



AUGUSTA REGIONAL DENTAL CLINIC

FALL 2021 NEWSLETTER



WE ARE GROWING!

Dear friends,

From all of us at the Augusta Regional Dental Clinic, thank you for your continued support of our patients and organization. As our community is still battling the COVID-19 pandemic and its consequences on our most vulnerable neighbors, it is your trust and friendship that allows us to continue our mission.

The ARDC remains open five days a week and offer 610 appointments per month. However, and despite our best efforts, our current capacity is too limited to answer the unprecedented level of demand from our community. That is why the ARDC Board of Directors voted an expansion project in April 2021. Our goal is to increase our capacity by 60% with the recruitment of 2 additional dentists.

I am thrilled to report that those providers have joined us over the summer and that our clinic is already able to offer more appointments and accept new patients. You will learn more about our expansion project and its impact on page 2 of this newsletter.

This project would not have been possible without your generosity and commitment to the ARDC. Again, thank you.

Sophie Parson, Executive Director

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Our charitable clinic was established 20 years ago to provide top quality affordable dental care to those who cannot afford such services

0-100+

We welcome patients of all ages with Medicaid benefits or with no insurance

2,000

We serve over 2,000 patients every year

EXPAND TO BETTER SERVE OUR COMMUNITY

In our area access to dental care is a challenge especially for low-income members of our community. The current pandemic only made things worse as 21% of Augusta Co. residents have faced COVID-19 related layoffs and consequent loss of health insurance.

Our clinic is one of the few dental offices accepting Medicaid beneficiaries within a 25 mile radius and the only one offering affordable care options for uninsured neighbors within a 30 mile radius.

In order to increase our capacity, cut wait times, and accept new patients, our clinic hired two new dentists and supporting staff over the summer as part of our 2021 Expansion project. We also launched a new dental hygiene program with the goal of multiplying opportunities for preventative care and oral health education.

We are now able to offer 360 additional appointments per month to our community. It means that over 1,100 new patients per year will be able to receive care at our clinic!

In the Staunton-Augusta Co-Waynesboro area:



1/3 of residents do not have dental insurance



Half of low-income residents have not visited the dentist in the past 12 months



2 children out of 10 have not visited the dentist in the past 12 months

Source: Augusta Health CHNA 2019



DENTALPALOOZA FALL 2021

16 local volunteers join forces to help uninsured neighbors

On September 25th the ARDC hosted another edition of its free dental clinic day - Dentalpalooza.

Volunteer dentists and dental hygienists joined forces with the ARDC staff to provide free dental visits to uninsured residents of Augusta County. In total 67 patients benefited from this event which received the generous support of a dozen sponsors.

Stay tuned, another Dentalpalooza is scheduled for the Spring 2022. If you wish to support the ARDC free dental clinic days, you can make a donation using the attached remittance envelope. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

THANK YOU TO OUR DENTALPALOOZA FALL 2021 GOLD SPONSORS

