

Committed to Keeping Hawaii Smiling!



Our Commitment to Giving Everyone a Healthy Smile

Aloha!

As we wrapped up 2021, our community was shrouded with a sense of uncertainty. As a state, we had managed to survive the effects of the Delta variant and were contending with the rapid surge in COVID-19 cases with the Omicron variant.

Families became much more cautious about in-person gatherings and businesses began to rethink their business plans to find ways to continue to serve their customers to minimize the economic fallout of the ongoing pandemic.

We believe it is our kuleana or responsibility to care for our community. We stood with the community through two years of challenges imposed by the pandemic. Last year, the Hawaii Dental Service (HDS) Foundation partnered with numerous nonprofit organizations that share the aloha spirit and our vision to make oral health care a priority, even during these challenging times.

Although no one knows for certain what may be in store this year, we do know one thing: we are prepared to continue to stand with the community and provide the necessary support to ensure everyone, including the most vulnerable, have the opportunity to exercise their right to quality oral health care.

Mahalo for allowing us to make a difference in the lives of Hawaii's people.

Sincerely,



Diane Paloma, PhD
President & CEO
Hawaii Dental Service



Mason Savage, DDS
Chair
HDS Foundation



Shere Saneishi-Kim
Director
HDS Foundation



At the start of the pandemic, many dental clinics that serve the most vulnerable in our state had temporarily reduced their services. They continued to see patients for emergency care on a limited basis and put routine check-ups and other preventive care appointments on hold as a precaution.

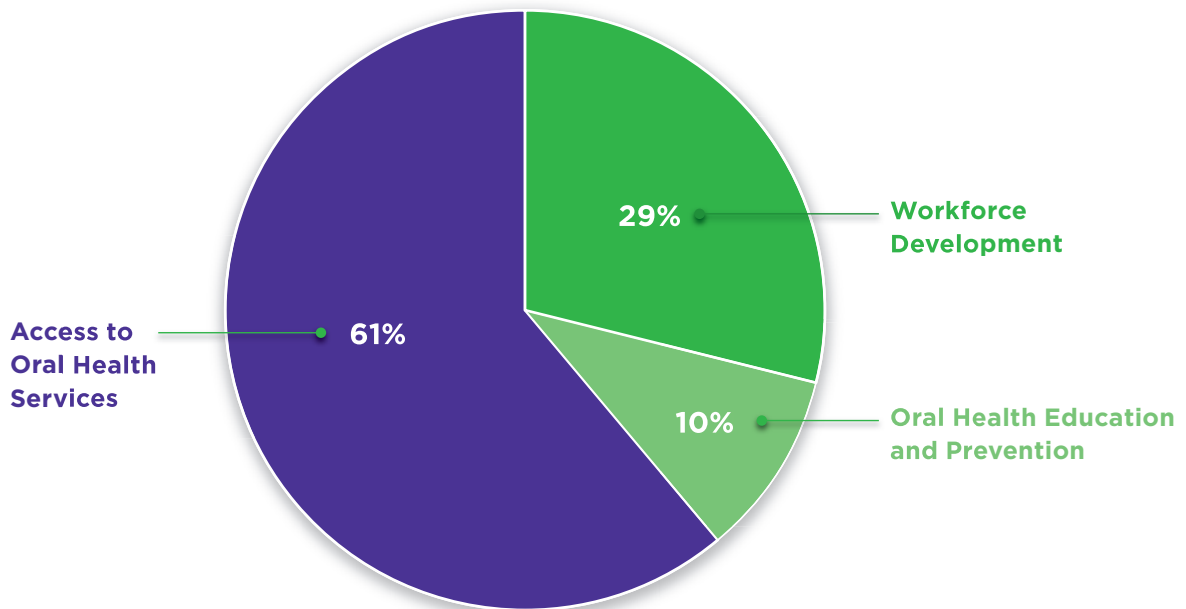
In 2021, the HDS Foundation supported a number of initiatives that enabled nonprofit organizations to safely reopen their doors and welcome the community back to receive the oral health care they had postponed. This was clearly reflected in our community investments last year.

We invested slightly more than \$1.6 million in oral health programs to local nonprofit organizations, with the majority of our support dedicated to improving access to oral health care and the remainder supporting oral health education and oral health disease prevention as well as workforce development to prepare the next generation of dental professionals.

