

## Our 2020 Caring for Those Who Need Us Most

We will always remember March of 2020, a month that changed everyone's daily "normal" in unprecedented ways. At the time, there was much unknown and while we continue to battle the COVID-19 pandemic as we write this, we reflect on our 2020 journey.

While this year has presented unique challenges for the Waukesha County Community Dental Clinic (WCCDC), it has been a year of affirmation. When the Safer at Home Order began in March, we suspended regular appointments but remained committed to emergency care to assist our community's most vulnerable populations, as well as ensure they did not turn to our already taxed emergency rooms. This decision was made with our medical partners, who have provided unwavering collaboration throughout this year.

Emergency care only was delivered for 12 weeks and was met with considerable demand. In total, 186 emergency appointments were provided, serving 103 low-income individuals, 69% of whom were new patients to our clinic. During this period, we were one of just a few public clinics open in Wisconsin, driving patient demand from throughout our region. Those treated consistently affirmed that they would have had no other treatment options without the WCCDC.

This period allowed us to thoroughly prepare to fully reopen under the new operating standards recommended for dental by the Centers for Disease Control and the American Dental Association. We were fortunate to receive generous donor support and emergency relief grants from Delta Dental of Wisconsin Foundation, Greater Milwaukee Foundation's MKE Responds Fund, United Way of Greater Milwaukee & Waukesha County, Waukesha State Bank, and the Women & Girls Fund of Waukesha County. These grants assisted with expanded Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), updated aerosol ventilation, safer equipment, and more. Concurrently, we received a Paycheck Protection Program grant to rehire our entire clinical team within a few weeks of initial layoffs.



Generous support from the community helped us to:

- Fully resume operations at the Waukesha Clinic in June
- Fully resume operations at the Menomonee Falls Clinic in July
- Return to pre-COVID patient volumes by September
- Retain our full staff

We are proud of these achievements and our ability to continue safe operations in 2020 because it means we're meeting the considerable community need for our work. Not surprisingly, we've seen increased patient demand since June as a result of more income-qualifying families, families facing insurance changes, expanded knowledge about our work, and limited public dental programs outside of the WCCDC.

Simply put, we are so grateful to be able to serve families who otherwise wouldn't have access to vital, life-changing dental care. We look forward to 2021 with a continued commitment to this work. Thank you for your partnership today and always!

# The Season of Giving



As we celebrate this season of giving, we humbly invite you to provide a gift towards our mission. Donations are the lifeblood of our clinic, representing roughly 60% of our operational budget each

year. Through the contributions of time, talent, and treasurers, we are able to serve as the dental home to thousands of individuals who simply wouldn't have access to dental care elsewhere.

These patients include Juliette, a 5-year-old Milwaukee resident who became a new patient

last year at our Menomonee Falls clinic. In 2020, we've been able to provide immediate treatment to her, as well as keep her treatment plan on track. At her most recent appointment, she provided a thank you drawing to her dental assistant, Liz. Thank you for your consideration and partnership. Your support is truly life-changing!

We welcome you to reach out to our Director of Development, Emily Lukasek, to discuss your generous support (262-953-4692). The WCCDC is a 501(c)(3) non-profit (EIN: 30-0436162). Donations are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law. Please consult your tax advisor.

## Other Ways of Giving

- Stock
- Donor-Advised Funds
- Retirement Assets
- Legacy Giving via Estate Plans

## New Year - New Brand



We are thrilled to share that with the new year, we will welcome a new brand!

With the addition of our second clinic in 2018, we revisited our strategic priorities to poise the

organization for continued success and growth. A key discovery in this process was the need to refresh our brand, mission, vision, and particularly, our name. With services now extending well beyond Waukesha County, our current name presented confusion to patients and supporters. We've been working carefully in 2019 and 2020 to strategically assess our current brand and future needs.

We will re-brand in 2021 as "**Community Smiles Dental.**" Community is the core of who we are—we were built by community members, grown with community support, and look ahead with an unwavering commitment to serve those in our community with the greatest need.

