



NEWSLETTER

Dear SDF Supporter,

Here's a fun fact - A snail's mouth is no larger than the head of a pin, yet it can contain over 25,000 teeth!

Wow, that was fast - and just like that a new cycle has ended. The Special Day Foundation 2022-2023 fiscal year has come to a close. This was our busiest year yet and we cannot wait to share all that was accomplished. We couldn't be more proud as to what all of our partners were able to achieve this year.

See below for the details of this year.

Healthy changes are always happening thanks to your support!



Contact Info

Remember, we can be reached by phone at (941) 225-3103, by e-mail at info@specialdayfoundation.org, Facebook, or by mail at:

SPECIAL DAY FOUNDATION, INC.
11523 Palmbrush Tr. #198
LAKEWOOD RANCH, FLORIDA 34202

[Visit our website](#)



The 2022-2023 fiscal year has ended and all of our residents learned a lot when it comes to treating our special needs community. Their work ethic and dedication ramped up treatment needs and accomplishments. The Community Outreach Dental Program at the University of Florida Dental Clinic in Seminole, funded treatment for about 145 patients!

In the last 12 months over 2,500 dental procedures were completed! The dental care provided varied between exams, x-rays, fillings, extractions, crowns, implants, dentures, IV sedation, dental hygiene recall visits and so much more. The Community Outreach Dental Hygienist, Whitney, provided dental offsite visits to 40 participants each month, totaling close to 200 offsite visits. These visits allow participants to receive one-on-one attention in dental hygiene home care education as well as obtain a fluoride treatment, once a month. Whitney also provides dental hygiene education for staff at group homes and ADT programs as well as teach-ins at special needs schools.

Remember, this program provides oral hygiene training, dental screenings, and serves as a referral source to the University of Florida Dental Clinics for treatment. So if you know anyone in need please do not hesitate to make a referral.

This year's licensed dental residents at the University of Florida Dental Clinic in Seminole, continued to provide customized care specific to patients with special needs. With over 1,000 dental appointments completed in the last 12 months, the dental residents did an amazing job tailoring dental care to each patient's individual needs. Professional staff are trained in IV sedation, general

anesthesia, and general management of special needs patients, allowing the clinic to provide safe treatment to many people with developmental disabilities. We were also able to provide SDF participants with a new Sonicare Electric Toothbrush, toothbrush head refills, Water-piks to ortho patients and prescription oral care products specific to each patient's need! Participants are provided with oral hygiene education that encompasses tooth brushing, flossing and tools for easier at home oral hygiene care.

Whitney visits several group homes and Adult Day Training programs to provide these hygiene services as well. If you would like Whitney to provide training or educational materials at your facility please contact us!

Please see below for an update on our Hialeah and Naples dental programs.

Our Adapted Fishing continues to be an exciting program. We have made many new friends over the past 6 months. We receive many new anglers because of referrals from others. It is the biggest complement we could receive knowing that many of you enjoy fishing so much that you would refer us to your friends. Thank you! As 2023 begins, we now have close to 175 eligible participants who have fished with us since the program began. Some join us regularly! Our Anglers continue to be of all ages and come from many parts of Florida. We continue to offer trips 7 days per week so that many working families are able to join us on the water. Our two launch sites are Bradenton Beach or Sarasota.

Remember that no individual fishing licenses are required and all life vests, fishing equipment, bait and bottled water are provided. We love to take out new people, especially those who have never fished or been on a boat before, so please give us a call!

At your request, Captain Mark will provide information about the local ecology and how we can all better support a healthy environment. Please see the link below for more information on all our programs.

Have a safe and fun New Year!

Sincerely,
The Special Day Crew

[Refer a participant](#)



EDUCATE!

For this articles education piece, we decided to provide a very simple at home oral hygiene checklist. Copy and paste this into a word doc, and then print as many copies as desired.

Daily Oral Hygiene Checklist

In the morning:

Brush my teeth for two minutes after eating breakfast.
Swish for 15 seconds with fluoride mouth wash.

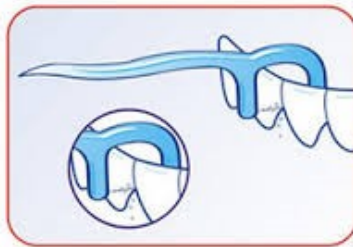
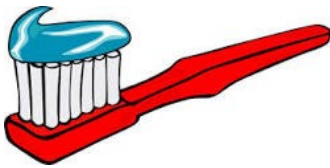
In the afternoon:

Brush my teeth for two minutes after eating lunch.
Floss all teeth using floss picks or other flossing tool.

Before going to bed:

Brush my teeth for two minutes before going to bed.
Floss all teeth using floss picks or other flossing tool.
Swish for 15 seconds with fluoride mouth wash.