Investments in the Community | \$1.6 Million

Direct Lives Affected | 111,624+

Programs Supported | 19



Our Oral Health Initiatives

Dentist by One

Both the American Dental Association and the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry recommend that keiki see a dentist within six months of getting their first tooth – and no later than their first birthday.

Hawaii Dental Service initially launched the “Dentist by One” program in 2016 to encourage more families to take their young children to see a dentist before age one to prevent oral health problems, detect oral health conditions in their early stages and take any necessary action before their condition become serious.

In 2021, the HDS Foundation took the Dentist by One program to a new, exciting level by creating information toolkits that were distributed to 300 pediatricians and other community providers on O’ahu. The toolkit included posters for pediatrician offices, stickers for their young patients, and handouts for parents to easily find a dentist, including those who accept Medicaid. Distribution of packets to the neighbor islands will begin in 2022.



Kupuna Smiles

As we age, it may become more difficult to care for teeth on our own and may neglect to brush and floss our own teeth. A lack of appetite may lead to improper nutrition that compromises our oral health and weakens our overall health. We may not be as mobile and getting to a dentist may be more difficult. And health conditions such as diabetes may be undiagnosed or are not properly managed that make us more vulnerable to oral health conditions.

HDS Foundation’s innovative “Kupuna Smiles – Oral Health Training for Caregivers” was designed to provide education and hands-on training for healthcare professionals who care for kupuna in long-term care facilities. In 2021, HDS Foundation partnered with dental hygienists in the community



to conduct in-person training sessions for more than 80 registered nurses, certified nurse assistants, and managerial nursing staff of The Villas at the St. Francis Kūpuna Village in Liliha.

The dental hygienists instructed nursing staff on how to properly brush and floss teeth, and proper denture care for senior residents. Each nursing staff member was provided with one-on-one coaching by the hygienists, who guided them on how to reach difficult spots in the mouth, how to work carefully around mouth sores, how to identify possible signs of decay, and more.

The HDS Foundation looks forward to continuing this positive momentum in 2022.



Seal Away Decay

Sealants are shown to reduce decay in molars by almost 80% when applied to children's teeth as a preventive measure. Sealants are thin coatings that protect the chewing surfaces from cavities by covering them with a protective shield that blocks out germs and food.

The HDS Foundation's initiative titled, "Seal Away Decay" is aimed at educating parents about dental sealants and increasing the delivery of sealants to children through the Sealants in Schools program. In 2021, HDS kicked off its educational campaign with a public service announcement through TV ads, print ads, social media posts, blog articles, website pages and the distribution of educational flyers statewide.

Through our partnership with Hawaii Keiki, a program of the University of Hawaii at Manoa Nancy Atmospera-Walch School of Nursing, we are continuing to provide school-based oral assessments and sealants in high need public schools in Hawaii. Although the pandemic significantly disrupted access to the schools during the 2020-2021 academic year, Hawaii Keiki visited 14 schools on Oahu, provided oral health assessments for 193 students and sealants to 123 students for a total of 403 teeth sealed. It is important to note that during these school visits, the majority was referred to dentists for oral health care — five students with urgent dental needs were referred to a dental clinic for services and 103 students were referred to a dentist for non-urgent dental needs.

With the current COVID surge on the decline throughout the state, Hawaii Keiki has plans to continue to serve Oahu schools as well as expand to schools on Maui and Kauai in 2022.



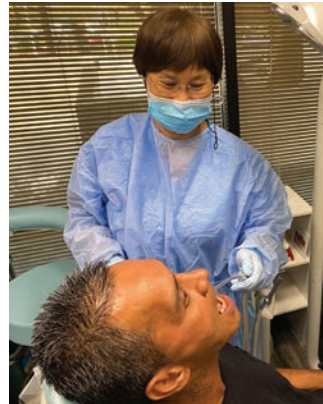
Our Grants to Community Partners

The HDS Foundation gave more than \$1.6 million in grants in 2021 to 19 nonprofit organizations throughout the state to support programs that promote oral health education, prevent oral disease, promote workforce development, and increase access to dental care for underserved populations.

The organizations that received support were:

Aloha Medical Mission | \$210,000

Aloha Medical Mission is the only dental clinic in the state that provides free basic dental services, including oral exams, cleanings, fillings, extractions and emergency care to the uninsured, underinsured, and those recently unemployed. In 2021, there were more than 3,000 visits for services, a 36% increase from the previous year. This grant will help support their operations and various outreach programs for children and women who have been abused or incarcerated.



