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DCDS connection

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A tradition of integrity and care since 1908

DALLAS COUNTY DENTAL SOCIETY

Mission Statement

Serving the professional needs of our members

In This Issue

The Write Stuff 2
Impressions 3
From the Hub 4
New Dentists 5
Members Message Board 6
Facility Rental 7
Diversity/Inclusion 14
TAMUCOD 17
DCDS Foundation 19
Classified Advertising 21

2025 SWDC Results

by Gabby Dizon, DDS, 2025 SWDC Chairperson

Elevating Dentistry!

The 2025 Southwest Dental Conference brought together dental professionals from across Texas and beyond for two incredible days of education, innovation, and community at the Hilton Anatole Dallas. From August 22–23, the Dallas County Dental Society hosted 60 CE-accredited courses, a buzzing Exhibit Hall and a wide range of networking and social events that truly reflected this year's theme: Elevating Dentistry: Excellence, Expertise, and Evolution.

This year's course lineup included sessions on everything from composites and implantology to anesthesia, infection control and practice management. Attendees had access to nationally recognized clinicians, including Chad Duplantis, Anthony Cardoza, Robert Margeas and Thomas Viola, whose humor and insight kept lecture halls packed.

Beyond the classrooms and lecture halls, SWDC 2025 offered countless moments to connect. From the Smiles and Snacks networking event and the Baylor/TAMU College of Dentistry Alumni Gathering to the International College of Dentists 2025 Members Breakfast and Chairman's Dinner, the spirit of camaraderie and purpose was everywhere. Attendees mingled with colleagues and exhibitors in the lively Exhibit Hall, discovered new products and technologies, and participated in prize giveaways, live demos, and practice-building conversations.

Many thanks to all who attended and to the exhibitors and sponsors whose partnership made this year's Conference possible. Your support helped us deliver an outstanding experience for dental professionals at every stage of their careers.

A heartfelt thank you goes to both our incredible Silver Star Volunteers and the dedicated staff of the Dallas County Dental Society. Your behind-the-scenes efforts were the foundation of this year's Conference success. From the warm hospitality we're known for to the flawless execution of every detail, your hard work, generosity, and commitment brought it all to life. Your collaborative spirit and tireless dedication truly make the Southwest Dental Conference a one-of-a-kind experience—we are deeply grateful for everything you do.

If you attended this year's conference, click here for the post-event survey, due by August 31. We would love your feedback as we shape the future of SWDC.

Plans are already underway for SWDC 2026, to be held on August 21-22, 2026 at the Hilton Anatole Dallas. Visit swdentalconf.org for highlights and follow us on social media to see photos, testimonials, and updates.

2025 Chairman Dr. Gabby Dizon bestows the 2026 Chairman's Hat on incoming SWDC Chairman Dr. Tom Schlieve. See more photos from this year's SWDC on pages 10-13.



The Write Stuff

Andrew Read-Fuller, DDS, MD, MS, DCDS President

No Perfect Time—Just the Right Time: Now



““When is the right time to get involved in organized dentistry?” That is a question I’m often asked by dental students, residents, and my dentist colleagues. My answer is always the same: “now!” Yes, it may be convenient to say that the fall is a particularly good time to become active in DCDS; the SWDC has just ended, bringing excitement and enthusiasm to our dental community, school is back in session, and the weather is finally cooling down. But the reality is that we are looking for volunteers, leaders, and active members all year around.

There is a common misconception that leadership requires three things: years of experience, a stable successful practice, and—most importantly—ample free time. While experience and practice success will come over the years, neither is needed to get involved in DCDS, and free time will always be hard for us to find, no matter what stage we are in our careers.

So, if you are interested in planning events and recruiting new graduates, join the New Dentist or Membership Committee. Passionate about legislative issues? Join the Legislative Committee. Enjoy reviewing cases and resolving disputes? Join the Peer Review Committee.

No matter what your area of interest, there is a committee that is probably right for you. And we are always in need of new committee members.

Leadership can take other forms, and joining a committee is not required to make an impact. Consider attending a TDA legislative day, volunteer for a Texas Mercy of Mission event, or even simply attend a general membership meeting—and bring a friend!

Now that I have convinced you to be a leader, I can sense your next question: “how do I take the next step?” Simple! Go the DCDS website, and click on the “Committee Interest” link under the Member Center tab. In case that isn’t easy enough, you can also email me directly at andrew.readfuller@gmail.com, and I will pass your information along to DCDS staff.

To those of you who are already leaders in DCDS, I thank you first and foremost for everything you do. But I have one request for you: think of a friend, colleague, or new dentist who has not been involved in DCDS and encourage that individual to join a committee or attend a meeting.

Everyone can play a vital role in making Dallas County Dental Society a successful organization that serves the needs of its members. There may never be a perfect time to get involved, so you might as well start now. We can’t wait to join you on your leadership journey!

HALF YEAR

A 50% discount of dues is eligible for new members who join mid-year or during the fourth quarter of the year, provided they have not paid dues in a previous year. Encourage your colleagues to join!

FULL POWER



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Contributions: articles, letters to the Editor, announcements, advertisements, or other materials submitted for inclusion in DCDS Connection should be submitted electronically via email to the managing editor. Submissions must be received by the second Friday of the month prior to the month of publication. Acceptance of any submission is at the discretion of the Editor, and subject to editing for brevity or content. Anonymous letters or contributions will not be considered for publication. All submitted items must be accompanied by contact information, including the author’s name, mailing address, telephone and/or email address. Illustrations should be submitted as .jpeg, .pdf, .eps or .tiff files. Photographs should be high resolution (300 dpi or better) and include a copyright release or statement of permission. Display and classified advertising will be accepted from reputable firms or individuals on a space-available basis in accordance with DCDS Guidelines. For current advertising rates or more information call 972-386-5741 X 225, or email rosemary@dcds.org.

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Member Publication
AADEJ
American Association of Dental Editors & Journalists

Impressions

Editorial by Simmi Patel, DDS, Editor

The Importance of Patient Education



The other day I was comparing notes with our nurse practitioner about a case where the person was taking their son's medication for blood pressure and a recently deceased family member's medication for weight loss. We were intrigued by how the patient was essentially playing the role of a doctor.

