri residents who seek certification in the Community Dental Health Coordinator (CDHC) program currently offered online. Moving forward, the MDAF will determine application and award requirements if they administer the funds. All applicants will need to be an MDA associate member. No applications were received this past year.

Missouri Mission of Mercy (MOMOM): Increasing access to care is a primary goal of the MDAF, and MOMOM has become the main vehicle for addressing this issue. The inaugural MOMOM was held in Springfield, September 2011. Since then, clinics have been in Cape Girardeau, St. Louis, Columbia, Independence, Joplin, Kirksville and St. Joseph. Between the eight MOMOM clinics, 11,454 patients have received treatment totaling \$7,131,138 in value.

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More than 7,560 total volunteers have given their time to make the clinics successful.

The MOMOM Program went on hiatus for 2020 to allow all our volunteers and donors a break and to allow the MDAF Board an opportunity to explore other targeted access efforts. In 2020 plans were proceeding for a partnership with the Good Samaritan Care Clinic in Mountain View to conduct a smaller, extraction-only clinic to help reduce its two-year waiting list. Like most everything else in life, the pandemic caused us to postpone this clinic until July 2021. In January 2021 the Good Samaritan Care Clinic decided to cancel again due to high COVID cases and low vaccine response.

Plans are underway to return to the familiar two-day MOMOM clinic in 2022, but COVID-19 might dictate new protocols in our approach. MOMOM will be held July 15-16, 2022 at Chaifetz Arena in St Louis. Co-Chairs Drs. John G'Sell, Dean Telthorst and Claire Williams will lead the local effort. A launch meeting was held in August 2021. Watch for developments and announcements at MOMOM.org. Our strategy is growing. To keep up with the specifics, please refer to the MOMOM details immediately following this report.

Supplies & Brochure Donations: The MDAF continues to support various projects and programs by donating oral health supplies and education brochures. The MDAF attempts to honor all requests for donations, but places special emphasis on programs for low income or underserved groups that may not have access to supplies and brochures through other means. Through September 2021, 13 requests had been filled. Again, school closings and COVID-related protocols have resulted in fewer orders this year. Contact Paul Roberts for information or an application for supplies and brochure donations.

Grant Program: The MDAF oversees an official annual grant program with an established deadline of July 15. A minimum of \$3,500 is to be budgeted each year to help fund qualified applicants. In 2021, the Board awarded \$10,000 among seven organizations chosen from 12 applicants.

- **Cass Community Health Foundation:** \$413 to replace a handset.
- **Children's Smile Center:** \$1,500 for autoclave and starter unit.
- **Community Clinic of SW Missouri:** \$1,438 toward supplies for sealant program.
- **Heartland Outreach Providers:** \$1,200 for supplies in its HOPE Dental Outreach to kids program.
- **KC Care Clinic:** \$3,000 for denture outreach program.
- **Medical Mission for Christ:** \$1,400 for clinic supplies to assist the underserved.
- **Social Welfare Board:** \$1,049 for supplies and equipment.

After much discussion and considering the growing need to assist dental students with tuition, the Board has voted to discontinue the grant program. In 10 years of existence, 86 applications were received requesting \$345,800. The MDAF awarded 54 grants to 31 different organizations totaling \$62,307. Thank you for your faithful support.

MDAF Disaster Assistance Fund: Following the 2011 Joplin tornado, MDAF established a special disaster fund. There has been no disaster relief requested in Missouri this year. Law requires that we keep a fund balance for future disasters; the current balance is \$246.

MDAF Funding through MDA Dues Statements: The largest source of MDAF revenue continues to be through annual MDA dues statements. A \$150 donation to the Foundation was a voluntary option included on the 2021 MDA dues statements, from which the Foundation raised approximately \$28,697. To help the MDAF continue existing programs and develop new ones, we urge you to remember the MDAF when paying your 2022 dues. Thank you in advance for your support.

Memorial & In Honor Gifts: A great way to give to the MDAF while remembering friends or loved ones who have died is through a *Memorial Contribution*. The MDAF also offers the opportunity to recognize a birthday, anniversary or special accomplishment through an *In Honor*

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Gift to the Foundation. The MDAF will send an acknowledgement to the person being honored or to the family of those being remembered. You can give at modental.org/foundation.

Endowment: The MDAF has established an endowment with an initial amount of \$75,000. The endowment is another resource for donors to ensure the long-term financial health of the MDAF and to allow for memorial gifts. To learn more about how you can participate, please contact Denise Lehmen at the MDA.

Connect4Cash Fundraiser

With the return of the in person Connect4Success conference, this fundraiser did better than ever. The fourth annual "Connect4Cash" fundraiser raised \$15,940. This elimination raffle counted down to the grand-prize winner with many cash prizes and vendor-donated gifts along the way for those eliminated. Interest in this event continues to grow, so watch for how you can play in 2022. Congratulations to the \$1,700 grand prize winner, Dr. David Mattingly, Chillicothe. Thanks to the generosity of all who bought tickets.

Miscellaneous Donations: You need not wait for your dues statement, a fundraiser or a solicitation in your mailbox. Many members and organizations periodically donate to the MDAF, some monthly. This is greatly needed and appreciated. At the writing of this report, MDAF has received \$3,580 in miscellaneous donations. If you would like to donate, contact Paul Roberts at the MDA or download a donation form at modental.org/foundation.

Report completed 9/24/21.