Mālama I Ke Ola Health Center | \$126,700

Mālama I Ke Ola Health Center, one of two dental providers on the Valley Isle that welcomes adult Medicaid beneficiaries and those who are uninsured, received a \$126,700 HDS Foundation grant to upgrade its air filtration system and for new dental equipment to operate all 12 of its dental exam rooms. In 2021, the dental clinic opened in phases to accommodate more patients, which is critically important as Maui has fewer dentists per capita compared to Oahu.



“Our new dental equipment allowed us to safely reopen our dental operatories to serve Maui’s most vulnerable residents. This would not have been possible without the generous and timely support of the HDS Foundation. This gift was a bright spot during this pandemic.”



Dr. Lawrence Shin
Dental Clinic Director
Mālama I Ke Ola Health Center



Dental Lifeline Network | \$20,000

The HDS Foundation has provided annual support to Dental Lifeline Network's Donated Dental Services (DDS) program in Hawaii since 2017. This past year's grant is being used to support the program that coordinates volunteer dentists and dental labs to provide free oral health care to vulnerable individuals statewide.



Ewa Makai Middle School | \$25,000

Ewa Makai Middle School received a grant for its Mino'aka ke olakino - "Health is a Smile" project to create a mock dental clinic. As part of a new multidisciplinary curriculum, 6th to 8th grade students will enjoy hands-on learning and become familiar with various careers in dentistry and healthcare. Students will shadow area dentists and hygienists, engage in onsite field experiences with dental clinics and participate in health-related events.



“ The mock dental clinic provides our students with an exciting, innovative educational experience. They're learning about oral health, and it also lets them see possibilities for oral health careers. Additionally, they are promoting good oral care among their peers through student-led activities. The HDS Foundation's investment in our students will definitely pay long-term dividends for our community. ”



Dr. Janet Bagby
Career and Technical Education
Ewa Makai Middle School

Hamakua Health Center | \$200,000

The HDS Foundation's \$200,000 grant will support the first year of start-up costs and renovations for two new children's dental clinics on Hawaii Island. When completed, the clinics will be called the **Hawaii Dental Service Kohala Keiki Dental Clinic** and the **Hawaii Dental Service Waimea Keiki Dental Clinic** and are projected to serve a total of 1,200 children.



“ We are so proud to name our two new dental clinics after Hawaii Dental Service to recognize the generosity of the HDS Foundation. The pandemic reminded all of us that health disparities are a real concern and these clinics allow us to reach further into the community so that more keiki can have access to quality oral health care.”



Irene Carpenter
Chief Executive Officer
Hamakua-Kohala Health Center

Hawaii Public Health Institute | \$17,019

With a \$17,019 HDS Foundation grant, the Hawaii Public Health Institute will develop and deploy a public education campaign to encourage consumers to reduce their consumption of sugar-sweetened beverages to improve oral health in Hawaii.



Hawaii Coalition for Health - Wahiawa Pediatric Clinic | \$5,360

The Hawaii Coalition for Health is contributing to our Dentist by One initiative by providing a nine-month well-baby visit dedicated to educating parents on oral health. They will provide preventive oral health information and assist with referrals to a dentist before a baby's first birthday.



Hawaii Children's Action Network | \$15,000

The Hawaii Children's Action Network is working with members of the Hawaii Oral Health Coalition on a campaign to educate Hawaii residents about the safety and importance of going to the dentist during the pandemic. This will include the development of brochures and a video which will be promoted on websites and social media. The brochures will also be translated into various languages commonly used in Hawaii.



Kahuku Medical Center | \$97,583

Kahuku Medical Center is expanding and upgrading its dental clinic, thanks to a \$97,583 HDS Foundation grant. In October 2020, the hospital opened the new facility to meet the need for oral health care in the area. However, the demand for service quickly outgrew the size and capacity of the dental clinic.

The funds are being used to acquire an additional X-ray system to save time for dentists, state-of-the-art dental equipment for endodontic services to avoid referrals to more costly providers and the need for multiple visits, new high-tech dental chairs, and to construct a new sterilization room.



Our Grants to Community Partners Continued

Kokua Kalihi Valley | \$150,022

The HDS Foundation grant is being used by Kokua Kalihi Valley to acquire an additional mobile dental van to serve students at nine elementary and middle schools twice a year instead of once per year as well as kupuna. The funds will also be used for dental equipment for the community health center's dental clinic and dental residency program, and to develop culturally appropriate outreach videos and educational materials for school children.