Just then, Dr. Nora Gimpel of UT Southwestern Family Medicine walked in and reminded us of the importance of listening to the patient when they are openly communicating and not shut down the conversation with judgment. In this case, I explained to the patient how one medication may work for one person but not necessarily for them. I also explained the dangers of taking a medication that was not prescribed for them because there could be drug interactions or contraindications for taking the medication. I then referred the patient to our on-site medical team to review the medications and help establish a medical home.

So how do we educate patients in our practices? I believe this topic is an important conversation for the entire dental team. I hear the dental students tell our patients to take Tylenol and Ibuprofen for pain management, but they leave out how many tablets and milligrams to take. Providers must be constantly reminded of the potential for adverse drug events because of their lack of precise information.

There are approximately 100,000 hospital visits each year due to adverse drug events. These events are often preventable. Prior to surgery, nurses call patients to relay important instructions to prepare them for postsurgical healing. This allows time for the patient to ask questions while they are alert and gather things from the drugstore, so they are ready when they come home. This small step can make a big difference in compliance and safety.

What are some best practices for patient education? Understanding patient demographics, level of education and motivation for change is essential. Many years ago, I remember telling a patient that they had gum disease. The patient responded, "But I don't chew gum." At first, I thought I was on Candid Camera but after realizing I was not, it taught me the level of the patient's dental IQ. Also, keep instructions as simple as possible. Next, cater the information to the patient (for example, a patient that has no hands may need a video on oral hygiene instructions from someone with the same disability). Always explain the significance of changing habits and keeping a routine. Don't forget to document the instructions given in the progress notes. At future visits, document compliance or noncompliance with the instructions given at previous appointments.

Patient Education allows providers a better understanding of their patients' situations and circumstances. It's an opportunity for us to connect and reassure them that we care. We have all seen the consequences of inadequate instructions and failure to follow them. From dry sockets to trauma, providers are then tasked with dealing with post-surgical complications which are preventable and time consuming. Asking patients questions after instructions ensures that they understand what was relayed to them. Calling patients in the evening or the following morning after appointments gives providers an opportunity to see if directions are being followed or if the patient needs to be evaluated again. Overall, patient education is often overlooked but if done properly, it is a huge practice builder.

> **Patient education is often overlooked, but if done properly, it is a huge practice builder.**



From The Hub

by Jane D. Evans, Executive Director

Updates



Retired Dentists Committee

It was a pleasure to attend the year-end luncheon with the Retired Dentists Committee. Approximately 25 members were in attendance, and it was truly delightful to hear them share stories from their years in practice and express their enduring love for dentistry.

Dr. Mike Jones, the committee chairman, concluded the meeting with an inspiring message: "We have all personally contributed to making DCDS better over the years. We know each other well and share a deep mutual respect because we worked side by side and built lasting friendships along the way."

The current trend in dentistry is online participation, often without personal interaction. Don't let that replace the valuable connections you've built over time. Reach out to someone—call a friend, go out to lunch, plan an activity. Don't become a passive participant in life during retirement. Stay active and HAVE FUN!

This advice applies not only to retirees but to everyone. Friendships matter—they enrich our lives at every stage.



Above: The DCDS Retired Dentists enjoying their luncheon.
Below, left: Drs. Jon Vogel and Gabby Dizon represented DCDS, along with DCDS Executive Director Jane Evans and DCDS Member Relations Manager Kisha Allen. Below, Right: New Texas A&M University dental students enjoying their orientation luncheon.

CDT Code Changes—Be Prepared

ADA has been promoting that there will be 60 changes coming to CDT Code in 2026. The Coding Companion features hundreds of frequently asked coding questions and dental coding scenarios. The kit also includes the CDT 2026 and Coding Companion e-books and the CDT 2026 app. Visit ADA.org/CDT for more information on CDT 2026 updates, purchasing options and licensing requirements.

2026 Dallas TMOM

Mark your calendars for the 2026 Dallas Texas Mission of Mercy, taking place April 10–11 at Fair Park! More details will be shared soon, including when registration for volunteers opens through the TDA Smiles Foundation. We will be needing volunteer dentists, hygienists and dental assistants to help treat over 600 patients in two days.

TAMUCOD D1 Orientation Luncheon

In early August, TDA Financial Services, Inc. (TDA FSI) and the Dallas County Dental Society (DCDS) hosted the D1 Orientation Luncheon at Texas A&M University College of Dentistry, welcoming 106 first-year dental students to the profession. The event celebrated the start of their dental journey, introduced them to the power of organized dentistry, and shared resources to help them succeed in school and beyond.





New Dentists

News and perspective from dentists under 10 years of practice



by Stephanie C. Bowers, DDS, MS

Helping Young Patients Understand the Impact of Nicotine and Vaping

Change won't happen in one visit. The goal is to plant the seed for an ongoing conversation.

Talking to patients in their teens and early 20s about their health can feel like navigating a minefield—especially when the topic is something like nicotine pouches or vaping. As dental professionals, we know how important it is to protect our patients' oral health, but these conversations require care, patience, and empathy. These dangerous habits are on the rise. According to the CDC, vaping among adults increased from 4.5% in 2019 to 6.5% in 2023, with young adults (ages 21–24) having the highest rate of 15.5%. A survey from JAMA found that nicotine pouch use among U.S. high schoolers nearly doubled from 3.0% in 2023 to5.4%in 2024. Sales of nicotine pouches increased from 126 million pouches in August 2019 to 808 million in March 2022 and continue to grow.

Unfortunately, the perception among young patients is that these habits are "not as bad as cigarettes" because they can be more odorless and discreet. They might see it as something cool, socially acceptable, or even stress-relieving. As their dentist, you are in a unique position to offer them a different perspective. You may see and interact with these young patients more than any other healthcare provider—and they're more likely to trust your advice when it's personal and judgment-free.

The first, and most important step, is how you approach the conversation. Start with open-ended questions like "I know a lot of people your age are trying vaping or using nicotine pouches—has that been part of your experience?" This invites honest conversation without putting them on the defensive. Teenagers are incredibly perceptive. If they feel judged, they'll shut down. If they feel understood, they'll open up.

Change won't happen in one visit. The goal is to plant the seed for an ongoing conversation. Once you've built that foundation of trust, you can gently start connecting the dots between vaping or nicotine and the issues they might be seeing—or will likely see—in their mouth. You have to educate them that vaping and nicotine pouches can have serious impacts on their teeth and gums, too. Explain that the chemicals in vaping and nicotine products can dry out their mouth and change the balance of bacteria in their mouth that allows bad bacteria to thrive. Young patients may not be immediately concerned by warnings about cavities, bone loss or recession. To make this message resonate, you have to connect these risks to something they can visualize. Long term vaping and use of nicotine pouches can lead to tooth loss which results in significant changes in the way they eat, their confidence, and their overall quality of life. Prolonged use has also been linked to a higher risk of oral cancer.

