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## The Year in Review

### Dental Care—it's a family affair!



One, two, three little sisters troop aboard the PRASAD CDHP mobile dental clinic: Jasmin, 9 ½; Jacquelyn, 8 ½; and Ashley, 6. Their youngest sister, Allyson, gets a ride in her mother's arms.

Their parents, Becky and Francisco, have been bringing their children to PRASAD CDHP since 2003.

But Allyson is just 16 months old – Does she really need dental care when she's that young? The answer is, "Yes." According to the American Dental Association, "... just because babies don't have any visible teeth, doesn't mean they won't get cavities."

Dr. Cecilia Escarra, PRASAD CDHP's Program Administrator explains, "An infant's teeth are susceptible to decay as soon as they begin to emerge. Dental health education for the parents of infants and toddlers is important to promote healthy eating patterns, and to minimize caries risk."

Allyson's teeth - all eight of them - are fine, but Becky said, "I just want her to get used to it. The sooner you start, the sooner they'll get in the habit of taking care of their teeth."

Becky knows because her kids have been patients of PRASAD CDHP since Jasmin was just four years old.



Dr. Shah gets to know her tiny patient

### Continuity of Care

Our commitment to our patients and community:

"In the USA, it is hard for many low-income families to find a "dental home," where their children can receive regular preventive care and emergency treatment. Some dental programs offer only preventive visits and referrals. This leaves families to try to find a dentist for continuity of care.

PRASAD CDHP coordinates with schools and local organizations to provide that ongoing preventive and restorative dental care and to be there for our patients year-round."

*Dr. Escarra, Program Administrator*

### PRASAD CDHP Earns Harris Award!

PRASAD Children's Dental Health Program (PRASAD CDHP) has earned the 2012 Samuel D. Harris Children's Dental Health Grant from the American Dental Association Foundation (ADAF).

The grant will sponsor the project, "GET A SMILE! PASS IT ON TO YOUR BABY." The goals of this project are to promote oral health education among pregnant women and to reduce caries incidences in infants and toddlers.

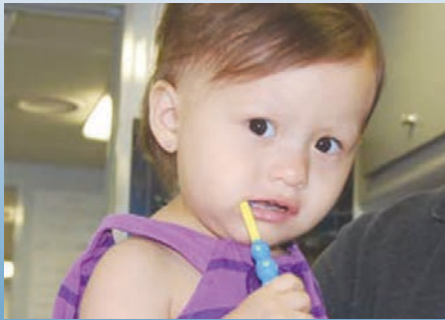


*Dr. Samuel Harris was a noted pediatric dentist and philanthropist who created an endowment fund for prevention of childhood dental disease. Annually, the ADAF awards the Samuel Harris Children's Dental Health Grant to selected non-profit organizations that sponsor education programs to help reduce the incidence of early childhood caries.*

Jasmin is the stoic sister who rarely complains. Here, she explores the numb/tingly feeling of local anesthetic.



Ashley doesn't like visiting the dentist, and does best with plenty of family support.



Allyson is already getting the hang of using her new toothbrush.



Before each exam, Jacquelyn expects the worst. After the dental exam, Jacquelyn gives an exuberant arm pump.

## News Bites!



PRASAD CDHP's partnership with the Nursing Program at Sullivan County Community College is thriving. In 2012, the partnership reached 411 children at four locations in Fallsburg, Liberty, Monticello and Woodbourne.



PRASAD CDHP achieved a five-star rating at Great Nonprofits! [greatnonprofits.org](http://greatnonprofits.org).



Dr. Escarra participated in the 2012 forum on minority health care in Sullivan County.



ShopRite of Liberty and Monticello, NY hosted a fundraiser for PRASAD CDHP for the 2nd time.



Paddlers 4 Humanity has included PRASAD CDHP as a beneficiary of their 2012 annual fundraiser.