The HDS Foundation is a long-time partner of Kokua Kalihi Valley, providing support for various oral health initiatives totaling nearly \$740,000 over the past 17 years.



Multiplier - Nest for Families | \$30,000

With a \$30,000 grant, Nest for Families is using a secure two-way messaging system to connect at-risk families with essential oral health resources. This system is designed to increase accessibility and availability of pediatric and perinatal health information to vulnerable parents in Hawaii throughout the first years of their children's lives to improve their health outcomes. They will also be encouraging parents to take their babies to the dentist before their first birthday.

“The first few years of a child's life are critical. We're leveraging technology to be a game-changer for our community, and we're excited to include oral health information for families. We can keep in touch with parents — and parents can stay in touch with us — to make sure their keiki have access to dental care.”



Krista Olson
Director
Nest for Families



Lanai Community Health Center | \$50,000

This \$50,000 grant will be used by the Lanai Community Health Center to develop and disseminate dental health and safety information to improve the oral health of underserved communities on Lanai, including the Native Hawaiian, Kosraean and Illocano communities, which comprise more than 40% of the island's population. Lanai Community Health Center will develop videos for public service announcements for social media and their website, print ads in the local newspaper and direct mailer newsletters.



Na Lei Wili Area Health Education Center - Virtual Dental Home | \$122,690

Using teledentistry, Na Lei Wili Area Health Education Center will create a Virtual Dental Home (VDH) system on the Garden Island that is modeled after the successful program that initially began in California. The VDH system delivers preventive and simple therapeutic oral health services in a community setting, like schools or long-term care homes. The HDS Foundation has supported virtual dental home programs at community health centers on Hawaii Island and Maui over the past five years. This will be the first virtual dental home program using dentists in private practice, which will be a new, exciting step to improve oral health for keiki on Kauai.

“Teledentistry continues to evolve and has become even more important during the pandemic. We're glad to be offering new delivery models by partnering with private-practice dentists in our community to reach more children. The HDS Foundation has been a catalyst for positive change on the Garden Island!”



Fran Becker
Executive Director
Na Lei Wili Area Health

Our Grants to Community Partners Continued

UH Foundation - Maui College - Dental Hygiene Program | \$100,000

The HDS Foundation has been a supporter of the dental hygiene program of the University of Hawaii's Maui College since 2007. This \$100,000 HDS Foundation grant is being used to expand dental care and services to underserved populations in Maui County while continuing to educate future hygienists.

Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center | \$40,288

The HDS Foundation has been a partner of the Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center since 2006. This latest grant for \$40,288 is for new dental equipment to ensure the dental staff have state-of-the-art technological tools to work efficiently and to reduce downtime.

The new equipment is especially important since the Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center dental clinic is the only safety-net provider on the Leeward coast serving residents in Waianae and the surrounding neighborhoods of Nanakuli, Makaha and Kapolei.



Waikiki Health | \$4,995

This grant allowed Waikiki Health to purchase digital diagnostic tools to expedite oral health care for the most vulnerable. A specially designed camera will help with patient education and understanding of proposed procedures and expedite approvals to proceed from both patients and insurance companies.

The HDS Foundation accepts grant applications twice a year with deadlines on June 15 and December 15. For more information, visit www.HDSFoundation.gives.



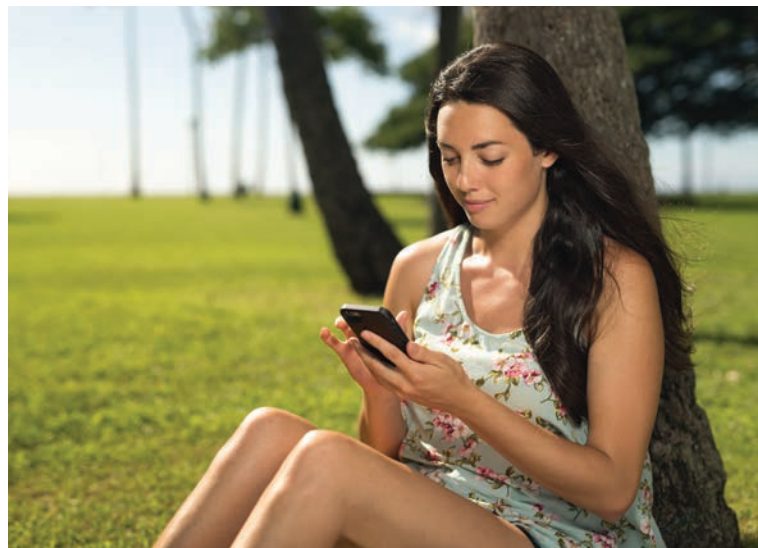
Smile Fund Grants

In 2021, we created a new opportunity for nonprofits to receive support for their oral health projects through the Smile Fund grants. The Smile Fund is intended to support oral health-related projects with up to \$4,999. Applications can be submitted at any time during the year as long as funds are available. Visit www.HDSFoundation.gives for more information.

