

# the smile Report

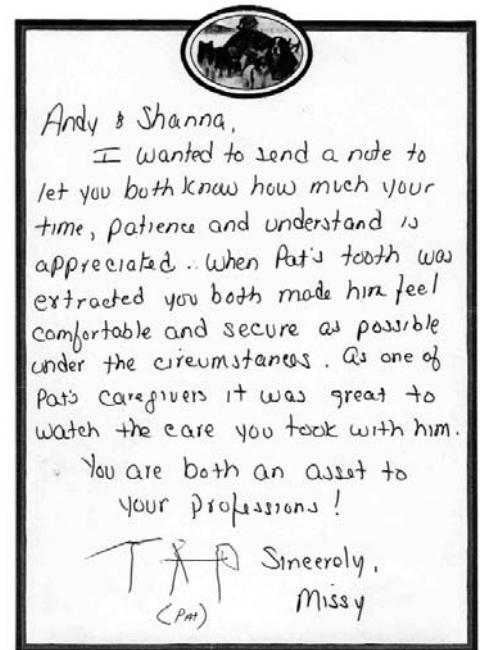


Summer 2006

A newsletter from Tri-County Community Dental Clinic



Haley Joel and Lucy,  
Molly, Jack and Conifer



Missy thanks a student and staff for their considerate care of a special needs patient.

## Patients thankful for dental care from volunteers and students

As a mother of four children, Haley Joel makes sure her children brush their teeth every night before going to bed. She has taught Conifer (11 years old), Jack (9 years old), Molly (6 years old) and Lucy (4 years old) the importance of good oral health care, including visits to the dentist.

With the help of her church and others, her family found emergency care but had difficulty receiving routine dental care as there are few options in the area for those patients receiving Medical Assistance or those with low incomes.

In 2003, a friend told Haley about Tri-County Community Dental Clinic, a new dental clinic whose mission is to serve Fox Valley area residents in need. Volunteer

dentists, hygienists and assistants would provide the care. Dental students would also be there to gain experience while treating patients. She quickly registered her family and they have been receiving care at TCCDC since February 2004.

Haley commented "The atmosphere here is so positive. The dentists, hygienists, and staff treat you kindly even if you are on MA. And the students are great with my children."

Currently unable to work while she recovers from a surgery and a stroke, she is so pleased that she does not have to choose between buying groceries and paying for dental care. Haley makes sure her children know the dentists and hygienists at the clinic are all volunteers.

### Clinic wish list

- Cavitron—used by hygienist to "clean" teeth
- Toothbrushes and toothpaste for adult patients
- Special toothbrushes and other dental aids for special needs and elderly patients
- Surgical instruments
- Office supplies
- Telephone system

Her family realizes if Tri-County Community Dental Clinic did not exist, they might not be able to receive the preventative care they need. Even when Haley returns to work this fall, the Clinic will continue to help her until she has the financial resources or private dental insurance for her family.

With an atmosphere of Kindness... Compassion... Giving and Respect

## Volunteering Dentists

David Angell, Oshkosh  
Robert Asp, Hilbert  
Ryan Auth, Appleton  
Robert Bastic, Appleton  
Edward Bekx, Kimberly  
Jacqueline Belter, Oshkosh  
Robert Bennot, Wautoma  
Christopher Bergstrom, Appleton  
Christopher BerkersChilton  
Robert Brennan, Neenah  
Dawn Brown, Neenah  
Timothy Brown, Neenah  
Tipton Brown, Neenah  
Jeffery Casperson, Appleton  
Robert Chabalowski, Menasha  
William Clark, Appleton/Oshkosh  
Jason Cooke, Appleton/Oshkosh  
Deb Dimitrakakis, Appleton  
Michael Ebben, Little Chute  
David Emanuel, Appleton  
William Farrow, Kaukauna  
William Flanagan, Appleton