Explaining that the effects of vaping go beyond their smile and helping teens understand the broader risks can add weight to the conversation. Many teens don't realize that vaping has been linked to serious lung problems, like chronic bronchitis and inflammation. The vapor they're inhaling contains ultrafine particles and toxic chemicals that can deeply penetrate the lungs. These particles have also been tied to an increased risk of heart disease, including high blood pressure and even heart attacks.

Another important time you can revisit this conversation is when your young patient is facing something like wisdom teeth extraction. You can discuss how vaping and nicotine use can slow down the body's ability to repair itself and decrease the blood flow to the healing areas. These factors will make their recovery longer, more painful, and more complicated.

Once you've covered the risks, it's important to turn the conversation toward support. If they're already vaping or using nicotine pouches, encourage them to consider quitting—not in a way that shames them, but in a way that shows you believe in their ability to make a difficult change. Offer to help them find resources or make a plan and let them know they're not alone. Teens and young adults are often going through a lot of significant changes in a short period of time and may be more stressed than they acknowledge on the surface. They need reminders and encouragement that small daily choices—like daily brushing and flossing—are still important.

This won't be just one conversation. Teenagers and young adults typically do not fully absorb everything the first time, and that's ok. Ultimately, your role is to help them make informed choices. You may not change their behavior overnight, but your influence, patience, and willingness to engage can go a long way toward shaping healthier habits—and healthier futures.

DCDS Member's Message Board

Upcoming Events



September 11 – New Dentist Happy Hour

September 17 – TDA Perks Meet Up & Mingle Happy Hour (Dallas)

September 18 – North Texas Giving Day: DCDS Foundation

September 23 – General Membership Meeting: Periodontics Then and Now Evolution of Periodontal and Implant Therapy

November 5-7 – Dental Tree Program by DCDS Foundation

November 18 – General Membership Meeting: Unlocking Smiles: Exploring Maxillary Expansion Techniques

Register at www.dcds.org/events

Welcome New Members!

General Practice

Lauren Getz
Lizanne Holloway
Annie Kim
Kleber Mauricio
Isabella Mejia
Elise Messer
Ria Patel
Yen Tran

Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics

Tien Nguyen

Prosthodontics

Karona Tum

In Memoriam:
click name for obituary

Richard Linden Jr.

Looking for a job?
Have a position to fill in your office?
Want to sell or buy office space and office equipment?

List it on the DCDS.org Job Bank/Practice Sales! Members list for free ($75/month for non-members.)

Email a brief summary (100 words or less, in paragraph format) of the post to: rosemary@dcds.org.





Watching a colleague suffer and feeling helpless is difficult and heartbreaking. Dentists Concerned for Dentists is a 24-hour confidential alcohol and drug abuse hotline you can call for assistance.

Your phone call could be the lifesaving step for someone who is hoping and waiting.

- **Founded exclusively to help dentists, hygienists, assistants and family members.**
- **No fees or charges.**
- **All contact is held in absolute confidentiality.**

The Dentists Concerned for Dentists program provides a strictly confidential peer assistance program for health care professionals who struggle with drug and alcohol abuse. Please share this confidential hotline with your colleagues.

A confidential phone call may be the greatest gift a peer dentist, staff or family member could receive.

DENTISTS CONCERNED FOR DENTISTS

24-hour Confidential Hotline

214-206-7496

HELP YOURSELF

If you're in crisis, there are options available to help you cope. You can call the above hotline at any time to speak to someone and get support. For confidential support available 24/7 for everyone in the United States, you can also call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-8255.

Need Meeting Space?

As a member of the DCDS, you can take advantage of low member rates when renting the Society's Executive Office for your next meeting.

The Dr. O.V. Cartwright Reception Hall is perfect for registration and a pre-function gathering.

The Dr. Paul P. Taylor Executive Board Room can seat 14 around a large conference table.

The Dr. D. Lamar Byrd Auditorium is 1,650 square feet of meeting space that can seat up to 125.

Audio/visual equipment is also available.

DCDS facilities include free parking,free wifi, use of small kitchenette, and ability to bring in food and non-alcoholic beverages.

For more info, contact Ashley Hawkins at 972-386-5741 or email info@dcds.org.





DCDS Membership Benefits

Being a member of the associations that work to protect your profession is important to the success of a practice...pass along the benefits to your peers!

- Free registration to DCDS's annual Southwest Dental Conference
- Peer Review mediation service to reconcile complaints between patients and doctors
- Rent DCDS meeting facilities at special member rates
- Free or discounted continuing education via seminars & General Membership Meetings
- First opportunity to hire fully trained world-class assistants from DCDS Dental Assisting School
- Preprinted school excuse forms provided free of charge to dentists treating school-age children
- Confidential free notary public
- DCDS Connection, the bimonthly newsletter of Dallas County Dental Society (member advertising at reduced rates)
- Member mailing labels available for purchase
- Grassroots legislator contact program with state and national legislative representation
- License renewal reminders
- Networking/social opportunities with colleagues

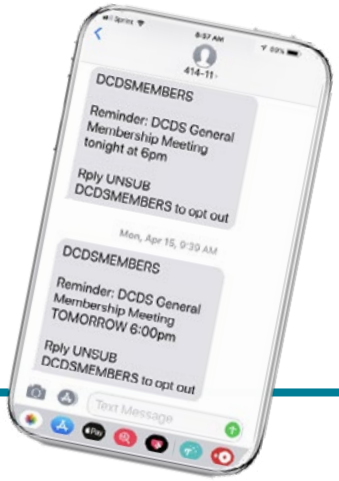
DCDS members receive ALL membership benefits offered by Texas Dental Association, including free entry to TDA TEXAS Meeting.