Note- DO NOT rinse your mouth with water after using the mouth wash and DO NOT eat or drink anything for 30 minutes after using mouth wash



MEET A SPECIAL DAY FOUNDATION DENTAL PARTICIPANT FROM HIALEAH!

DAVID

- **Lives with his family:** Mother, father, and sister
- **School/Education/Job/accomplishments:** Our Pride Academy
- **How has Special Foundation helped you?**

Provided us with the opportunity to receive wonderful dental service by an experienced and empathic staff. David now can enjoy his healthy new smile and a more developed understanding of dental hygiene and processes to maintain it.

- **What have you learned from the monthly visits with Marielys?**

David has not only learned but has improved his skills pertaining to using his electric toothbrush, Flossing, and maintaining oral hygiene/health.



• **Hobbies/Interests?**
WWE, Videogames, basketball, soft ball, spending time with friends' music and dancing.

• **Favorite Food?**
Spicy Jalapeño Burgers

• **Favorite Movie?**
Fast and Furious

• **Favorite Music?**
R&B | Rap

• **Anything else David would like to include:**

Because of the opportunity the Special Day Foundation has provided, David not only has gained more knowledge and experience with Dental Hygiene but has also been able to build new and grow a more understanding relationship with Dental visits and how beneficial they have been for his health.





The Special Day Foundation has expanded!

We now have dental outreach programs in the Naples and Hialeah areas.

Both programs have continued to reach our special needs population while customizing care and the program, to each location's unique needs.

See below for information on all these programs accomplished this year!

UF HEALTH HIALEAH DENTAL CENTER

How time goes by so quickly. We can't believe that we completed our first full year treating the SDF patients at The University of Florida Hialeah dental clinic! With the invaluable help of the residents and staff of the clinic, we have been able to provide many treatments. There have been 116 patient visits and 295 dental procedures. From diagnostic and preventive services such as, exams radiographs and cleanings. To restorative treatments, fillings, crowns, extractions and more. Along with the treatments provided at the clinic, we have continued with 218 off-site visits to perform oral hygiene home care instructions and fluoride treatment applications as well. We are looking forward to continued growth in providing excellent dental care to our wonderful SDF patients for many years to come.

-Marielys, RDH-

NCEF PEDIATRIC DENTAL CENTER

Alibech (Ali) Prosperi was hired in July 2022. Construction for the Desensitization Operatory was completed, and the first patients were seen in October 2022. The operatory is utilized two, half days per week, and the patients are offered one-hour appointments instead of the standard 40- minutes to provide additional time to maximize behavior improvement. In addition, desensitization tools for the patients were purchased to help relieve anxiety for these children, along with a handheld X-ray unit to make it easier for them to take their radiographs. The hope is that these children will require fewer sedation sessions due to their acceptance of preventive and restorative efforts introduced in this Oral Health Promotion Program.

Ali received approval for the Affiliation Agreement with a Prescribed Extended Care facility in Naples called Caring Hearts so she can perform community outreach activities at that location. To date, 176 patients are enrolled in the Special Needs Children's Oral Health program, 65 more patients since last year's report!

We had two trainings (November 2022 and April 2023) for the faculty, residents, and staff of the NCEF Pediatric Dental Center at UF. One by the CARD representative at USF (Olivia McDonald) and the other by the CARD representative from USF and FGCU (Christine Maughan). A total of 36 were trained to improve their knowledge in the Best Practices for desensitizing and providing treatment for children. We will also have a Continuing Education conference with a national speaker (Mr. Joel Shaul) for the Fall of 2023 regarding Autism Teaching Strategies. We are hopeful that local dentists and staff (as well as our residents and staff) will attend in an effort to educate additional dental professionals in the State. Ali participated at a national conference of the Special Care Dentistry Association (along with colleagues Whitney and Marielys) in April 2023, in Dallas.

A Facebook account was opened, and right now has 107 followers. We post how the patients are treated in our Sensory Room.

-Ali, RDH -

[Click HERE to visit Naple's facebook page!](#)

How to Help

How can you help Special Day Foundation?!

The biggest way you can help Special Day Foundation is to help us spread the word! Whether you have a special needs person in your family or know of someone who does. If you know a business who is interested in giving back to the community or you know a boat captain who may enjoy hearing about our fishing trips, please forward them our newsletter.

To the many individuals and businesses who have already supported the Special Day Foundation and continue to do so... *Thank you!* And to those of you who are new to Special Day Foundation... we look forward to hearing from you!

Like and follow us on Facebook



For improved access to SPECIALIZED DENTAL CARE we encourage you to contact **Whitney**, our Community Outreach Dental Hygienist from the University of Florida.

A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE (800-435-7352) WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE. REGISTRATION CH31241

CONTACT

Special Day Foundation | 11523 Palmbrush Trail, Suite 198, Lakewood Ranch, FL 34202

[Unsubscribe team@specialdayfoundation.org](mailto:team@specialdayfoundation.org)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by info@specialdayfoundation.org powered by



Try email marketing for free today!