Delta Dental of Michigan has been doing business for more than 50 years and currently serves more than three million people throughout the state. As a not-for-profit organization, our mission is to improve the oral health and overall wellbeing of the communities we serve. Among the ways we do this are by supporting groups and programs that provide oral health education, expand access to oral health care for the people of Michigan, and better our communities.
Many great reasons to smile.

Our community benefit accomplishments include:

Dental services for those most in need

The Delta Dental Foundation (DDF) is the philanthropic affiliate of Delta Dental of Michigan. DDF provides grants to a variety of programs working toward the improvement of oral health. Since its creation more than 30 years ago, DDF has provided over $15 million in grant monies to educational programs and institutions, community oral health programs, and clinics catering to underserved and at-risk populations. Our valuable relationships with current and upcoming dental professionals continue to help make a difference in the region.

We understand our funding helps keep programs in place that provide dental care and education to people that might not otherwise have access. Grants are provided throughout the year to support projects to improve oral health. In addition, annually, the Delta Dental Foundation Community Mini-Grant Program awards small grants to community-based oral health organizations whose programs improve oral health of underserved citizens. Emphasis is given to programs with a focus on improving oral health of children.

Dental school donations and student scholarships

Delta Dental of Michigan has a continued interest in fostering scientific research related to oral health, especially research with clinical application and potential for reducing treatment costs for those in need. Each year, a portion of the Delta Dental Foundation’s budget is allocated for grants conducted by dental researchers in Michigan universities. Additionally, graduate dental students may submit proposals for the Dental Master’s Thesis Award Program, which assists them in completing their advanced degrees.

Each year, the Delta Dental Foundation honors an outstanding graduate from the University of Michigan School of Dentistry and the University of Detroit Mercy School of Dentistry. The DDF Student Leadership Award recognizes graduating dental students for leadership, community involvement and top academic performance. By investing in these graduates, we invest in the communities and patients they serve.

Children’s wellbeing

Delta Dental recently provided a major grant to the Michigan Department of Community Health to further advance oral health initiatives across the state of Michigan, with an emphasis on children. The grant helped fund three key components of the MDCH’s oral health program: the Michigan Water Fluoridation Project, the Maternal Infant Health Program, and SEAL! Michigan. Since 2000, Delta Dental has partnered with the Michigan Department of Community Health on the Healthy Kids Dental (HKD) program. This program provides improved access to dental care for Medicaid-eligible children under the age of 21 in 65 of Michigan’s 83 counties, and it has received accolades from across the country. Despite a challenging state budget, the program was expanded again in 2012, bringing the total number of Michigan children covered by HKD to nearly 350,000.

Doing our part for the community

Delta Dental provides support to the Michigan Donated Dental Services Program, which has helped more than 5,000 elderly, disabled and disadvantaged citizens that otherwise would not have received care find free preventive and restorative dental care.

Delta Dental prioritizes making positive contributions to the communities in which it does business. By supporting organizations like Capital Area United Way, United Way of Southeast Michigan, NAACP Freedom Fund, Salvation Army, Children’s Trust Fund, Greater Lansing Food Bank, and Wings of Mercy, we believe we can make a difference in the lives of our neighbors.

Good for employees. Good for our state.

Our community benefit efforts focus on expanding access to care for all Michigan residents, educating the public about the importance of oral health, and funding the future of dentistry through dental school improvements and scholarship grants.

When organizations offer Delta Dental, they do more than help their employees—they help their communities.