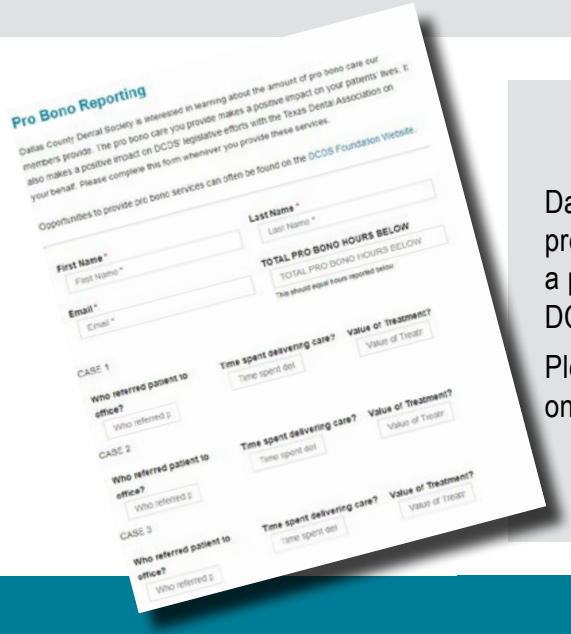
DCDS members receive ALL membership benefits offered by American Dental Association, including photo directory and public referrals through Find-a-Dentist.

www.dcds.org/membership

TEXT MESSAGE REMINDERS: Text DCDSMEMBERS to (833) 258-7645.

Have you ever wished you could receive reminders for DCDS meetings and events? Do you forget to put events/meetings on your calendar? DCDS implemented text messaging so you will not forget another meeting. Just sign up and you will be reminded of future meetings and events.





PRO BONO HOURS

Dallas County Dental Society is interested in learning about the amount of pro bono care our members provide. The pro bono care you provide makes a positive impact on your patients' lives. It also makes a positive impact on DCDS' legislative efforts with the Texas Dental Association on your behalf.

Please help our legislative efforts by completing this short Pro Bono Form on our website whenever you provide these services:

https://www.dcds.org/member-center/pro-bono

Applause, Applause!



Dr. James Grogan was honored with an Outstanding Achievement Award by the Military Order of World Wars at the Park City Club, recognizing his dedicated service as Chaplain. His wife, Katherine Grogan, was also celebrated for her exceptional work as Chaplain Treasurer. The Military Order of the World Wars is a national patriotic organization of American Military Officers, Warrant Officers, Flight Officers and their descendants of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and the United States Public Health Service (USPHS). It includes active, reserve component, retired, or former service members.



Congratulations to **Dr. Thomas Reed**, who has been nominated by the Texas Academy of General Dentistry for Texas Dentist of the Year! The winner of this prestigious award will be announced by the TAGD on September 12, 2025.



Whether you've been practicing for a few months or a couple of years, you know that success isn't just about skill — it's about building the right relationships. This is why the annual New Dentist Happy Hour sponsored by Dental Space Advisors exists. Step away from the daily grind for a midweek reset — one that could spark new friendships and open doors to new opportunities, valuable connections, and even future collaborations.

Complimentary appetizers and beverages will be served!

New Dentists only (under 10 years of practice.) Space is limited, so please **RSVP by Monday, September 8th to kisha@dcds.org to secure your spot.**

Sponsored by: Dental Space Advisors, MedTech and Bank of America

THURSDAY
SEPTEMBER 11

5:00 PM – 7:00 PM

THE RUSTIC

3656 Howell St, Dallas, TX, 75204

DENTAL SPACE ADVISORS

Med Tech www.medtechconstruction.com

Bank of America Practice Solutions

2025 Southwest Dental Conference

Thank you to all who attended and supported the Southwest Dental Conference!
These photos and more from the Chairman's Dinner can be found by clicking here.




























Thank You, 2025 Silver Stars: Our Ambassadors of the SWDC Conference!

Dr. Susan Aten
Mr. Michael Austin
Dr. Todd Baumann
Dr. Mitra Bolouri
Dr. Stephanie Bowers
Dr. Tina Bui
Ms. Angela Castleman
Dr. Zhou Chen
Dr. Linda Cheng
Dr. Brad Crump
Dr. Noah Cruz
Dr. Jodi Danna
Dr. Rich Derksen
Dr. Gabby Dizon
Ms. Karen Dyer
Dr. Sara Ehsani
Dr. Mayra Estrada
Ms. Denise Francisco
Dr. Gayle Glenn
Ms. Savannah Goodman
Dr. Sujatha Govindarajan
Ms. Chelsi Graham
Dr. Greg Grave
Ms. Cindy Harmon
Dr. Shad Hattaway
Ms. Tammy Hilton
Dr. Bob Hunsucker
Dr. Brent Hutson
Dr. Gabrielle Jackson
Dr. Missy Jaynes
Dr. Kathy Kasper
Ms. Thao Kim
Dr. Celeste Latham
Dr. Karina Marr
Ms. Kim McClure
Dr. Mac McDonald
Dr. Danette McNew
Dr. Matt Miller
Mr. Cody Mindedahl
Dr. Pavani Molli
Ms. Chelsea Moorman
Dr. Mike Neeley
Dr. Phuong Ngo
Ms. Yvette Orea-Kohavi
Dr. Simmi Patel
Ms. Quinlan Raichel
Dr. Michael Rainwater
Ms. Stacie Ray
Dr. James Reisman
Ms. Rachel Roberts
Dr. Thomas Schlieve
Dr. Jordan Schweitzer
Dr. Jeff Siebert
Dr. Carmen Smith
Dr. Wendy Steger
Ms. Carla Strickland
Mr. Dave Swift
Dr. Mary Swift
Dr. Sarah Tevis
Dr. Drew Vanderbrook
Ms. Adriana Vega
Dr. Jon Vogel
Dr. Jill Wade
Dr. Jon Williamson
Dr. Wayne Woods
Dr. Aisa Zamani











Thank you to our 2024 - 2025 Scientific Committee for searching out great clinicians!

Dr. Gabby Dizon
Dr. Celeste Latham
Dr. Thomas Schlieve
Dr. Shawn Seifikar
Dr. Drew Vanderbrook
Dr. Mitra Bolouri
Dr. Shad Hattaway
Dr. Wendy Steger















A big THANK YOU to DCDS Members who shared their thought leadership by presenting!