Phillip Florek, Neenah  
Jay Frazier, Green Bay  
Michael Gabler, Appleton  
David Gamm, Appleton/Oshkosh  
Larry Gressler, Menasha  
Joseph Guerard, Winneconne  
Richard Hack, Appleton  
William Hammond, Oshkosh  
Michael Hanneman, Oshkosh  
Peter Hehli, Appleton/Oshkosh  
Heather Heil, Kaukauna  
Robert Heil, Appleton  
Arthur Helgerson, Appleton  
Amy Henderson, Neenah  
Jason Henderson, Neenah  
Robert Hering, Neenah  
Richard Hilsabeck, Appleton  
Donald Hoff, Seymour  
Daniel Johaneck, Appleton  
Gay Witte-Johnson, Appleton  
George Jumes, Appleton/Oshkosh  
Jeffrey Keesler, Neenah  
Marissa Keesler, Neenah  
James Killinger, Oshkosh  
Terry Kippa, Oshkosh  
Timothy Koll, Appleton  
Gordon Korthals, Oshkosh

Anthony Kraft, Seymou  
James Kramer, Neenah  
Douglas Krueger, Appleton  
Lisa Lang-Riegel, Menasha  
Mark Lenz, Little Chute  
Thomas Lornson, Black Creek  
Gregory Ludden, Appleton  
Robert Magnin, Kimberly  
John Masak, Appleton  
Michael Maslowski, Oshkosh  
Jane Mathen, Appleton  
Patricia McConnell, Appleton  
Christopher McFarlane,  
Oshkosh/Neenah  
Michael McFarlane,  
Oshkosh/Neenah  
Daniel McKinnon, Appleton  
Mark McNeil, Neenah  
Perry Menos, Appleton  
David Mentz, Neenah  
Gregory Messina, Fond du Lac  
Todd Needham, Appleton/Oshkosh  
David Olsen, Appleton  
Henry Plautz, Appleton  
Jason Pohl, Appleton  
John Richardson, Oshkosh  
Richard Romenesko, Appleton

Timothy Rose, Appleton/Oshkosh  
Timothy Ryan, Oshkosh  
Dale Scharine, Appleton  
Paul Schmidt, Oshkosh/Fond du Lac  
Gilbert Schmidtke, Appleton  
Gilpatrick Schmidtke, Appleton  
Richard Schoengarth, Appleton  
Sidney Schulz, Sherwood  
Susan Schuster, Oshkosh  
William Schuster, Oshkosh  
Paul Shoberg, Appleton  
James Springborn, Appleton  
Roger Stanek, Appleton  
James Steinmetz, Appleton  
Mark Steinmetz, Appleton  
William Stilp, Appleton  
Steven Stoll, Neenah  
Loren Swanson, Oshkosh  
Paul Tetting, Appleton  
Timothy Tweedy, Neenah  
Richard Tulip, Oshkosh  
Patrick White, Appleton/Oshkosh  
Michael Wockenfus, Menasha  
Douglas Wolk, Oshkosh  
Jeffrey Wolk, Oshkosh  
Timothy Zuck, Appleton

## 2006 L.I.F.E. Study

Leading Indicators for Excellence Study (L.I.F.E) is an in-depth look at the quality of life in the Fox Valley and the opportunities within the community for improvement. The 2001 L.I.F.E. study documented the need to improve access to dental care. Community dentists, already searching for an answer, helped meet part of this need by establishing the Tri-County Community Dental Clinic in 2003.

In the 2006 study, the quality of health and dental care in the Fox Cities area was highly rated. But there is a concern due to the increasing costs, inadequate access to care and

the need for additional health professionals.

TCCDC is striving to address these concerns. In the first 2 1/2 years 7,000 individuals received dental treatment in 15,500 visits receiving \$3.2 million of care. An additional 4,000 have registered and are waiting to be seen. Many others in need of care have not yet been to the clinic. With the changes occurring in the local economy it is expected there will be additional need for assistance with health and dental care.

For more details on the L.I.F.E. study log onto [www.foxcitieslifstudy.org](http://www.foxcitieslifstudy.org)

## New Volunteer Coordinator

In January, Rachel Youngquist became TCCDC's first volunteer coordinator. Rachel comes with extensive volunteer management background from working with



other nonprofit healthcare organizations. In addition to scheduling and ensuring there is a volunteer dentist at the clinic each day, she helps recruit and orientate new volunteers. She also interacts with students to explain the mission and history of the clinic and to increase their awareness of

public health concerns.

