



NEW JERSEY STATE LEGISLATURE

DECLAN O'SCANLON
ASSEMBLYMAN 12TH DISTRICT

32 MONMOUTH STREET
3RD FLOOR
RED BANK, NJ 07701
(732) 933-1591

JENNIFER BECK
SENATOR 12TH DISTRICT

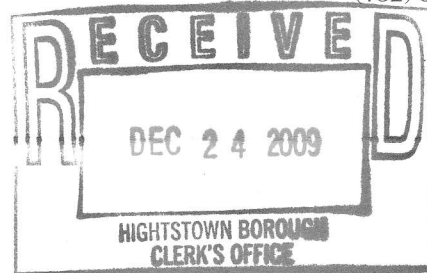
December 21, 2009

CAROLINE CASAGRANDE
ASSEMBLYWOMAN 12TH DISTRICT

71 WEST MAIN STREET
SUITE 101
FREEHOLD, NJ 07728
(732) 866-1695

Hightstown Borough
148 N. Main Street
Hightstown, NJ 08520

Dear Mayor and Council;



In times of economic uncertainty, as government at all levels receives additional requests for assistance from constituents, we must seek innovative ways to provide necessary services for residents.

This year, the New Jersey Dental Association is entering its 8th year sponsoring the Give Kids a Smile! annual statewide day of free dental care for children age 12 and under. This year, on Friday, February 5, 2010, more than 80 locations around the state will offer free dental services.

Of particular importance with this program, there is no means testing for families to participate. Parents can make appointments for their children without having to reveal family income information. As you know, many families now face the prospect of providing health and dental care for their children without insurance. By providing free dental care for children, we can help families receive effective preventive care today and avoid costly emergency dentistry in the future.

Please take the time at your next council meeting to advertise this program and help families in need receive important dental care. If you have any questions, please contact my office at 732-866-1695.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Beck
Senator, District 12

Declan O'Scanlon
Assemblyman, District 12

Caroline Casagrande
Assemblywoman, District 12

Give Kids A Smile— More than just a day

What is Give Kids A Smile?

Give Kids A Smile (GKAS) is a national program modeled after the St. Louis, MO program of the same name. Once a year, on the first Friday in February, volunteers in the dental community give their time and services to deliver screenings and treatment to needy children age 12 and under, absolutely free.

In New Jersey, nearly 4,000 children each year take part in the program at more than 80 locations in almost every county in the state. Each year, more than 1,000 volunteers make the program happen in urban, suburban and rural settings since it began in 2003.

Through the cooperation of the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, the New Jersey Dental Hygienists' Association and the New Jersey Dental Assistants' Association, the volunteers in New Jersey make GKAS a true team effort.

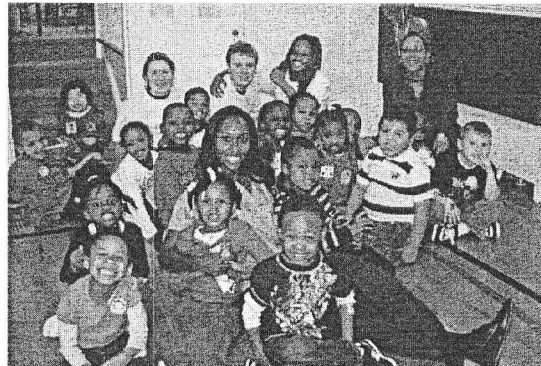
Though this one day receives much attention, dentists treat patients each day free of charge without fanfare or media attention.



A Tragedy That's Preventable

Thousands of children live in New Jersey with persistent, distracting pain, the inability to chew and eat properly and disfiguring decay and swelling. The crisis is staggering:

- **About 1/3 of all children in the U.S. have no dental insurance**
- **Uninsured children are 2.5 times less likely to receive dental care than insured children**
- **80% of tooth decay in the U.S. is suffered by 25% of the children**
- **51 million school hours are lost each year to untreated cavities**
- **Economic disadvantage is the single best predictor of tooth decay in children**
- **NJ ranks 49th of 50 states in the number of people who have access to fluoridated community water supplies**



Tooth decay (or cavities) is the #1 chronic childhood disease in America and is largely preventable. It is five times more prevalent than asthma, and disproportionately affects children from low-income families.