Dr. Steven Bender
Dr. Dr. Leticia Cabido
Dr. Jonathan Clemetson
Dr. John Gannon
Dr. Jacqueline Plemons
Dr. Andrew Read-Fuller
Dr. Moein Sadrkhani
Dr. Thomas Schlieve
Dr. Shawn Seifikar
Dr. Steven Sherry
Dr. Alicia Spence
Dr. Patrick Wong

Diversity + Inclusivity

by Martin Kahn, DDS
Diversity and Inclusivity Committee Member

What My Patients Taught Me About Inclusion



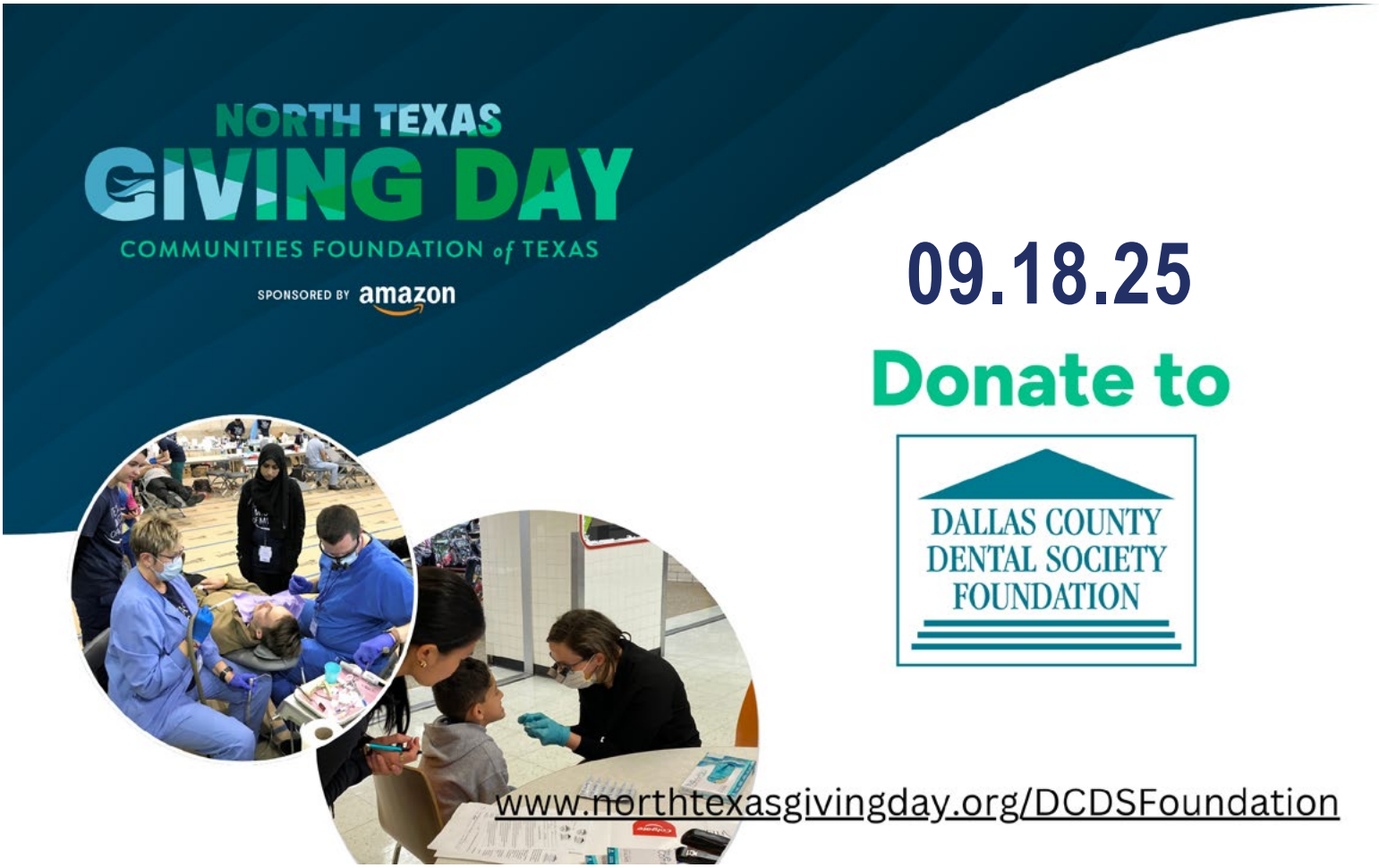
I always had a desire to treat senior citizens, who as a group are greatly underserved. After one year in a group practice in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and three years after leaving the Marine Corps Base, I began treating residents at a facility that housed both seniors and individuals who were physically and mentally challenged. I also treated a number of these younger adults with the best treatment available in 1970.

With assistance from the attending physician, I was able to complete treatment focused on keeping these patients comfortable and functioning. The majority of my time was spent treating seniors and addressing their needs related to removable partial or complete dentures. Occasionally, I would need to hospitalize a resident to remove teeth or treat advanced periodontal disease.

Treating advanced-aged seniors required becoming aware of the many issues common in this group. These included dry mouth, weakened muscles of mastication, inability to perform personal dental hygiene, inability to properly chew food, multiple medications, and chronic illnesses that affect dental health, among others.

When I relocated to Dallas in 1971, I continued caring for seniors. I installed a dental operatory at a senior facility and treated patients there for the next seven years.

Working in this type of setting allowed me to develop a deep understanding of the desires, needs, and hopes of this diverse population. I know it greatly impacted how I perceived and treated my private practice patients for the next 41 years.



General Membership Meeting - September 2025

Periodontics Then and Now: the Surgical and Scientific Evolution of Periodontal and Implant Therapy

POORYA FALLAH, DDS AND STEPHANIE BOWERS, DDS



Dr. Stephanie Bowers is a board-certified periodontist with a passion for clinical excellence and advancing the field through research. She earned her M.S. and Certificate in Periodontics from Texas A&M (Baylor) College of Dentistry, her D.D.S. from Indiana University School of Dentistry, and her B.S. from the University of Michigan. Co-author on multiple peer-reviewed publications, Dr. Bowers currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Dallas County Dental Society and actively participates in research projects focused on innovations in periodontal surgery.



Dr. Poorya Fallah received his DDS degree in 2009 and subsequently completed his residency program in Periodontics at New York University College of Dentistry in 2015. He became a Diplomate of the American Board of Periodontics in 2016 and has been practicing periodontics in private practice in Dallas since 2015. Dr. Fallah is particularly active in surgical education, lecturing nationwide and patient care in private practice in the field of advanced non-invasive periodontics and oral surgery.

