



The Missions of Mercy (MOM) Project

Multiple locations throughout Virginia

Program Overview

The Missions of Mercy (MOM) Project, originating in Virginia, operates mobile clinics in strategic locations across Virginia, providing preventive, restorative, and surgical dental treatments to more than 4,000 low-income individuals each year. These two- or three-day events take place in locations that are easily accessible to all populations, such as churches, schools, and fairgrounds. The program targets geographic areas with a high, unmet need for dental care.

Program History and Development



After recognizing the large need for high-quality dental care for underserved Virginians, Dr. Terry Dickinson, executive director of the Virginia Dental Association (VDA) created the Missions of Mercy (MOM) Project in 2000 to provide high-quality dental care to underserved Virginians. The first MOM event was held in Wise County, Virginia. The program has since expanded to hold events at 16 different locations across Virginia.

The MOM Project has served as a model for other states looking to implement similar events. To help with this implementation, the Virginia Dental Association Foundation (VDAF) and Virginia Health Care Foundation (VHCF) have produced webcasts to teach interested participants how to plan a MOM event in their own communities. These webcasts are available on the program website listed below.

Program Sustainability

- In 2015, the MOM Project received funding from: the Virginia Department of Health, DentaQuest, Obici Healthcare Foundation, Benevis Foundation, Buchanan County Youth, Henry Schein Dental, United Concordia Dental, the VDA, Virginia Dental Services Corporation, Anthem BC/BS, various corporate sponsors, and individual donors.
- The MOM Project partners with: Virginia Commonwealth University School of Dentistry, The Health Wagon, and numerous volunteer dentists, dental hygienists, and dental assistants.
- Funding for the MOM Project is split between: donated professional services and in-kind donations (79%), donations from foundations (8%), state grants (7%), individual donations (2%), events (2%), donations from businesses and associations (1%), and rental fees and reimbursements (1%). It has received over \$250,000 in donations of supplies.
- This program is staffed by volunteer dentists, dental hygienists, dental assistants, dental and dental hygiene students, and community volunteers. Over 23,000 volunteers have been involved across all Virginia MOM events.
- The total annual budget of the MOM Project in 2015 was \$1,152,672, which included the value of donated professional services.

Program Impact

- To date, the MOM Project has provided 299,740 dental procedures to over 59,000 individuals through the 85 projects completed in Virginia since 2000. The monetary value of these free dental services was \$38.3 million.
- For every \$1 raised, this program provides \$32 of dental care, resulting in average savings of \$2.25 million per year.
- Surveys have demonstrated high client satisfaction with MOM as measured by less pain as a result of the care provided, willingness to recommend the MOM project to friends and family, and more ease in eating and speaking.
- The MOM Project was awarded the 2015 Governor's Volunteerism and Community Service Award for a Community Organization. Virginia's MOM events have also broken records for the largest two- and three-day dental outreach clinics ever conducted in the United States.
- 29 states across the United States have successfully replicated the MOM Project.

Program Contact Information

Program Website: <http://www.vdaf.org/Missions-Of-Mercy/mission-of-mercy.html>



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Program Features

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

Age	Service Delivery Model	Dental and Oral Health Services
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 0-17 (Children and Youth) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18-60 (Adult) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 60+ (Older Adult)	<input type="checkbox"/> Dental clinic model (e.g. permanent setting) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mobile-portable model <input type="checkbox"/> Eligibility and enrollment model (e.g. referrals, care coordination) <input type="checkbox"/> Virtual model (e.g. telehealth) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Event-based model <input type="checkbox"/> Outreach and education model	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Emergency services <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basic services <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Screenings <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cleanings <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fluoride varnish <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sealants <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X-rays <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Comprehensive services <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fillings <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scaling/root planing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Extractions <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oral surgery <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Root canals <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dentures, partials, relines, repairs <input type="checkbox"/> Crowns <input type="checkbox"/> Bridges <input type="checkbox"/> Orthodontics
Specific Populations	Staffing	Other Program Services
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Homeless individuals <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities <input type="checkbox"/> Individuals with physical disabilities <input type="checkbox"/> Individuals with specific or complex medical conditions <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Individuals with low income <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Individuals with no dental insurance <input type="checkbox"/> Individuals with Medicaid <input type="checkbox"/> Veterans <input type="checkbox"/> Refugees/immigrants	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dentist <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dental hygienist <input type="checkbox"/> Dental therapist <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dental assistant <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dental/dental hygiene students <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nursing staff <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community health workers <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-dental clinical staff <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-clinical staff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Referrals to dental and oral health services <input type="checkbox"/> Care coordination/care management <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patient education <input type="checkbox"/> Caregiver education <input type="checkbox"/> Provider education <input type="checkbox"/> Advocacy/coalition
Geography	Payment for Care	Integration with Services
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Urban	<input type="checkbox"/> Medicaid <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No charge to client <input type="checkbox"/> Sliding fee scale <input type="checkbox"/> Out of pocket <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial dental insurance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medical services <input type="checkbox"/> Behavioral health services <input type="checkbox"/> Vision services <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pharmacy services <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation services <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Translation services <input type="checkbox"/> Nutrition services
Service Delivery Setting	Program Funding	
<input type="checkbox"/> Hospital <input type="checkbox"/> Dental school <input type="checkbox"/> Community/safety net clinic <input type="checkbox"/> Private dental office <input type="checkbox"/> Long-term care facility <input type="checkbox"/> Senior center/community center <input type="checkbox"/> Private residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fairgrounds/stadium/parking lot <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Church <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> School <input type="checkbox"/> Homeless shelter <input type="checkbox"/> Public housing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Foundation/organization grant <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public funding (e.g. local, state, federal) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private donations (e.g. individuals, businesses)	

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