

PRASAD[®]

Philanthropic Relief, Altruistic Service And Development

Children's Dental Health Program

Another Fulfilling Year of Providing Healthy, Happy Smiles to Children!

2019

ANNUAL NEWSLETTER

WE'VE MOVED!

PRASAD Children's Dental Health Program (PRASAD CDHP) is now located in Ferndale, NY, a more central location with easier access for patients.

Annually, PRASAD CDHP provides dental health education classes and dental services to more than 4,000 children at schools in Sullivan County and parts of Ulster County in New York State. We are passionate about our work because we know the difference it makes in children's overall wellbeing, now and throughout their lives.

Because children treated at our mobile dental clinic actually enjoy their visits, it can have a multi-generational impact. . . This is true for Nubia and her son Shane!

JOIN OUR EFFORTS!

DONATE TODAY

WWW.PRASADCHP.ORG

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Dr. M. Cecilia Escarra



MOM AND SON LOVE THE DENTIST!

Dr. M. Cecilia Escarra, PRASAD CDHP Program Administrator

For many children, going to the dentist is intimidating. They may pick up on a parent's fear or have had a traumatic experience. When I started working at PRASAD CDHP, I was delighted to see how confident and relaxed the children visiting our mobile dental clinic were; they trusted our staff. Most come by themselves during school hours – the clinic parks right in front of the school.

One cold spring morning, I visited our clinic. There, I met Nubia in the waiting room. I asked why she was there, and she explained that she had brought her son Shane to the dentist for the first time. We continued our conversation, and with great enthusiasm Nubia told me her story:

“When I was eleven years old, I needed to see a dentist, but it was hard for my parents to take time off work. Thanks to the school nurse, we learned about PRASAD, and I started going to the dental clinic regularly. From my very first visit, I felt comfortable; I wasn't nervous at all. I also appreciated the convenience of it being at my school. It was a great experience.”

Now Nubia brings Shane to PRASAD's mobile clinic, and he too likes visiting the dentist.

I tell this story because, if we give children the best possible experience, it will stay with them for the rest of their lives. **That's the kind of care that we want to offer.** You, too, can help children like Shane enjoy their dental visits and have healthy smiles.



ORAL HEALTH

Healthy teeth are important to overall health. Largely unrecognized, poor dental health impacts children's wellbeing beyond their smiles. It can adversely affect eating habits and nutritional intake, as well as self-esteem, for starters.

OUR MISSION

Dental disease is the most common chronic illness for children in the United States. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) more than one-quarter of children have tooth decay before entering kindergarten.

Our goal is to increase children's access to dental care and reduce the prevalence of dental disease. For twenty-one years, the PRASAD Children's Dental Health Program has worked to improve the oral health of low-income children in Sullivan and Ulster Counties. PRASAD CDHP focuses on serving schools with many low-income students, who are less likely to have had regular dental care.

As was the case in Nubia's story, lack of transportation and/or inability to take time off work keeps many families from accessing dental care for their children. This is why our mobile clinic makes services available to students right at their schools. PRASAD CDHP also provides in-class dental health education, teaching children good habits that will help them have healthy teeth for a lifetime.



JOIN OUR EFFORTS!

ABOUT PRASAD CDHP

PRASAD Children's Dental Health Program is an initiative of The PRASAD Project, a philanthropic expression of the Siddha Yoga path.

For more information, please visit our website:
WWW.PRASADCDDHP.ORG

WHAT'S NEXT

Sullivan County consistently ranks near the bottom in health statistics for New York State. This year, PRASAD CDHP will increase outreach efforts to serve more children, along with contributing to the County's needs assessment and conducting a review of our dental program. We continue to strengthen our partnerships with the school districts, Sullivan County Public Health, the Rural Health Network, and local organizations.

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