This lecture will offer a practical and concise overview of essential periodontal surgical treatments, ranging from foundational approaches to advanced regenerative techniques. The topics reviewed will include classic therapies such as osseous resective surgery, soft tissue grafting for root coverage, and esthetic crown lengthening. The presentation will then transition into ridge augmentation and innovative bone grafting practices, with a focus on minimally invasive techniques using novel materials and devices. This course is designed to enhance clinical decision-making, optimize outcomes, and provide attendees with an updated perspective on both established and emerging periodontal surgical modalities.

Audience: Dentists
AGD Code: 490/690
CE Hours: 2 technical and/or scientific
CE Verification provided
Conflict of Interest: None reported

Sponsored by Henry Schein Dental Practice Transitions

HENRY SCHEIN® DENTAL PRACTICE TRANSITIONS

Learning Objectives:

- Review the indications and techniques for foundational periodontal surgeries, including osseous resective procedures, soft tissue grafting, and crown lengthening
- Become familiar with advanced regenerative techniques, with a focus on ridge augmentation and current approaches to bone grafting in complex cases
- Explore the use of minimally invasive surgical methods, highlighting emerging materials and devices that enhance outcomes and reduce patient discomfort
- Learn how to strengthen clinical decision-making skills by comparing traditional and contemporary surgical options to support more predictable/esthetic treatment outcomes

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR BOTH IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL ACCESS. IF YOU DECIDE TO CHANGE YOUR VIEWING PREFERENCE AFTER REGISTRATION, PLEASE CALL THE DCDS OFFICE. REGISTER TODAY AT WWW.DCDS.ORG/EVENTS

DCDS Members	Free	Non-member dentist	$95
DCDS Member staff	Free	Non-member staff	$95
Dental Students	Free		

Cancellation Policy: The cancellation/refund deadline is September 16, 2025. A 20% administrative fee will be assessed for all cancellation requests on or prior to this date. Since this is a limited attendance course, "no shows" will forfeit the full course fee. No refunds will be granted after September 16, 2025.

DALLAS COUNTY DENTAL SOCIETY

SEPTEMBER 23

6:00 PM IN-PERSON • 6:30 PM VIRTUAL • REGISTER TODAY AT DCDS.ORG/EVENTS

DALLAS COUNTY DENTAL SOCIETY • DALLAS, TEXAS 75244 • 972-386-5741 • INFO@DCDS.ORG

Dallas County Dental Society
is an ADA CERP recognized provider.

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ADA C·E·R·P® | Continuing Education Recognition Program

General Membership Meeting - November 2025

Unlocking Smiles: Exploring Maxillary Expansion Techniques

SHIVAM MEHTA, BDS, MDS, MDENTSC



Dr. Shivam Mehta is a clinician-scientist working as a full-time Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of Orthodontics at the Texas A&M School of Dentistry. He is a dental graduate from India. He also obtained his master' degree and certificate in orthodontics form India in 2015. Following his graduation, he worked in private practice for 2 years. In 2018, he completed a 1 year fellowship program on Recent Advances in Orthodontics at University of Illinois, Chicago. Following his fellowship, he was invited to join the University of Connecticut where he received a dual degree/certificate program (Master of Dental Science and Certificate in orthodontics) in 2021. He loves to teach and share his diverse clinical experiences in orthodontics with the orthodontic residents — the next generation of orthodontists.

Examine the different types of expanders and their applications, with a detailed focus on the long-term effects of maxillary expansion, specifically mini-screw assisted rapid palatal expansion (MARPE). Explore the effects of both conventional rapid palatal expansion (RPE) and MARPE on dental, skeletal, soft-tissue structures, and the airway in comparison to controls. The presentation will highlight a cutting-edge technique—voxel-based superimposition of serial CBCT scans—to analyze changes resulting from conventional and mini-screw assisted rapid palatal expansion. Short-term and long-term outcomes of expansion appliances will be presented using color-coded maps.

Audience: Dentists
AGD Code: 370
CE Hours: 2 technical and/or scientific
CE Verification provided
Conflict of Interest: None reported
Sponsored by American Anesthesia Partners

Learning Objectives:

- Investigate the long-term outcomes with RPE, MARPE and controls and recognize the biomechanical and biological rationale for the outcomes
- Become familiar with clinical tips, pearls and techniques and avoid the common pitfalls for insertion of MARPE appliances
- Learn how to design MARPE appliances according to the clinical need such as (i) two mini-screws vs four mini-screw design; (ii) mini-screw first approach versus appliance first approach and (iii) bone-anchored MARPE versus hybrid MARPE

ALSO JOINING US:

TDA President Dr. Glen Hall provides a brief update regarding the recent news, actions and changes at the Texas Dental Association.



REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR BOTH IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL ACCESS. REGISTER TODAY AT WWW.DCDS.ORG/EVENTS.

DCDS Members	Free	Non-member dentist	$95
DCDS Member staff	Free	Non-member staff	$95
Dental Students	Free		

Cancellation Policy: The cancellation/refund deadline is November 11, 2025. A 20% administrative fee will be assessed for all cancellation requests on or prior to this date. Since this is a limited attendance course, "no shows" will forfeit the full course fee. No refunds will be granted after November 11, 2025.

DALLAS COUNTY DENTAL SOCIETY

NOVEMBER 18

6:00 PM IN-PERSON • 6:30 PM VIRTUAL • REGISTER TODAY AT DCDS.ORG/EVENTS

DALLAS COUNTY DENTAL SOCIETY • DALLAS, TEXAS 75244 • 972-386-5741 • INFO@DCDS.ORG

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ADA C·E·R·P® Continuing Education Recognition Program

Texas A&M University College of Dentistry

Texas A&M University College of Dentistry celebrates 120 years of dental education

Texas A&M College of Dentistry in Dallas marks the end of its yearlong 120th anniversary, which will culminate with a Boots & Burs celebration Friday, Oct. 3, from 6-8 p.m. at Las Colinas Country Club in Irving. Cocktail attire and boots are encouraged. Interested parties can find more information at https://tx.ag/BootsandBurs or scan the QRC.

