

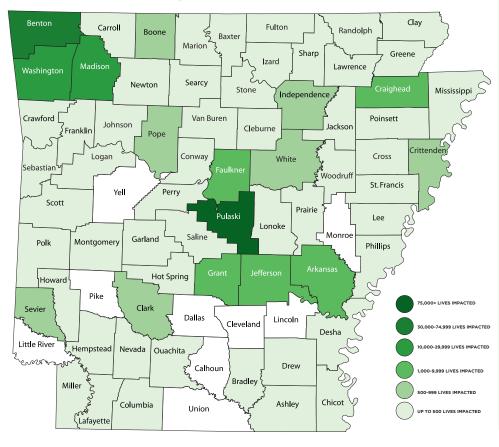
Arkansas Foundation

2024 Community Impact — At a Glance

In 2024, the Delta Dental of Arkansas Foundation continued our commitment to improving the oral health of all Arkansans by expanding our reach and impact across the state. Our focus on improving oral health has remained the same, but we boosted our support of many community partners and programs.

By working with our community partners and outreach teams, we increased our funded amount by 34% and impacted 84% more Arkansans than in 2023. We are very proud of our community partners and hope you will join us to improve the oral health of all.

210,483 Lives Impacted Throughout Arkansas



2024 **COMMUNITY IMPACT**



Awarded funding to improve the oral health of Arkansans



Community organizations supported throughout Arkansas



Funding provided to support **Community Water Fluoridation**



Lives impacted*

35,300

Toothbrushes and oral health kits donated to the community

*Lives impacted includes the number served through each grant, the number impacted by community water fluoridation, and the number impacted through oral hygiene donations

OUR MISSION

Transforming oral health through collaboration, innovation, education and service.

We are building dynamic partnerships with Arkansas non-profits, government agencies and schools to develop long-term solutions. Our goal is to fund projects and initiatives that prevent severe oral health issues in an effort to avoid costly interventions later on.



Scan HERE to view the full 2024 Community Impact Report.

Funding Opportunities



COMMUNITY GRANTS fund initiatives that improve access to oral health care by providing oral disease prevention and treatment services to underserved Arkansans. Funding ranges from \$2,500 to \$40,000.



MINI GRANTS support small or short-term community-based oral health initiatives with up to \$2,500 in funding.



SUPER SMILES AT SCHOOL GRANTS fund oral health education and treatment at early childhood centers and public schools to benefit K-12 students. The maximum fundable amount in this process is \$2,500.



ORAL HEALTH EDUCATION GRANTS support a wide variety of oral health education programs focused on brushing, flossing and seeing the dentist. This grant can provide between \$2,500 and \$30,000 in funding.



STRATEGIC INITIATIVE GRANTS fund the discovery, testing, and sharing of creative ideas that have the potential of creating systemic change to improve the oral health of all Arkansans. Funding is based on the scope of the project.

BOARD MEMBERS

Joseph Thompson, MD, MPH

Blake Woolsey VICE-CHAIR

Billy Tarpley SECRETARY/TREASURER

Wayne Callahan Sarah Clark Tamika Edwards, JD James Phillips, DDS Ashley McMillan, DDS Susan Smith, CPA

STAFF

Kristin Merlo PRESIDENT

Sharon Lanier, PhD

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Margaret Rowan COMMUNITY IMPACT ANALYST

Derica Mack

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS AND OUTREACH MANAGER

Leavanah Cox EXECUTIVE

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Grantee Spotlight

Arkansas Mission of Mercy (ArMOM)



The Arkansas Mission of Mercy (ArMOM) held its 16th annual event at the Conway Expo Center in April 2024. Hosted by the Arkansas State Dental Association, ArMOM offers two days of free dental care to low-income, underserved Arkansans. The Delta Dental of Arkansas Foundation has served as the primary sponsor with annual grant funding ranging from \$150,000 to \$200,000.

Hundreds of volunteers, including dentists, hygienists, assistants, interpreters, coders, pharmacists, technical staff, Delta Dental of Arkansas employees, and lay personnel, gathered to offer their time, expertise, and passion for oral health.

They treated almost 1000 patients, some of whom lined up before

dawn. Patients came from all over the state, and even from surrounding states. Services included cleanings exams, X-rays, fillings, and extractions. The total cost of dental treatment was estimated to be more than \$1 million, with an average value of more than \$1,000 per person.

ArMOM is more than just a free dental clinic. It is a testament to the power of community and the generosity of the human spirit. Year after year, it proves that when people come together to help their neighbors, they created something life-changing. It is a privilege to be part of it.

Next year's event will take place on April 10th and 11th, 2026, at the Conway Expo Center. For more information, check out the ArMOM website at http://arkmissionofmercy.com/

For more information on specific grants or to apply for funding, visit deltadentalar.com/foundation or contact the Foundation at foundation@deltadentalar.com













©2025 Delta Dental Plan of Arkansas, Inc. 1513 Country Club Road, Sherwood, AR 72120