



AUSTRALIAN DENTAL HEALTH FOUNDATION

Volunteer Dental Programs

Quarterly Impact Report

1st July 2020 – 30th September 2020

Chairman's Introduction



I am most impressed by and commend the surprising ADHF volunteering achievements during the July to September 2020 quarter. Seemingly in spite of the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic our volunteers have provided almost the same value of *pro bono* dental services as for the same period last year. While all our volunteers are champions in my eyes, I must mention the substantial contribution by the volunteers in NSW and WA in particular. They have more than covered the flat lining of practice activity and with it our volunteers in Victoria during its COVID-19 second wave lockdown and Level 3 restrictions

I draw attention to the new resource for dentists and their teams addressing the management of patients who have been impacted by domestic violence, with its introductory video, available now on the ADHF website (www.adhf.org.au). The Queensland Committee chair Dr Julee Birch has developed this excellent resource with the assistance of the Cairns Regional Domestic Violence Service, and academics from both James Cook University and Central Queensland University. The development of this material was funded by a grant from the Queensland Government but is available to all dental practitioners. Well done to all involved!

The current pandemic may be labelled COVID-19 but the impacts have been felt in 2020 and are likely to continue. All parts of dentistry have felt the financial effects. One of the consequences has been an increase in demand for the services our volunteers provide, sadly, so we are always on the lookout for more volunteers. If you are interested in helping, please make contact though the website.

We can only operate if we can support (staff) the connecting of referral agencies with volunteers, sharing the load around. The Foundation's major industry sponsor, Pacific Smiles Group, and our other Sponsors, including the ADA and the State Branches, make this possible on an ongoing basis. However, every dollar of donation makes a difference and we can only scale up if we attract additional contributions. As Christmas approaches, please consider making a donation to the ADHF.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Rick Olive'.

Dr. Rick Olive AM RFD

Chairman,
Australian Dental Health Foundation

Cover Image: The team from Happy Smiles, Tamworth at their Dental Rescue Day, August 2020

Creating impact with the Australian Dental Health Foundation

Our mission is to address the inequality between those Australians who can access the dental care they need, and those who can't.

Our vision is an Australia where no disadvantaged member of our community falls through the cracks and needlessly suffers from a lack of access to dignified professional oral health care.

Through the work that we do, we deliver better access to quality oral health care for all Australians regardless of their financial, geographical or social situation.

From men and women who have overcome addiction, who are enduring long-term economic hardship or suffering from mental and physical health challenges; to women establishing their independence after domestic violence has stolen their freedom and the homeless whose needless dental suffering no longer compounds their more basic struggles; we're there to provide life changing oral health treatment wherever we can help.

Through our Dental Rescue Days, Adopt a Patient and Rebuilding Smiles® programs, our national team connects eligible individuals with specialist oral health volunteers who provide their time, expertise and practice facilities at no cost to eligible patients.

We also fund programs that facilitate better long-term oral health outcomes and reduce the inequality of access to education through our Community Service Grants, Indigenous Study Grants and Oral Health Education Projects.

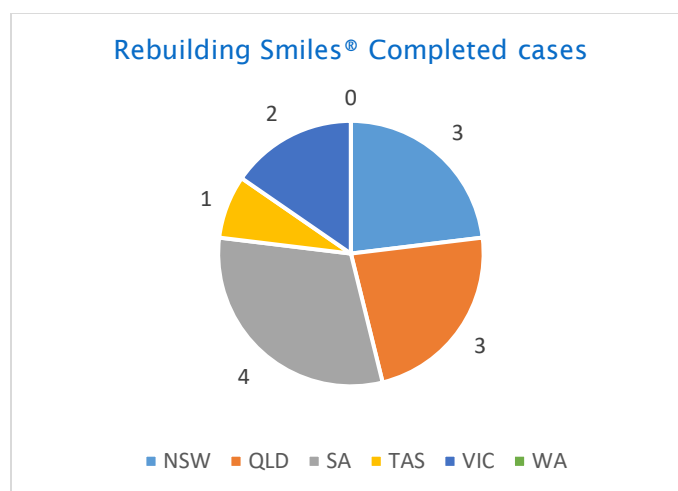
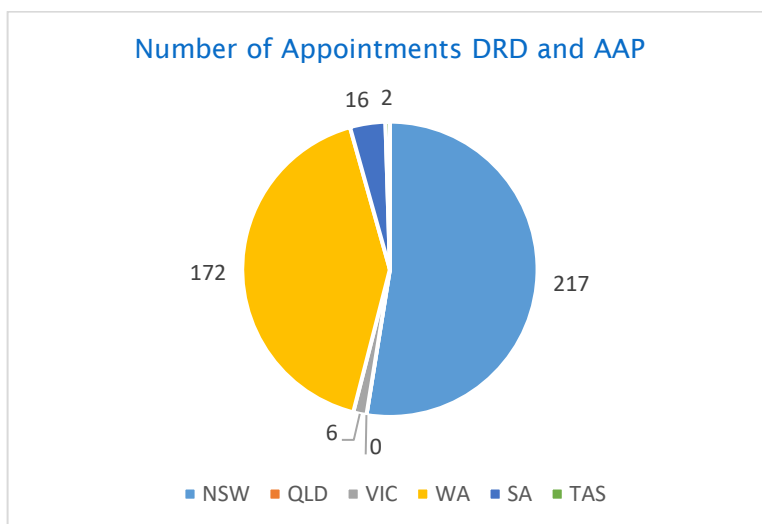
To date, we've created change for thousands of community members by enabling the pro bono delivery of more than \$6,000,000 of professional oral health services.