We will share more in the coming months, including a refreshed logo, website and more. We welcome the chance to talk further with you during this process and invite you to reach out with any questions. Thank you for your partnership as we look towards an exciting and impactful future.

## Dr. Connor Celebrates 10 Years

In September, we celebrated the 10 year anniversary of one of our outstanding dentists--Dr. Connor! In 10 years, Dr. Connor has conducted 16,000 appointments for our patients, delivering an estimated \$4.3 million in dental treatment. We are so fortunate to have had her expertise,

commitment, and compassion on our team for a full decade. Please join us in congratulating Dr. Connor for her outstanding impact!



# Laugh for a Smile Returns in 2021

In partnership with our Board of Directors and our headliner comedian, Charlie Berens, we've decided to postpone Laugh for a Smile 2020 to **Thursday, April 22, 2021** to ensure the most successful and safe event for all involved.

While the date has changed, the experience has not and we can't wait to host you as we generate important dollars for the WCCDC mission! The event will still feature a cocktail reception, small plate entrees, desserts, raffle, live auction, stories of WCCDC's impact and more.

We're particularly excited this year to feature nationally-acclaimed comedian and host of the Manitowoc Minute, Charlie Berens, as our headliner.



Charlie Berens

**WHEN:** Thursday, April 22, 2021

**TIME:** 5:00 pm - 8:30 pm

**WHERE:** Brookfield Conference Center

**CO-CHAIR BY:** Laura and Mike Arnow, Coreen Dicus-Johnson and Kurt Johnson, Dr. Miranda and Kurt Peter

**TICKET COST:** \$125/person

**HONORING:**

Chairman's Smile Award: Claire Beglinger

Community Partner Award: Waukesha County Community Foundation

Sponsorship is still available and space is limited so early registration is recommended.

For more information about the event, to register, and to learn about our sponsors, please visit [wccidentalclinic.org/events/laugh-for-a-smile](http://wccidentalclinic.org/events/laugh-for-a-smile)

## SPONSORED BY:

### \$5,000 Round of Applause

Laura & Mike Arnow



Ellen Rohwer Pappas



### \$2,500 Knee Slapper



Hanneke & Mike Deeken



Michael & Susan Goldstone



Drs. Ann Bartos Merkow & Steve Merkow

Renee & Ralph Ramirez

Jake & Gay Alberts Ruby

### \$1,000 Giggle

Dr. David & Pamela Brilowski ■ First Business ■ First Midwest Bank ■ JAX INC ■ Lake Country Rotary ■ M3 Insurance  
Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery Associates ■ Eric & Gina Peter ■ Dr. Barbara Prindiville ■ Reichl & Kolstad Orthodontics  
Riverwater Partners ■ Stier Construction, Inc ■ Town Bank, a Wintrust Community Bank  
Waukesha County Technical College ■ Waukesha Surgical Specialists

### \$500 Grinnin'

Rick & Stacie Andritsch ■ Bank Five Nine ■ Bark River Dental Group ■ DeAnne Blazek & Larry Hetzel ■ Tom Cooper & Marcy Nightingale  
CornerStone One, LLC ■ Dental Professionals of Wisconsin ■ Karin & Mark Kultgen ■ Lake Country Women's Club  
Andrew & Emily Lukasek ■ Teri Lux ■ Michael Best & Friedrich LLP ■ Ellen Phillips ■ Kathy & Dennis Pollard ■ Kathleen D. Ryan  
Dr. Mark & Mrs. Bonnie Siegel ■ Bob & Jane Speer ■ Deb & Gary Wallendal ■ Waukesha State Bank



waukesha county  
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## Additional Care Offered to Adults

In response to continued community demand, we were thrilled to expand services to adults at our Menomonee Falls clinic beginning this past September! In addition to our existing emergency care for adults, adults who meet program qualifications are able to get a comprehensive exam, their teeth cleaned and access to restorative care. Treatment is being provided in partnership with Milwaukee Area Technical College's Dental Hygiene Program. We are grateful for the opportunity to serve even more in need.