The organizations that received support were:

Family Support Services of West Hawaii | \$3,988

Their project titled, Smiles for Our Ohana, will provide about 100 low-income families with oral health education via a text messaging system, as well as in person through the program's home visitation services. They will be focusing on families with children under the age of one, pregnant women, and kupuna.



Parents and Children Together | \$3,700

Parents and Children Together will incorporate oral health education into the classroom curriculum for about 450 young children ages 3-5. The grant will also support transportation to the University of Hawaii's Dental Hygiene School for the keiki to receive on-site oral health assessments and toothbrush kits.

“There are many urgent needs in our community and it's great when we can rapidly mobilize and implement our programs. The HDS Foundation's Smile Fund provided a refreshing change of pace and allowed us to fast track our program to improve oral health for our keiki.”



Ryan Kusumoto
President & CEO
Parents & Children Together (PACT)

2021 Scholarship Recipients

In 2021, the HDS Foundation awarded a total of \$50,000 for seven scholarships – three for dental students and four for dental hygiene students. The scholarship program was established in 2018 with a \$2 million endowment from the HDS Foundation and in 2021 we contributed an additional \$490,000 to the fund. To date, the Hawaii Dental Service Community Scholarship Fund has awarded a total of \$140,500 in scholarships for Hawaii residents pursuing a degree in dental hygiene and dentistry.

This past year, the four dental hygiene students who each received a \$5,000 scholarship were:



Britnay Jaralba,
of Waipahu, a third-year dental hygiene student at the University of Hawaii - Manoa. This is her second HDS scholarship.



Krystin Kubo,
of Waipahu, a third-year dental hygiene student at the University of Hawaii - Manoa. This is her second HDS scholarship.



Cyndie Rayoan,
of Waipahu, a first-year dental hygiene student at the University of Hawaii - Manoa.



Kiana Marie Soliven,
of Kauai and a Waimea High School graduate, is a third-year dental hygiene student at the University of Hawaii - Manoa. This is her third HDS scholarship.

The three dental students who each received a \$10,000 scholarship were:



Kylie Carganilla,
of Kalihi, a first-year dental student at the Oregon Health Science University.



Elsa Lin,
of Kapahulu, a third-year dental student at the University of Washington School of Dentistry. This is her third HDS scholarship.



Layke Yamauchi,
of Wailuku, a third-year dental student at the University of Washington School of Dentistry. This is his second HDS scholarship.





Meet the HDS Foundation Team

(R to L)

Shere Saneishi-Kim, *Director, HDS Foundation*

Shere Saneishi-Kim has been Director of the HDS Foundation since 2017. She joined HDS in 2004 as Manager of Community Relations and Communications. She is responsible for guiding the HDS board of directors, executive team and employees in managing strategic partnerships to improve the oral health of communities statewide. She leads the HDS Foundation team in philanthropic grant-making to support programs of nonprofit community organizations, government agencies, healthcare providers, and educational institutions.

Gavin Uchida, DDS, *Program Administrator*

Dr. Gavin Uchida, a licensed practicing pediatric dentist, has been a part of the HDS Foundation team as a Program Administrator since January 2019. His clinical experience and insights have been critical for the successful launch of the HDS Foundation's signature oral health initiatives such as the Seal Away Decay and Kupuna Smiles programs. He also plays a key role in assessing and strengthening oral health programs undertaken by nonprofit organizations in the community.

Stephanie Liu-Antonio, *Program Administrator*

In June 2021, Stephanie Liu-Antonio joined the HDS Foundation team as a Program Administrator to keep pace with the HDS Foundation's expanded efforts to support communities statewide. Stephanie has extensive experience developing community education programs, working with those in underserved communities, and collaborating with dentists statewide. She joined HDS 20 years ago and has served as a Professional Relations Representative and Business Development Consultant.



MISSION

To Improve Oral Health in Hawaii

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