Volunteer Dental Program Outcomes

During this first quarter of the 2021 financial year, the Foundation coordinated 16 **Dental Rescue Days** around Australia, providing 274 pro bono appointments to disadvantaged patients. The Dental Rescue Program coordinates access to local private practices and clinics for referred patients, where a group of patients will receive treatment in a single day.

139 appointments were attended by patients under the **Adopt a Patient** program. Under this program, an individual patient attends a local private practice to receive a comprehensive general oral check-up and will usually require several appointments to address their often more complex oral health issues.

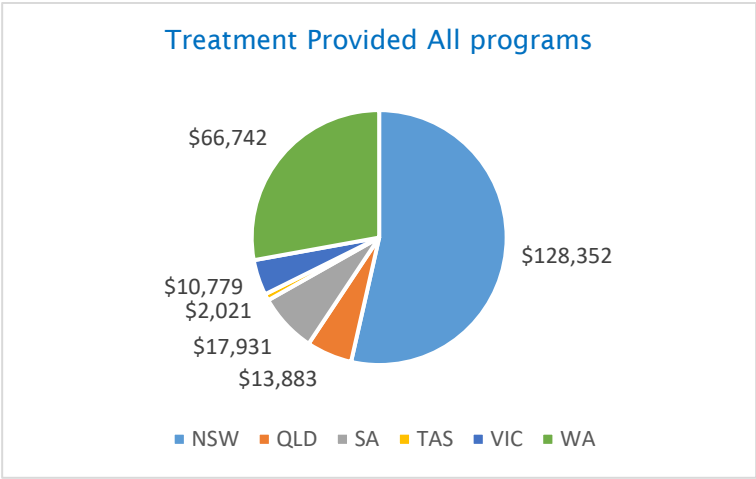
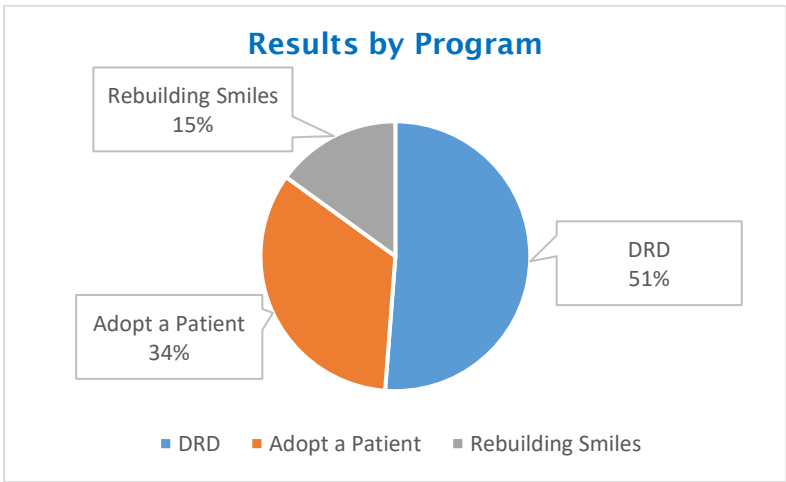
The **Rebuilding Smiles®** program focuses on providing assistance to individuals and families who have experienced family and domestic violence. In this quarter, 13 cases were completed with another 77 patients currently connected to a practice and receiving treatment.



Across all three programs, pro bono treatment to the value of **\$239,708** has been provided by our volunteer general practitioners and specialists.

Treatment delivered under each of the programs is as follows:

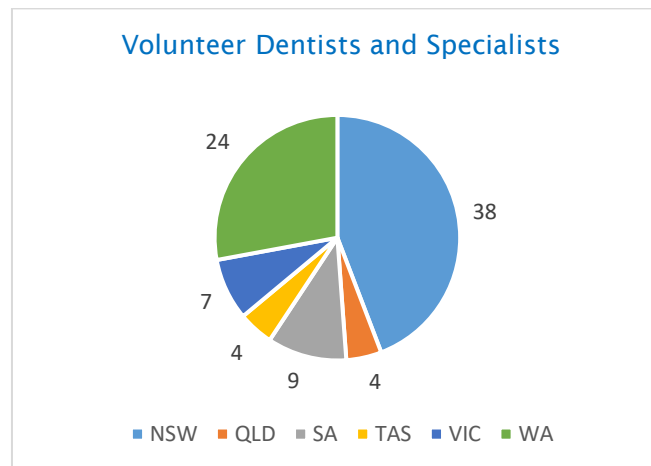
- Dental Rescue Days **\$122,771**
- Adopt a Patient programs **\$80,924**
- Rebuilding Smiles® **\$31,440**



The impact of COVID-19 on dental practice nationwide has eased in most states, with the exception of Victoria which continues to experience imposed restrictions. In particular, volunteers in NSW and WA have been increasingly willing and able to step up and assist. We are grateful to all our volunteers for their contribution throughout the quarter.

Volunteers

During the quarter, **86 general dentists and specialists** provided pro bono services to patients. Additionally, many of their staff were involved with coordinating appointments, assisting in surgery and providing oral hygiene and education to patients.



Sponsors and Supporters

We thank the following organisations for their generous support of the Foundation's volunteer programs.



ADELAIDE LABORATORIES



We acknowledge and thank ADA branches around Australia for their continued support of the Foundation's Coordinators.

The Dental Rescue Day and Adopt a Patient programs are delivered in NSW with the support of the NSW Department of Health, ADA NSW and Filling the Gap.