



AUGUSTA REGIONAL DENTAL CLINIC

SPRING 2022 NEWSLETTER



2/10

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

89%

of the children seen through our ORCAS program are underserved

680+

children will receive free dental visits through our ORCAS program this year

THANK YOU!

Dear Friends,

Thanks to your generosity, the Augusta Regional Dental Clinic has been able to provide free dental visits to 342 children so far this school year through our ORCAS program (ORal Care At School).

"This program means everything to our community", said Bessie Weller school nurse Debbie Pyles. With 2 out of 10 children in our community not visiting a dentist on a regular basis, the need is huge. **"This program is extremely beneficial for our school and community. Many of the kids seen today had never been to a dentist in their life"**, stated Berkeley Glenn school nurse Mandy Chatterton.

89% of the children seen through our program do not have dental insurance or cannot find a dentist due to local shortage. 60% of them will need follow up appointments for fillings. **"Many families would not see a dentist if it was not for this program. It went very well and the kids had a good time!"** said Tracy Sanderson, Wenonah school nurse.

Our ORCAS team visits each school once a year and provides dental consultations at no out-of-pocket cost. We also conduct educational sessions with hands-on activities to discuss the importance of oral hygiene and healthy eating habits in a fun way. These visits are much appreciated by our young patients and their families: **parents do not have to take time off work, there are no out-of-pocket costs, and children are seen in a familiar setting which lowers dental anxiety.** (Continues on Page 2)

12 elementary schools of the Staunton-Augusta Co.-Waynesboro area have enrolled and we expect to see close to 700 children by the end of the school year. We could not be more excited!

None of that would be possible without you! **We thank all donors who have supported our 2021-2022 ORCAS program!** We need \$45 per visit per child to cover costs. Such an expense would be impossible to bear alone without your generosity.

We have open enrollment for the upcoming school year and are looking to expand our service to more underserved children.

If you wish to support our ORCAS program for the 2022-2023 school year and make sure every child in need of a dental visit gets one, you can mail a donation using the enclosed envelope or make a gift online via our website.

We thank you for your continuous support of our ORCAS program!

Sophie Parson, Executive Director

YOU'RE INVITED!

**May 14th, 2022 3:30-6pm
Basic City Brewery, Waynesboro**

Join us for the "Battle of the Bands"!

This fundraising concert will feature 3 local bands (*Little Walters and the Convictions, The Goodson Band, and The WaHookies*).

Guests will have the possibility to vote for their favorite band and enter a raffle of prizes from local vendors and artists!

Visit our website for more information and to get your raffle tickets today!
augustaregionaldentalclinic.org



**The event is FREE
and open to all.**

100 APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE!

After a successful Fall 2021 edition where 67 patients received care free of charge The ARDC will hold a new edition of our free dental clinic day ("Dentalpalooza") on April 23.

Thanks to the support of local sponsors and 35 volunteers 100+ appointment slots are available to uninsured members of our community. Patients will receive dental consultations, cleanings, fillings, and extractions at no out-of-pocket cost.

We express our most sincere gratitude to the 18 dental providers who have pledged their time and skills to make sure our most vulnerable neighbors receive the care they need.



THANK YOU TO OUR DENTALPALOOZA SPRING 2022 GOLD SPONSORS

