

HAPPY CHILDREN'S DENTAL HEALTH MONTH!



ADA American Dental Association®

As we begin to kick off the month of February, many of us will be taking part in “GIVE KIDS A SMILE” by volunteering your time for a day or even for a month-long event. Please encourage your dental practice to participate by registering on the NJDA site using the link below.

<https://www.njda.org/for-the-public/gkas/for-dental-professionals>

A dental office or dental hygiene educational program will examine a child during children's dental health month for preventive care or a screening determine if that child has decay and is in need of restorative or surgical care. Then that dental office or DH educational program can REFER those pediatric patients to a pediatric dentist for FREE dental care as part of the 2nd Annual “SHARE A SMILE” program! SAS dentists are willing to treat uninsured and underinsured children as an extension of GKAS from **FEBRUARY until MAY 2022**.

This program is an extension program of GKAS. This program is an extension program of GKAS. The SAS program was designed to serve as an additional avenue for children in financial need to receive necessary treatment free of charge. The pandemic has limited dental sites from participating in GKAS, limited the number of volunteers and has decreased the number of children seen. **SHARE a SMILE wants to help fill in the gaps!**



Last year the program was piloted by the five dental hygiene schools in NJ and this year is expanded to include any GKAS registered site. Linda Hecker, MA, BS, RDH, former RCBC Dental Hygiene Program Director created the idea of the program and Dr. Elisa Velazquez, DMD, MS, President of the NJAPD, immediately began designing the program while Dr. Stacy Onofrietti, PhD, MS, RDH, CHP assisted as administrator of the program. Please see the link below for even more information on the SAS Program and reach out to Dr. Stacy L. Onofrietti with any questions via email at ono4angels@gmail.com

“SHARE A SMILE” SUMMARY link: <https://njapd.org/share-a-smile/>

VALUABLE GKAS & SAS INFORMATION:

- For Dental Professionals (includes learn more link, volunteer list link, referral form):
<https://www.njda.org/for-the-public/gkas/for-dental-professionals>
- For Parents (includes learn more link & volunteer list link):
<https://www.njda.org/for-the-public/gkas/for-parents>
- For Schools, Municipalities, Charities (includes learn more link & volunteer list link):
<https://www.njda.org/for-the-public/gkas/for-schools-municipalities-and-charitable-groups>

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