Manos de Cristo Dental Center
Austin, Texas

Program Overview

The Manos de Cristo Dental Center is a low-fee, bilingual, nonprofit dental center in Austin that provides high-quality services to children, adults, and seniors. The organization is committed to empowering low-income individuals by promoting dignity and self-reliance.

Program History and Development

Manos de Cristo opened in 1988 to provide treatment and basic dental services to low-income populations in Austin, Texas. The program was founded by Reverend Frank Diaz and Roland Castaneda after noticing a need for dental care among low-income young men, who often waited up to six months for dental care at the local hospital.

In 1990, the organization opened a stand-alone dental clinic on the central east side of Austin. Manos continued to extend its reach by offering food and clothing provisions, a back-to-school program, legal aid, and classes in computer literacy, citizenship, and English. In 2013, the clinic expanded its capacity to serve more individuals by moving from the four-chair treatment rooms in east Austin to an 11-chair dental center in central Austin.

Program Sustainability

- Manos de Cristo Dental Center is supported by St. David's Foundation, Westminster Presbyterian Church, Episcopal Health Foundation, the Andre & Lilian A. Posey Foundation, and other individuals, corporations, churches, and foundations.
- The program is almost entirely supported by private donations.
- The entire Manos de Cristo program had over 800 volunteers in 2014.
- Manos de Cristo Dental Center has been in operation since 1990.
- The Grin & Share It program for Manos de Cristo supporters began in 2014 and provides a dedicated website for annual supporters to donate and share impact stories of individuals helped by the organization.

Program Impact

- In 2014, Manos de Cristo Dental Center provided more than 13,493 appointments and 49,791 dental procedures. In total, the dental care provided in 2014 was worth $2,771,579.
- Manos de Cristo Dental Center was voted one of 2015's best Austin, Texas dentistry practices on Opencare.com.

Program Contact Information
Program Website: http://www.manosdecristo.org/dental

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Program Features

Note: A checked box below indicates an existing program feature.

Age
- ☒ 0-17 (Children and Youth)
- ☒ 18-60 (Adult)
- ☒ 60+ (Older Adult)

Specific Populations
- ☐ Homeless individuals
- ☐ Individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities
- ☐ Individuals with physical disabilities
- ☐ Individuals with specific or complex medical conditions
- ☒ Individuals with low income
- ☐ Individuals with no dental insurance
- ☐ Individuals with Medicaid
- ☐ Veterans
- ☐ Refugees/immigrants

Geography
- ☐ Rural
- ☒ Urban

Service Delivery Setting
- ☐ Hospital
- ☐ Dental school
- ☒ Community/safety net clinic
- ☐ Private dental office
- ☐ Long-term care facility
- ☐ Senior center/community center
- ☐ Private residence
- ☐ Fairgrounds/stadium/parking lot
- ☐ Church
- ☐ School
- ☐ Homeless shelter
- ☐ Public housing

Service Delivery Model
- ☒ Dental clinic model (e.g. permanent setting)
- ☐ Mobile-portable model
- ☐ Eligibility and enrollment model (e.g. referrals, care coordination)
- ☐ Virtual model (e.g. telehealth)
- ☐ Event-based model
- ☐ Outreach and education model

Staffing
- ☒ Dentist
- ☒ Dental hygienist
- ☐ Dental therapist
- ☒ Dental assistant
- ☐ Dental/dental hygiene students
- ☐ Nursing staff
- ☐ Community health workers
- ☐ Non-dental clinical staff
- ☒ Non-clinical staff

Payment for Care
- ☐ Medicaid
- ☐ No charge to client
- ☐ Sliding fee scale
- ☒ Out of pocket
- ☐ Commercial dental insurance

Program Funding
- ☒ Foundation/ organization grant
- ☐ Public funding (e.g. local, state, federal)
- ☒ Private donations (e.g. individuals, businesses)

Dental and Oral Health Services
- ☒ Emergency services
- ☒ Basic services
  - ☒ Screenings
  - ☒ Cleanings
  - ☐ Fluoride varnish
  - ☒ Sealants
  - ☒ X-rays
- ☒ Comprehensive services
  - ☒ Fillings
  - ☐ Scaling/root planing
  - ☒ Extractions
  - ☐ Oral surgery
  - ☐ Root canals
  - ☒ Dentures, partials, relines, repairs
  - ☒ Crowns
  - ☐ Bridges
  - ☐ Orthodontics

Other Program Services
- ☒ Referrals to dental and oral health services
- ☐ Care coordination/ care management
- ☒ Patient education
- ☐ Caregiver education
- ☐ Provider education
- ☐ Advocacy/coalition

Integration with Services
- ☐ Medical services
- ☐ Behavioral health services
- ☐ Vision services
- ☐ Pharmacy services
- ☐ Transportation services
- ☒ Translation services
- ☒ Nutrition services

This profile was prepared using publicly available information. Date of last update: March 2016

ACL Administration for Community Living

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