



Dental Rescue Day 28th February

The National Dental Foundation originated to help provide a way for those in the Australian Dental Community to help less fortunate members of our society by holding pro bono "Dental Rescue Days".

The NDF has its origins in NSW and now has spread Australia wide.

We aim to harness the fellowship and goodwill of our dental community to provide dental treatment to the underprivileged members of our Australian society through the donation of equipment, materials and personal endeavour.

South Australia's first Dental Rescue Day was held on February 28th, 2009. We offered our services to 2 charities, Uniting Care Wesley and the Salvation Army who sourced clients to be seen in the 4 practices who volunteered their expertise and premises. The number of people keen to donate their time and skills to this cause overwhelmed the committee of the NDF-SA, we ended up utilizing 61 members of the Adelaide dental community who played a vital role in making this event a success.



Dr Quoc Do and Amy Frost

A variety of treatment was undertaken for these people, ranging from examinations, x-rays, scale and prophy's, oral health instruction, fillings, extractions and the provision of new dentures. Some of these patients have been "adopted" by the practices involved and will receive all their needed treatment.

The NDF has been supported by Colgate, Dentavision, Sirona, 3M ESPE, SDI and Dynek who all kindly donated dental materials for the Dental Rescue Day.

The feedback received from the charities has been extremely positive, including the following from one of the Uniting Care Wesley coordinators:

"I just want to express my gratitude to you for initiating the Dental Rescue that occurred on the weekend. It was my pleasure to be involved in



Dr Gordon McLean and Jan McLean

such a great concept. To see the positive effect that it had for the clients involved was wonderful. This is particularly true for one of the young mums who attends Challenge, Natasha. She has quite poor dental hygiene which has resulted in severe decay to several of her front teeth. She had several fillings on the day and has been asked to come back in several weeks so that the surgery can make a dental plate to replace her decayed teeth. The significance of this gesture is life changing."

Perhaps you or your practice may wish to give up half a day or so and become part of our next Dental Rescue Day. We have found it rewarding for all involved.

Enquiries about the next Dental Rescue Day to be held in August in South Australia can be directed to ndfsa@adam.com.au or to Helene on 0430 417 006.

Dr Henry Gilkes
Chairman NDF - SA.



Dr Tim Allen and Renee Allen