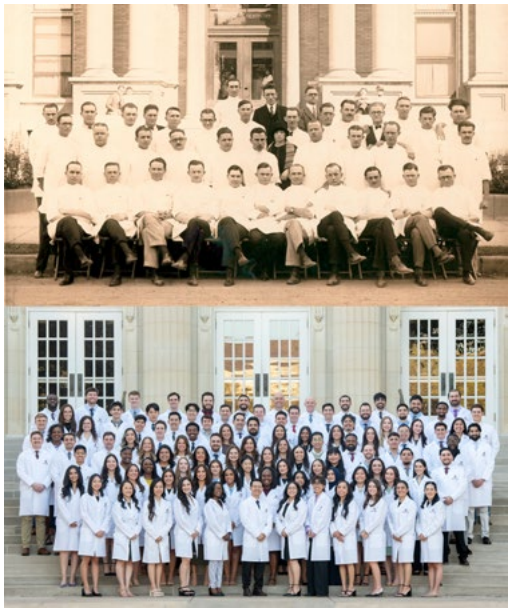
Proceeds from the event will support three key initiatives:

- Expanding access to adult and pediatric dental care for underserved communities
- Supporting student mental health and wellness initiatives
- Scholarships

During the event, the college will recognize this year's Distinguished Alumnus and Outstanding Young Alumnus.

While it's operated under many names since it opened as State Dental College, Texas A&M College of Dentistry remains true to its mission of shaping the future of oral health through excellence in education, research and patient care.

Established as a private dental school, those first 40 students attended classes on the second and third floors of a downtown grocery store. The college graduated the first class of dentists in the state of Texas in 1906. The four graduates—one from Texas, two from what is now Oklahoma and one from Japan—completed the first two years of their dental education at other colleges.



Class of 1925 and the Class of 2025

Today, the dental college boasts nearly 600 dental, dental hygiene, graduate and specialty degree-seeking students. Dr. Lily T. García, Class of 1984, returned to lead her alma mater in 2022 and has prioritized stability and morale with a people-centered approach, ensuring the college remains a leader in dental education.

"It all comes back to talent, culture and facilities," García said. "They all play into and off each other."

Understanding facilities shape first impressions and daily experiences, García initiated a major renovation of the college's Administration and Education Building. Student services were relocated into a newly renovated student affairs suite that brings teams together in shared spaces. Work is expected to be completed soon on a new simulation laboratory and research space.

García also strengthened the college's academic and clinical expertise through key leadership hires in several academic departments, as well as clinical affairs and academic affairs.

To ensure long-term success, she prioritizes succession planning, fostering mentorship and leadership development to prepare the next generation of educators and administrators.

Student well-being is a priority. The college's Mental Health and Wellness Committee equips students with resources to help them navigate the rigors of dental school.

In alignment with university-wide initiatives, an on-site counselor ensures students have access to professional support.

Addressing oral health care disparities is a priority, too. The Dr. M.C. Cooper Dental Clinic, the college's Sealant Program and its collaboration with North Dallas Shared Ministries provide essential dental care to those in need within our communities.

The dental college signed a memorandum of understanding earlier this year with Shear Kershman Laboratories and Innovative MedTech Inc. to collaborate on transformative health care initiatives in oral care. The partnership aims to develop cutting-edge technologies, enhance education and training and drive research that improves global patient outcomes.

By fostering such partnerships, the college strengthens its ability to innovate, educate and serve communities in meaningful ways.

"Our history demonstrates the strength of our foundation, and with the unwavering support of Texas A&M University, we are well-positioned for the future," García said. "What is most important is that we continue doing what is right for our students, the university and the people of Texas."

The dental college has a long history of both academic excellence and top-level care. That's never changed, whether alumni and the community called it:

- State Dental College
- Baylor University College of Dentistry
- Baylor College of Dentistry
- Baylor College of Dentistry, a member of the Texas A&M University System
- Texas A&M University System Health Science Center – Baylor College of Dentistry
- Texas A&M Health Science Center Baylor College of Dentistry
- Texas A&M University Baylor College of Dentistry
- Texas A&M University School of Dentistry
- Texas A&M University College of Dentistry

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
College of Dentistry

Texas A&M College of Dentistry (formerly Baylor College of Dentistry) in Dallas is a part of Texas A&M University and Texas A&M Health Science Center.

Founded in 1905, the College of Dentistry is a nationally recognized center for oral health sciences education, research, specialized patient care and continuing dental education. Learn more at dentistryinsider.tamhsc.edu or follow @TAMUdental.

SKILLS TRAINING WORKSHOPS

DCDS Dental Assisting School offers comprehensive training sessions led by expert instructors at the DCDS Executive Office (13633 Omega Road, Dallas, 75244). Participants must hold a current license issued by the Texas State Board of Dental Examiners (RDA, RDH, DDS/ DMD.) Course fee includes all necessary PPE, supplies and supplemental materials. For details, visit the DCDS website at dcds.org/events or email angela@dcds.org.

- **Basic Life Support/CPR:** Participants will meet the bi-annual TSBDE license renewal requirement for Basic Life Support/CPR through this CPR and AED program with the curriculum of the American Heart Association. Other times/dates can be offered accommodate your entire office. (AGD Code 142, 3 CE Hours Technical/Scientific)

Tuesday, July 22, 2025	5:00 pm to 7:30 pm	$40 per DCDS Member/Staff	$65 per Non-Member/Staff
Friday, August 1, 2025	9:00 am to 11:30 am	$40 per DCDS Member/Staff	$65 per Non-Member/Staff
Thursday, August 28, 2025	5:00 pm to 7:30 pm	$40 per DCDS Member/Staff	$65 per Non-Member/Staff
Wednesday, September 3, 2025	5:00 pm to 7:30 pm	$40 per DCDS Member/Staff	$65 per Non-Member/Staff
Friday, September 19, 2025	9:00 am to 11:30 am	$40 per DCDS Member/Staff	$65 per Non-Member/Staff
Friday, October 31, 2025	9:00 am to 11:30 am	$40 per DCDS Member/Staff	$65 per Non-Member/Staff

- **Provisional Fabrication Skills Workshop:** Participants at all career stages will gain theoretical knowledge and practical experience in impression taking and temporary restoration techniques. (AGD Code 250, 4 CE Hours Technical/Scientific)

Wednesday, August 6, 2025	12:00 pm to 4:00 pm	$125 per Participant
Friday, September 5, 2025	12:00 pm to 4:00 pm	$125 per Participant
Wednesday, October 1, 2025	4:00 pm to 8:00 pm	$125 per Participant
Tuesday, December 16, 2025	4:00 pm to 8:00 pm	$125 per Participant

- **Radiographic Exposure Skills:** Participants will learn to assemble and position various film holding devices to obtain high-quality diagnostic radiographs, including mastering techniques such as paralleling, bisecting-the-angle, and proper patient positioning for panoramic radiographs. (AGD Code 010, 4 CE Hours Technical/Scientific)

