



## NEWS RELEASE

**Date:** November 18, 2021

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### **Hawaii Dental Service Foundation's New Smile Fund Offers Small Grants for Innovative Oral Health Projects**

The Hawaii Dental Service Foundation's new Smile Fund is now accepting grant applications from non-profit organizations that offer innovative and collaborative outreach programs to improve oral health in Hawaii. The Smile Fund is intended to support oral health-related projects with up to \$4,999.

"Our new Smile Fund provides opportunities for the Hawaii Dental Service Foundation to partner with Hawaii's nonprofits that are promoting oral health throughout the islands. We've intentionally streamlined the application process to be less cumbersome to encourage nonprofits to seize this opportunity to receive meaningful, small-capacity support and accelerate the implementation of their programs," said Hawaii Dental Service Foundation Director Shere Saneishi-Kim. "We hope to further the efforts of nonprofit organizations' ongoing oral-health projects to benefit Hawaii's residents."

Special consideration will be given to projects that focus on the Hawaii Dental Service Foundation's oral health initiatives: Dentist by One, Seal Away Decay, and Kupuna Smiles. To be eligible for funding, an organization must be a charity with tax-exempt status under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Governmental programs are also eligible.

Applications will be accepted throughout the year, based on the availability of funds. Applications for larger Hawaii Dental Service Foundation grants will continue to be accepted bi-annually with deadlines on December 15 and June 15.

For more information, contact Program Administrator Stephanie Liu-Antonio at [sliu@hawaiidentalsservice.com](mailto:sliu@hawaiidentalsservice.com) or 808-529-9277.

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**About the Hawaii Dental Service Foundation**

The Hawaii Dental Service Foundation was established in 1986 by Hawaii Dental Service to improve oral health in Hawaii. The Foundation's oral health initiatives include programs such as Dentist by One, Seal Away Decay, and Kupuna Smiles. The Foundation also gives grants to local non-profit organizations for programs and projects that provide oral health education, prevent oral disease, and increase access to dental care for underserved populations. Visit the Hawaii Dental Service Foundation website at [www.HDSFoundation.gives](http://www.HDSFoundation.gives).