## By The Numbers

- 4,272 - number of children hospitalized in a single year, due to oral health conditions. *The Pew Center on the States - 'The Cost of Delay'*
- 2 million (50 percent) - number of infants born each year who will have cavities by the time they reach the second grade. *Academy of Pediatric Dentistry*
- 68,409 - number of children PRASAD CDHP has served since 1998.
- 23 million - number of children in the US who do not have dental insurance. *National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research*
- 51 million - number of school hours children lose annually, because of dental-related conditions. *National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research*
- 96.6% - average percentage of annual funding PRASAD CDHP applies to programming.

### Gentle Dental Humor

"Now, young man," asked the dentist, "what kind of filling would you like for that tooth?"

replied the youngster. "Chocolate, please."

# From the Program Administrator



Dear Friends of PRASAD Children's Dental Health Program,

Recently, a school nurse told me that without our mobile dental clinic many of her students wouldn't have access to dental care.

In those few words, she expressed the essence and the mission of our dental program.

Our mobile clinic is the most effective way to deliver dental services in this rural area, despite the challenges of icy roads, long distances and finding the right staff. At the end of each day, the challenges fade and we remember the sweet smiles and the love of our young patients – and the knowledge that we have improved their health and well-being.

I like to see how enthusiastic the children are to come to our clinic. It is nothing like the usual anxiety that children show. I see how our experienced and compassionate staff makes all the difference. The children know that our clinic is a safe place where the staff is dedicated to helping them.

We thank you for your generous support. Together, you and PRASAD CDHP have contributed to the well-being of more than 68,409 children since 1998.

I invite you to be part of our program by becoming a PRASAD CDHP partner.

With gratitude

Dr. M. Cecilia Escarra

## Ways to get involved

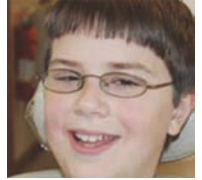
- Make a donation online at [www.prasadcdhp.org](http://www.prasadcdhp.org) today!
- Hold a small fundraising event! We'll tell you how.
- Use GoodSearch and GoodShop and name PRASAD CDHP as your charity of choice.

## The Power of Your Smile



When you smile, you look good and feel good.

When others see you smile, they smile too.



When others smile, they look good and feel good, too.

The smile reflex is natural to humans; we even smile in the womb!



Smiling can be contagious.

Children smile as many as 400 time per day!



It may be easier to interpret the sincerity of someone's smile if you are smiling, too!

We thank our patients, Lyrik, Jesse, Destiny, Oswaldo, Guytano, Asia and Matthew for sharing their beautiful smiles.

Source: quotes from [forbes.com](http://forbes.com)

### About PRASAD Children's Dental Health Program, Inc.

Since 1998, PRASAD Children's Dental Health Program, based in Hurleyville, N.Y., has provided dental care services and dental health education to children from low-income families in New York State. Through our state-of-the-art mobile dental clinic and dental health education initiatives, we have served more than 68,409 children and provided more than 170,674 procedures in Sullivan and Ulster counties. For more about PRASAD CDHP, go to [www.prasadcdhp.org](http://www.prasadcdhp.org).

PRASAD Children's Dental Health Program is an initiative of The PRASAD Project, a USA not-for-profit organization committed to improving the quality of life of economically disadvantaged people around the world. PRASAD is a philanthropic expression of the SYDA Foundation. For more about The PRASAD Project, go to [www.prasad.org](http://www.prasad.org).





#### **What parents say:**

*"The staff has always been so kind. It's great that they come to the school – one less thing for Mommy to worry about."  
Denise K.; mother of Abigail & two other patients*



#### **What Donors say:**

*"The kids are our future; if we don't take care of them, we've got nothing,"  
Miranda Behan, Fallsburg Lions Club*

#### **What school nurses say:**

*"Thank you so much for this wonderful service."  
Mary D. RN, School Nurse  
"The students and staff look forward to your visits, and have even incorporated the experience into their classrooms. We all look forward to your next visit!"  
Patti C., School Nurse, BSN*

#### **Are you a PRASAD CDHP Partner yet?**

Contact us to learn more.

By e-mail: [prasacdhp@prasacdhp.org](mailto:prasacdhp@prasacdhp.org)

By phone: +1 845.434.0376

By fax +1 845.434.0377

Visit [www.prasacdhp.org](http://www.prasacdhp.org) for more news about programs and events.

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