Care at Tri-County Community Dental Clinic is provided by volunteer dental professionals and by students from Marquette University School of Dentistry and Fox Valley Technical College dental hygiene and assisting programs. It is important that these volunteers and students be scheduled correctly so the clinic can operate efficiently so it can treat more patients.

Thank you to the Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region's Opportunity Fund and an anonymous foundation for providing grants to help cover the first year costs of this position.

## Marquette's Preceptor Day Educates Volunteer Dentists

On April 21 Marquette University School of Dentistry (MUSoD) hosted a Preceptor Day for volunteer dentists, board members and staff of TCCDC. The purpose of this special day was to introduce preceptors (local volunteer dentists appointed by MUSoD to supervise the students) and others to the clinical educational techniques currently being taught to students. Faculty dentists gave presentations on endodontics (root canal), pediatrics, periodontics (gum disease), and operative (fillings, extractions) dentistry. It was so successful that planning has already begun for a second session.

Thank you to Sheila Stover DDS, MUSoD's Director of Rural Outreach Programs for helping coordinate this event. Thank you also to John Bergstrom and Bergstrom Automotive for sponsoring the bus for the trip.



Above are TCCDC volunteers with Marquette faculty: Board Treasurer, Phil Florek DDS, MUSoD Dean William Lobb DDS, Board President Jim Springborn DDS, MUSoD University's Sheila Stover DDS, and Board Past-President Tim Brown DDS.

# Message from the president

By James Springborn, D.D.S.

Dear Friends of TCCDC,

I am just over half way through my one year term as president of TCCDC. This experience has been very eventful. We continue to serve the Medicaid and low income patients in Winnebago, Calumet and Outagamie County. Our public health efforts have become better defined based on the needs of the patients and the skills of our volunteers and students. After almost 3 years of operations we have not reached our production potential. In 2005 we provided \$1.2 million in services in 5,700 visits and 2006 is on track for \$1.5 million. Based on the needs of our patients, we have begun to see that our dollars and volunteer time should be spent on emergency and restorative care (fillings) and on preventative procedures such as sealants and fluoride applications.

Our educational component has grown with the solid relationship with Marquette University School of Dentistry (MUSoD) and the dental students who do part of their outreach clinical training at TCCDC. The MUSoD students do almost half

of the procedures at the clinic. With one volunteer dentist serving as a supervisor (preceptor) for the four students, they produce more dentistry than the volunteer could do alone. FVTC hygiene and assisting students continue to rotate through the clinic and complement the paid staff in treating patients. We have pre-dental students that get experience in the clinic and go on to careers in dentistry because of the exposure they receive at TCCDC. The educational arm of the TCCDC has proven to be far more important than ever envisioned for this clinic.



We still need your help. We need dentist and hygiene volunteers and dental assistants. We need administrative volunteers to supplement the paid staff. We need your donations to fund operational expenses. Our community needs to continue to support us with governmental and private grants. If we all work together, we will have a long and productive future for TCCDC.

## Thank you for your support

Tri-County Community Dental Clinic relies on your contributions to provide affordable dental care. Recently, TCCDC received several large grants. They will help cover operating costs and the expansion of services. Included are funds for the volunteer coordinator, additional staff support and increases in dental equipment and supplies. We were also fortunate to receive a special one-time grant from the federal government with the help of Sen. Kohl and other

Wisconsin legislators.

Grantees include:

- Mercy Health Foundation
- Opportunity Fund\*
- Oshkosh Area Community Foundation
- Oshkosh Area United Way
- Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Foundation
- United Way Fox Cities
- U.S. Oil Needy Children's Fund\*
- Winnebago Presbytery
- Wisconsin Dental Foundation

\*Funds within the Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region

TCCDC has been a recipient of several fund raisers including the Outagamie County employees who donated their "Denim Day" proceeds for the past three years, Winnebago County Department of Human Services employees who donated "Casual Day" proceeds, and golf outing proceeds from the Wisconsin Association of Health Underwriters Foundation and Lord's Dental.

