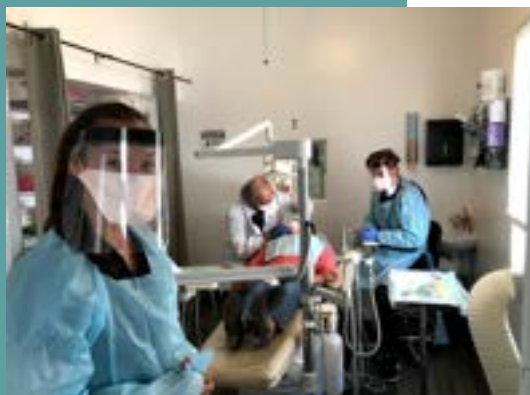


Cura Smiles

2021

Impact

Report



## ABOUT CURA SMILES



Cura Smiles is a San Diego based non-profit organization dedicated to providing sustainable dental care to people in need. Through partnerships with local universities, Cura Smiles' dental professionals educate and train pre-dental students to assist in the operations of the dental clinic while instilling the importance of serving the underprivileged members of society who in many cases have never received any dental care.

[www.curasmiles.org](http://www.curasmiles.org)

## THE CITY HEIGHTS COMMUNITY

The Cura Smiles Dental Clinic is located in the vibrant community of City Heights, San Diego, CA.

Known for its ethnic diversity, City Heights is home to 65,000 residents many of whom are immigrants and refugees from Vietnam, Somalia, Cambodia, Laos and Latin America. City Heights is predominantly low-income with a median household income of \$29,000 and experiences high rates of poverty, unemployment, child obesity, and asthma. Many families and individuals in this community lack access to essential medical and dental services.

Through the support of generous donors, Cura Smiles is able to provide dental care free of charge which in many cases is life changing for the individuals.



Pictured: Dr. Lindy Rucks examining a patient at the Cura Smiles Dental Clinic



Thomas Fitzpatrick, DDS  
Executive Director



Janet Simpson, RDA, CDA  
Clinic Coordinator



Darlene McCarthy, RDAEF  
Clinic Coordinator

# 2021 PATIENT STATISTICS

# 109

One hundred and nine patients were treated at the Cura Smiles Clinic. The average age of the patients is 44. The average income reported by the employed patients is \$16,200 with 23% being unemployed.

# 357

A total of three hundred and fifty seven procedures were performed for the patient population. The procedures include dental exams, x-rays, cleanings, fluoride treatments, sealants, fillings, dentures, extractions and denture relines.

# \$84K

The Cura Smiles dental professionals performed over \$84,200 in procedures free of charge. Fillings, extractions and dentures represented 75% of the total value of procedures performed for the patient population.

*\* Statistics reflect data collected from January 1, 2021 through December 2, 2021.*

# 2021 VOLUNTEER STATISTICS



## 14

### **Student Volunteers**

Fourteen pre-dental students from Point Loma Nazarene University volunteered throughout 2021 at the Cura Smiles Dental Clinic.



## 10

### **Dental Professional Volunteers**

Five dentists, four dental hygienists and one oral surgeon volunteered at the Cura Smiles Dental Clinic throughout the year.



## 438

### **Total Volunteer Hours**

The twenty four volunteers completed a total of four hundred and thirty eight hours of service at the Cura Smiles Dental Clinic this year.

*\* Statistics reflect data collected from January 1, 2021 through December 2, 2021.*

# PATIENT STORY

Meet Selene. Selene is from Mexico. She grew up in a family that only drank Coca Cola. When they ate together, there was no water, no milk, only coke. Until recently, she was drinking 7 bottles a day. Currently she has reduced that to only 3 bottles a day. As you might expect, her teeth and gums were in very poor condition. She suffered from multiple periodontal abscesses. She was embarrassed and afraid to talk or smile because her gums would bleed. She would wake up in the morning and her pillow would be covered in blood from the periodontal disease. When she finally came to Cura Smiles, she was overwhelmed that we wanted to help her. Tears rolled down her cheeks in gratitude. Every provider that has helped her, loves her and wants the opportunity to continue to treat her. Since coming to Cura Smiles, Selene has received 5 fillings, 4 quadrants of scaling and root planing therapy. She's forever grateful.



# AWARDS AND RECOGNITION



## Oral Health Champion Award 2021

Cura Smiles was honored with the 2021 Live Well San Diego Oral Health Champion Award. This award was given to recognize organizations for their exceptional achievements in advancing oral health in San Diego County. Cura Smiles is grateful to the County of San Diego Health and Human Services for recognizing our work with such an honorable award.



[View the FACETS Feature](#)



[View the PLNU Viewpoint Feature](#)

## AWARDED GRANTS

Through the support of generous donors and foundations, Cura Smiles is able to continue its mission of providing free dental care to the underserved as well as educating and training pre-dental students in an effort to instill the virtue of service in our next generation of dental professionals. The following reflects all of the grants that were awarded to Cura Smiles in 2021 to continue our mission and expand our capacity to serve.

- The Conrad Prebys Foundation ..... \$25,000
- Alliance Healthcare Foundation ..... \$25,000
- Oral Health Foundation of the Pierre Fauchard Academy ..... \$10,000
- Grant Elementary PTA ..... \$5,500
- Samuel I & John Henry Fox Foundation ..... \$2,500
- TOTAL ..... \$68,000

## A NOTE FROM OUR LEADERSHIP



We hope all these exciting updates gave you something to smile about. We are so proud of the work that has gone on this year to serve so many people in need of basic dental care.

Teeth are essential to an individual's smile and self-esteem, and oral health impacts so many aspects of our overall health and well being. The Cura Smiles team—including our dedicated staff, interns, and volunteers—is humbled to be able to provide these services at no charge, and patients are so thankful for the kind and compassionate care they receive.

We thank YOU for your generous support as we grow the services provided and the number of lives we are positively impacting.

Please join us and donate if you can as we continue spreading smiles. We look forward to sharing further updates in 2022!

**Thomas Fitzpatrick, DDS**  
Executive Director

**Bill Bramley**  
Board President

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS



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Board President



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