The good news is that—with periodic oral healthcare, good oral hygiene and fluoridated water—**oral disease is preventable.**

How Can Parents and Children Take Advantage of GKAS?

School nurses around the state are notified about the program and are provided a list of the participating dental offices months in advance of the February date. They, in turn, notify parents about the program in December and January. Information on the program is also available online at www.njda.org/gkas or via the program's hotline at (877) 576-9278 60 days prior to the event.

Those looking to volunteer should contact the local participating dental offices to inquire about opportunities.

It is important for community leaders, parents, guardians and school nurses to understand that volunteerism is not a sustainable healthcare delivery model. And, although the GKAS program is an annual event, parents should establish a dental home at a local dental office or dental clinic for their children. The New Jersey Dental Association offers an online find-a-dentist service at www.njda.org.



**GKAS is the nation's
Leading charitable
oral health program**

The GKAS program in New Jersey is the culmination of the efforts of several different organizations under the direction of the New Jersey Dental Association. The entire dental community, both public and private sectors, comes together to ensure the delivery of care to thousands of children who otherwise may not be able to afford it.

Services rendered include hygiene instruction, cleanings, screenings, x-rays, fillings, extractions, fluoride treatments, oral health education and much more.

Volunteers work to ensure the program is fun and educational and that it gives many children a great first impression of visits to the dentist.

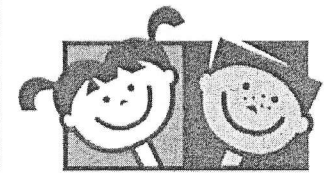


**"A Healthy Smile on Every Child
is the Goal of the GKAS in NJ!"**



New Jersey Dental Association

One Dental Plaza
P.O. Box 6020
North Brunswick, NJ 08902
Phone: 732-821-9400
Fax: 732-821-1082
Web: www.njda.org



**give kids a
smile!**

**National Children's
Dental Access Day**

**A collaborative
effort of the
dental community
to help eliminate
oral health
disparities in
New Jersey**

**www.njda.org/gkas
(888) 576-9278**





NEW JERSEY PARTICIPATING LOCATIONS

February 5, 2010

(All free visits are by appointment only. Call location(s) for exact addresses.)

Atlantic

UMDNJ, Galloway – 609-652-0501
UMDNJ, Northfield – 609-645-5814

Bergen

Washington Dental, Bergenfield – 201-384-2425
Dental Care for Kidz, Englewood – 201-569-5437
Sparkle Kids Dentistry, Fair Lawn – 201-475-1600
Dr. Ali Weiselberg, Fort Lee – 201-461-4800
NHCAC Health Center, Garfield – 201-210-0200
State Street Smiles, Hackensack – 201-487-7030
Dr. Lori Nasif, Fort Lee – 201-224-6430
Bergen Community College, Paramus – 201-612-5390
Dr. Jamie Diament-Golub, Westwood – 201-944-7636

Burlington

Armstrong Dental, Moorestown – 856-235-0415
Rockwell Dental, Mount Holly – 609-298-5800
Burlington County College, Pemberton-609-894-9311 x1074

Camden

Camden County College, Blackwood-856-227-7200 x4631
CamCare, Camden – 856-963-8768
CamCare, Camden – 856-635-0307
CamCare, Camden – 856-602-4012
CamCare, Clementon – 856-627-7701
Lakeside Dental, Sicklerville – 856-740-1110
UMDNJ, Somerdale – 856-566-6969

