

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

**OOH MISSION AND VISION** 1

**NEED HELP? ASHLINE** 2

**SCOTTSDALE STILLMAN PARK SUCCESS** 3

**MISSION OF MERCY RESULTS** 3

**OOH STAFF SPOTLIGHT** 4

**UPCOMING EVENTS** 4

**OFFICE OF ORAL HEALTH**



**TRIVIA OF THE MONTH:**

According to Delta Dental, what was the average dollar amount left by the tooth fairy in 2014 for a tooth?

- A) \$1.25
- B) \$2.57
- C) \$3.50
- D) \$4.36

Answer on back cover.

**MISSION**

To identify community oral health needs, recognize the social determinants of oral health as a basis to develop policy, design effective and culturally competent preventative programs, and promote oral health as part of over-all health through the integration of medicine and dentistry.

**VISION**

To achieve health equity for all residents of Maricopa County with Access to appropriate and quality oral health services.

## TOBACCO PREVENTION AND EDUCATION

What's going on in the world of tobacco prevention and education? We continue to fight that never ending battle with nicotine addiction!

While the number of cigarette smokers continues to slowly decline, and the number of youth smokers has hit a 40 year low, we now are dealing with the popularity of electronic or e-cigarettes. And yes they do contain nicotine, the addictive component. Young people often use multiple nicotine-containing products, which increases initiation rates and impedes tobacco cessation.

While nicotine is not known to be a carcinogen, it is toxic. Among children ages 0 to 5 years old, e-cigarette poisonings have increased sharply from 7 in 2012 to 154 in 2014. By the end of 2014, e-cigarette poisonings to young children tripled in one year, making up more than 60 percent of all e-cigarette poisoning calls. E-cigarette use is rapidly rising among teens and young adults. Nationally, the use of e-cigarettes by high school students tripled in just two years and use by teens now surpasses the use of traditional cigarettes.

With this age group the long-term impact that nicotine has on adolescent brain development is of particular concern. While the long term health impact resulting from use of e-cigarettes by this population is presently unknown – it is known that e-cigarettes emit at least 10 chemicals that are found on California's Proposition 65 list of chemicals known to cause cancer, birth defects, or other reproductive harm.

Comprehensive steps taken now can prevent a new generation of young people from becoming addicted to nicotine, avoid future health disparities and avert an unraveling of the extensive investment in public health efforts to prevent and reduce tobacco use in our country.

Carolyn Holman, R.D.H. program coordinator for the Office of Oral Health Tobacco Education Program continues to work with dental professionals to show them how to address tobacco use in the dental office and refer tobacco users to the Arizona Smokers' Helpline aka ASHLine for free help with quitting. They can help you and your loved ones quit tobacco too.

Give them a call at 1-800-556-6222.



## SCOTTSDALE HEALTH FAIR, BIG SUCCESS

During the first week of March, First Teeth First participated in the annual March Exclusively Little at McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park in Scottsdale, Arizona. It was a large success as FTF provided oral screenings for more than 70 children.



Families wait for services at the FTF booth



The FTF team sets up for the activities



Ian receives an oral screening



Dev receives oral health education while his mother assists



“Cavities are contagious. Ask us how!”

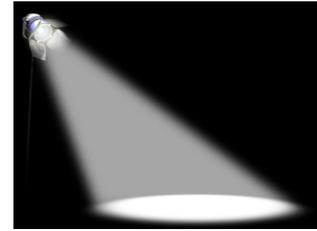
## FTF AIDS IN SUCCESS AT CAD ‘MISSION OF MERCY’

This In the previous Office of Oral Health (OOH) newsletter, it was reported that all of the First Teeth First staff would be volunteering at the Central Arizona Dental Mission of Mercy that took place at the Arizona State Fairgrounds in late December. Well, the results have been tallied:

- 1665 patients received care
  - 14,321 procedures were performed
  - 253 dentists participated
  - \$1.83 Million in oral health care services to patients who experience barriers to dental care
  - 193 registered hygienists
  - 346 dental assistants
  - & 466 community volunteers
- Congratulations FTF for continuing to exemplify the mission and vision of OOH.

“...\$1.83 Million in oral health care services to patients who experience barriers to dental care ...”

## STAFF SPOTLIGHT



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This month we are highlighting our new OOH Manager Vincent Torres. Vincent graduated from UNM in 2003 with a B.S. in Dental Hygiene and from ASU in 2012 with his Master's in Healthcare Innovation. He has worked in private sector as an RDH for 11 years & as an educator at UNM and Fortis College Dental Hygiene Schools.

**Interesting Fact:** Vincent is active in swim and volleyball leagues and loves to participate in 5K runs.



### TRIVIA ANSWER :

According to Delta Dental's "The Original Tooth Fairy Poll®", kids are benefiting from the recovering U.S. economy, with the average gift from the Tooth Fairy reaching a new high of \$4.36 last year, up from \$3.50 in 2013. In 2014, the Tooth Fairy left a staggering \$255 million for lost teeth based on Delta Dental estimates.

### UPCOMING EVENTS FOR FTF

#### March 19-21 2015

Western Regional Dental Convention  
Phoenix Convention Center  
111 N 3rd St.  
Phoenix, AZ 85004

#### April 4, 2015

Ultimate Playdate  
Civic Center, 9:00am — 3:00pm  
3839 N Drinkwater Blvd  
Scottsdale, AZ 85251

#### April 18, 2015

Hopefest  
Chase Field  
401 E. Jefferson St.  
Phoenix, AZ 85004

#### April 27-29, 2015

National Oral Health Conference  
Kansas City, Missouri

We hope to see you at our community events!