Friday, August 15, 2025	8:00 am to 12:00 pm	$75 per Participant
Monday, September 15, 2025	8:00 am to 12:00 pm	$75 per Participant
Monday, December 8, 2025	12:00 pm to 4:00 pm	$75 per Participant

- **Basic Orthodontic Skills Workshop:** Participants will acquire essential techniques such as untying, changing, and retying wires using o-rings and elastic chains, positioning patients, and maintaining a clean work area, as well as providing home care instructions for patients. (AGD Code 370, 4 CE Hours Technical/Scientific)

Wednesday, August 20, 2025	8:00am – 12:00 pm	$75 per Participant
Monday, October 13, 2025	8:00am – 12:00 pm	$75 per Participant

DCDS Dental Assisting School

REGISTER AT DCDS.ORG/EVENTS

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ADA C·E·R·P® | Continuing Education Recognition Program

Your DCDS Foundation at Work!

by Dr. Preston Colven, DCDS Foundation President

North Texas Giving Day

The Dallas County Dental Society Foundation is proud to be part of the upcoming North Texas Giving Day, a powerful day of community generosity that helps local nonprofits make an even bigger impact. This year, we invite you to join us in supporting programs that bring healthy smiles to those who need them most.

Early giving begins September 1, and runs through September 18. Every dollar donated to the DCDS Foundation goes back into our community through initiatives such as:

- Give Kids a Smile: providing dental health education and screenings for underserved students in our local community
- Smiles for Caregivers: recognizing and caring for those who dedicate their lives to helping others
- Senior Smiles: the counterpart to Give Kids a Smile, focused on elderly individuals in Dallas County
- Scholarships for dental students and dental public health residents: empowering the next generation of dental professionals to serve with skill and compassion

Your gift, no matter the size, helps us continue our mission of expanding access to care, supporting oral health education, and strengthening the future of dentistry in Dallas County. If you're planning on making a gift to the Foundation, we encourage you do to so on North Texas Giving Day, which is September 18, to help us unlock matching donations and bonuses to further increase the impact of your gift.

Donations from last year's North Texas Giving Day have allowed us to cover 15 community health fairs and Tooth Talks so far this year, providing screenings and/or oral health education plus oral health kits to 840 adults and almost 3000 children! And we're not slowing down—we expect to reach another 2,000 people before year's end, making this our most impactful year yet. With your help on September 18, we can dream even bigger for 2026—expanding programs, touching more lives, and creating brighter, healthier smiles across Dallas County. Together, we can make next year extraordinary!

Visit https://www.northtexasgivingday.org/DCDSFoundationfor more information and to donate.

DALLAS COUNTY DENTAL SOCIETY FOUNDATION





NORTH TEXAS GIVING DAY
COMMUNITIES FOUNDATION of TEXAS

DALLAS COUNTY DENTAL SOCIETY FOUNDATION • DENTAL TREE PROGRAM •

Mark your calendar for the Dental Tree Program: November 5–7, 2025

The Dental Tree Program is about making a hyper-local impact. During these three days, we encourage DCDS member dentists to identify patients within their own practices who could benefit from pro bono care. This is an opportunity to help someone you already know, perhaps a patient you have seen for years, who could truly benefit from treatment but may not have the means to receive it otherwise. By focusing on patients already in your chair, the Dental Tree Program keeps the generosity of our members right here in our own practices. The Foundation will be collecting information on the value of care provided so we can share the collective impact of our members' commitment to giving back.

If you're interested in receiving information about volunteer opportunities or joining the DCDS Foundation Board, please email us at info@dcdsfoundation.org

TO VOLUNTEER **WWW.DCDSFOUNDATION.ORG** TO GIVE

DENTAL OFFICE NETWORK

Your Transition is closer than you think!

Is your practice ready?

Go with a Guide that knows the territory!

Hoping one day to get top dollar for your practice?
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Practice of the Month: This one won't last!

North Dallas FFS, 1200 Active Pts., Long term staff. 3 furnished ops., 1300 sq. ft. with room to expand. Generous Landlord upgrades accompany new Tenants! Reasonable rent $3500, EagleSoft, Contact us ASAP.

Email Info@OfficeNetworkUSA.com

Reference Code: EPU1

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Certified Shredding Promotion for Dallas County Dental Society Members

✓ Members only preferred pricing
✓ Facility-based destruction for paper, hard drives and proprietary items
✓ Certificate of Destruction provide for all services

$25 flat fee per container.
Minimum charge per service of $75.

Contact 214-352-0113, option #2 for details about preferred member rates

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Classified Advertising

Classified Advertising for DCDS Connection is accepted on a space-available basis and must meet the advertising guidelines of the DCDS. Rates and information are posted on-line at https://www.dcds.org/news-media/sponsoring-advertising or call 972-386-5741.

For Sale/Lease - Offices

OFFICE TO SHARE

Rent space in our new fully digital and equipped dental office located in Richardson near 75 & Campbell Rd; available 2-3 days per week on a daily fee basis. Take a video tour at DrJackBodie.com.

Call 214-212-9413 or email Jack@DrJackBodie.com for details.

Click here to check out Job Bank/Classified ads on the DCDS Website for more opportunities!

Happy HOUR

Wednesday, September 17

6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

STIRR
5100 Belt Line Road
#Ste 540
Dallas, TX 75254

TDA PERKS MEET UP & MINGLE HAPPY HOUR (DALLAS)

Whether you're looking to buy, sell, or start a dental practice, this event is the perfect opportunity to connect with fellow Texas Dental Association members, meet TDA Perks vendors, and have fun. Complimentary adult beverages and light appetizers will be served.

This event is free for TDA Members. Come alone or bring a plus one!

Register at www.dcds.org/events. If you have any questions, call Josh Epstein at 512-443-3675 X161 or email him at jepstein@tda.org.



Practice Financing (Bank of America Practice Solutions)
Commercial Real Estate (Xite Realty)
Insurance (TDA Insurance Services)

TDA PERKS PROGRAM
value for your profession

Patient Financing (CareCredit)
Dental Staffing (Cloud Dentistry)
Patient Membership Plans (DentalHQ)

DCDS
13633 Omega Road
Dallas, TX 75244
Phone: 972-386-5741
Fax: 972-233-8636
www.dcds.org
info@dcds.org

Follow DCDS and SWDC on social media!

SAVE THE DATE! AUG. 21-22, 2026