Cape May

Comm. Health Care, CMCH - 856-465-0258 x2809

Cumberland

CC Technical Education Center, Bridgeton – 856-451-9000

Essex

Mountainside Hospital, Montclair – 973-429-6887
Newark Beth Israel Medical Ctr., Newark - 973-926-7642
UMDNJ-NJ Dental School, Newark – 973-972-4719
Chestnut Dental, Newark – 973-732-3484
Kindersmile Foundation, Upper Montclair – 973-744-7003

Gloucester

Turner-Wood Dental, Glassboro – 856-881-5080
CamCare, Paulsboro – 856-687-2200

Hudson

Riverview Dentistry, Hoboken – 201-653-2929
Jersey City Medical Center, Jersey City – 201-369-3229
NHCAC Health Center, Union City – 201-210-0200
Dr. Michael Schwarz, Union City – 201-868-9565

Hunterdon

Perryville Family Dentistry, Union Twp. – 908-730-8988

Mercer

Henry J. Austin Health Center, Trenton – 609-278-5951

Middlesex

Dr. Lawrence Brent, Cranbury – 609-409-3992
Doctors of Dental Medicine, Dayton – 732-329-3113
Drs. Mark Vitale & Paul Tedeschi, Edison – 732-494-7575

Middlesex Cont'd

Middlesex County College, Edison – 732-906-2536
JFK Medical Center, Edison – 732-321-7608
Dentistry at S. Brunswick, Monmouth Jct. – 732-951-0099
RWJ Hospital, New Brunswick – 732-937-8653
KidzDent, Old Bridge – 732-679-2323
Menendez Health Ctr., Perth Amboy – 732-376-9333

Monmouth

Grill Dental, Deal – 732-531-3311
Adults and Kids Dental Care, Hazlet – 732-264-8001
Dr. Saara Nieminen-Cisneros, Keansburg – 732-495-8600
Monmouth Medical Center, Long Branch – 732-923-6587

Morris

Kimowitz Family Dental, Denville – 973-627-3363
Adv. Cosmetic & Laser Dentistry, Dover – 973-328-0022
Zufall Health Center, Dover – 973-328-3344
Dr. Sidney Chonowski, Morristown – 973-538-1100
All Smiles Dentistry, Morristown – 973-267-0270
Morristown Memorial Hospital, Morristown – 973-971-5442

Ocean

CHEMED Health Center, Lakewood – 732-534-8061
Dr. Heejin Choi, Lakewood – 917-834-5580
Ocean health Initiatives, Lakewood – 732-363-6655
Tooth Doctor, Manahawkin, 609-597-6990
Dr. Valeria Barba, Manasquan – 732-223-4416
Ocean Pediatric Dental Assoc., Toms River-732-473-1123
Ocean Health Initiatives, Toms River 732-552-0377
DeMarco Family Dental, Tuckerton, 609-296-8700

Passaic

Dr. Jason Rosenfeld, Butler – 973-838-0093
NHCAC Health Center, Passaic – 201-210-0200
St. Joseph's Health Center, Paterson – 973-754-4250
Paterson Public Schools, Paterson – 973-321-1277
Dr. Laurence Breiterman, Wayne -973-694-2835
Dr. Richard Blumenfeld, West Paterson – 973-256-3366

Salem

Dr. James Susack, Pennsville – 856-678-2033

Somerset

Hillsborough Family Dentistry, Hillsborough – 908-722-0321
Dr. Gary Small, Manville – 908-722-6500
All Brite Dentistry, Somerville – 908-722-1212

Sussex

Neighborhood Health Svcs., Newton – 973-383-7001
Skylands Dental Care, Wantage – 973-875-7127

Union

Young Family Dentistry, Plainfield – 908-205-8755
Neighborhood Health Svcs., Plainfield – 908-753-6401
Dr. Alyssa Bernstein, Rahway – 732-388-3100
UMDNJ-SHRP-ADE, Scotch Plains – 908-889-2460

Warren

Dr. Zahir Khokhar, Hackettstown – 908-850-0005

www.njda.org/gkas