

MDS FOUNDATION



SOMETHING TO SMILE ABOUT

THE MDS FOUNDATION ENDOWMENT FUND

Many thousands of people in Massachusetts suffer from tooth decay due to poor oral health. Poor oral health can reduce their quality of life; damage their ability to speak, chew, and swallow; and can lead to acute and chronic pain. Poor oral health keeps children out of school, adults out of work, and puts seniors at risk for other severe health problems.

As advocates for improved oral health in our Commonwealth, the Massachusetts Dental Society Foundation is dedicated to eliminating oral disease and promoting overall health. By concentrating efforts on the needs of the most vulnerable populations and working to improve access to care, we can make a difference.

We have an important and unique role to play in access to oral health in the Commonwealth. As leaders in the dental profession, we are in a unique position to bring together the key stakeholders who can promote change.

Our professionally managed endowment will seek to support new and existing programs in places such as community health centers, schools, and nursing home clinics.

We will strive to balance focus with flexibility, boldness with realism, and long term approaches with quick action.

Continued need to raise money:

- Support of the Foundation is important as we transition our focus from the MAC Van to funding local programs that are in need of expanded resources.
- There is power in uniting resources. As dental health professionals, our support will go further if we pool our efforts and support programs in need.
- The Foundation will look to fund community programs such as those that provide oral health care to developmentally disabled individuals, the infirmed elderly, women's shelters, and Head Start centers, to name a few. The Foundation will also seek to support community health centers, school-based programs, research projects focused on increasing access to care, and oral health education programs.