This year TCCDC needs your continued support for

operations and expansion projects. Examples are minor interior building modifications, a larger telephone system, a new dental computer system, and additional support staff, instruments and supplies.

Please contact Barbara Uehling, Executive Director, if you wish to contribute or have any questions. 920-882-9989 [budental@tds.net](mailto:budental@tds.net)

(Watch for a complete list of donors in our next newsletter.)

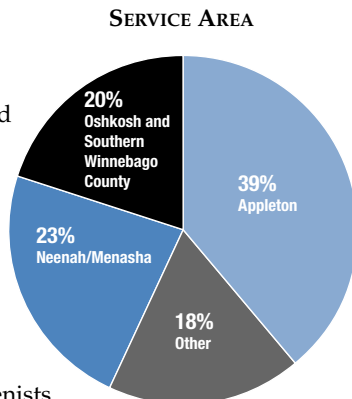
## Summary of care provided

In the 2 1/2 years since the clinic opened:

- 10,600 patients registered at TCCDC
- 7,000 patients were treated in 15,000 patient visits
- 62% have Medicaid, the rest have limited ability to pay
- \$3.2 of donated dental services were provided

**Volunteers include:**

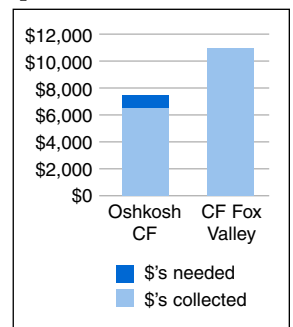
- 100 dentists including general and specialists
- 18 registered dental hygienists
- 14 dental assistants
- 30 other volunteers including office and pre-dental students
- Many students volunteer during their time off



## TCCDC Announces Matching Endowment Initiatives

TCCDC has been selected by two programs as a recipient for matching endowment initiatives. The Mielke Family Foundation, Doug and Carla Salmon Foundation, John and Ann Gillen Family Fund, and the Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region, Inc. selected TCCDC for their initiative which requires \$10,000 in new donations in order to receive \$10,000 of matching funds. Generous donors have helped TCCDC reach this goal. For the Oshkosh Area Community Foundation, TCCDC needs to raise an additional \$1,000 to receive \$2,500.

To provide dental services to those in need, TCCDC needs continuing donations and endowment fund support. Here's how you can help. Please consider sending a donation to either endowment fund in the attached envelope.



## Student volunteers

Many students volunteer to treat patients in addition to their required coursework. Pre-dental students, undergraduates interested in dental school, help assist dentists and dental students. FVTC hygiene students volunteer during the school year for Head Start Days, Give Kids a Smile as well as during the summer. Several Marquette University dental students have returned to help at TCCDC. FVTC assisting students also give of their time.



*These students have volunteered as pre-dental students at TCCDC. All have ties to Marquette University School of Dentistry (MUSoD). Shaeda Govani, a University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh graduate, starts dental school this fall; Kim Murray, a senior at UW-O and co-president of their Dental Club, attended a special MUSoD program this summer; and Lina Al-Bitar is in her second year of dental school. We appreciate the help of all the pre-dental students and applaud these three on their accomplishments.*



*FVTC dental hygiene students who have graduated continue to be so enthusiastic about treating TCCDC patients and they make sure the patients know how to care for their teeth.*



*These MUSoD dental students have graduated. Jason Pohl, right, is now practicing in our area.*

### Board of Directors

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 Dental Assistant—Jaime Kadlec  
 Dental Assistant—Nicole Stenz  
 Dental Assistant—Rachel Scheibe  
 Front Desk Coordinator—Monica Mendoza  
 Front Desk Assistant—Stacy Miller

### Our Mission

Tri-County Community Dental Clinic is an all volunteer dental clinic whose mission is to provide quality oral health care services in a caring and compassionate manner to those individuals in Calumet, Outagamie, and Winnebago counties whose access to dental health care is limited due to inadequate income or reduced access to Medicaid care eligibility.

### Clinical Advisory Committee

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 Sheila Stover, DDS, MS, Marquette School of Dentistry, Asst Prof, Dir. Rural Outreach Programs

920-882-5500

[www.tricountydental.org](http://www.tricountydental.org)



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