



Giving Kids a Dental HEAD START in Our Community™

**Friends Foundation for the Aging  
KinderSmile Foundation Proposal  
Smiles for Seniors Oral Health and Wellness Program 2023-2024**

We are grateful to The Friends Foundation for the Aging for sponsoring our Smiles for Seniors Oral Health and Wellness Program in 2021. Please accept this proposal for a grant of \$30,000 this grant cycle, as we continue and improve the program going forward.

KinderSmile Foundation, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization was founded in 2007 with a mission to provide underserved children and their families with access to comprehensive dental care and educate underserved children and their families on the importance of dental hygiene. We envision a future where every child has access to a dentist, and preventable dental diseases are eradicated. Since inception, in the last 15 years KSF provided \$10 million of in-kind dental services and impacted 40,000 low-income patients in order to eliminate dental disease, the #1 epidemic of economically disadvantaged children.

In 2020, in the midst of the global pandemic, we expanded our services to the medically underserved City of Trenton, extending our services to underserved adults. Trenton is designated as a Health Professional Shortage Area by HRSA, scoring 25 out of a possible worst score of 26 for dental shortage. Senior citizens make up 21% of Trenton's population, and 29% of them are living below poverty level. Medicare has not expanded dental coverage, and KinderSmile Foundation provides an avenue for access to oral health care for this growing and underserved population.

Our evidence-based approach relies on three preliminary goals of *Education, Prevention, and Intervention*, as methods to combat dental disease and empower patients with knowledge about oral health's relevance to total health and wellness. KinderSmile Foundation's Smiles for Seniors Oral Health and Wellness Program provides oral health education and a crucial link to a permanent Dental Home to the underserved at-risk growing senior community in Trenton.

Through continued and growing partnerships with Trenton area organizations, we will recruit 30 qualifying participants. As in the past, we will provide them with important oral health education, nutritional counseling, and tobacco counseling related to dental disease. Following the education they will qualify for free preventive and comprehensive dental services up to \$1,500 per patient. This year we are proposing to improve the program by including a critical dental-medical integration component. We will



Giving Kids a Dental HEAD START in Our Community™

incorporate A1C test diabetes screenings, blood pressure screenings, and oral cancer screenings in our Trenton Dental Home on scheduled days with medical staff from one of our partners.

Further, we will include referrals to the medical care agencies with whom we partner and collaborate, such as Henry J. Austin Health Center and Capital Health, in order to ensure that these at-risk seniors get the medical care that they need. These referrals will also assure that we receive medical clearances from a physician prior to beginning dental care, to avoid the delays we were facing in the last grant cycle.

The overarching goal of our program is perfectly aligned with Friends Foundation for the Aging's focus on improving the lives of aging adults and providing services to a diverse population. KSF's Board members, employees, and our many collaborating agencies reflect the diverse population of the patients we serve. KSF's Smiles for Seniors Oral Health and Wellness initiative pursues dental-medical integration, thereby increasing access to care while providing additional assistance to this growing at-risk community.

At KinderSmile Foundation we pride ourselves in data tracking and analysis of demographics and services provided, and have a long term goal of showing the impact of repeated oral health education and preventive care on the reduction of Caries Risk Assessment over time. Our ultimate goal is to establish a critical link to a brick-and-mortar Dental Home, where comprehensive dental care can be provided regardless of a patient's insurance status or means, as recommended by the ADA. We track, analyze, and report numbers and statistics of all linked patients using our patient management system and various spreadsheets. Qualitative measures include data tracking and analysis of demographics, age breakdown, insurance breakdown, specific numbers of all dental treatments and services provided. We will report the number of patients who completed their care and were linked to our Dental Home for regular 6-months periodic exams.

We have a long term goal of showing the impact of repeated oral health education and preventive care on the improvement of Caries Risk Assessment over time. We will also document continued positive feedback from community partners and the value of patient care provided.

Oral health is the gateway to total health and wellbeing. The dental care provided at KinderSmile Community Oral Health Center Trenton will have an unmeasurable impact on patients' oral health, mental health, confidence, speech, and eating. Further, our medical-dental integration and prompt referrals to a

primary care physician at a partnering medical will have a long term effect on our seniors' long term wellbeing.

KinderSmile Foundation and its programs have continued to expand and grow, and have remained sustainable for the last 15 years through a combination of grant opportunities, insurance reimbursements, affordable fees, fundraising donations from friends and supporters, 100% Board contributions, in-kind donations of clinical supplies, and volunteer dental providers. We intend to continue our Smiles for Seniors Oral Health and Wellness Program at KinderSmile Community Oral Health Center Trenton, as we continue to open the doors to older adults and a growing number of seniors.

#### Proposed Actions:

- Identify 30 seniors ages 60 years and up to participate in the “Smiles for Seniors Oral Health and Wellness” program. KinderSmile Community Oral Health Center Trenton has cross-referring relationships with a growing list of 56 community partner organizations. We will continue to forge partnerships with organizations in Trenton to increase awareness and entice participation.
- Establish MOUs (Memorandum of Understanding) with Capital Health and Henry J. Austin for medical care assistants or nurses to provide scheduled testing days at KinderSmile Community Oral Health Center Trenton for A1C diabetes screenings and blood pressure screenings.
- Patients will be promptly referred to a primary care center to enable quicker medical clearances and avoid delays in dental care, while providing the patients access to medical care in this medical-dental integrated program.
- Provide personal and culturally sensitive oral health education to all participants. Monitor and provide guidance on compliance, including oral disease prevention, nutritional and tobacco counseling related to oral disease, and oral cancer screenings.
- Provide preventive and comprehensive dental care to all participants. Each participating senior will receive a credit of \$1,500 for comprehensive dental care to restore form and function, empowering them with confidence to eat and smile, and the means to continue healthy oral hygiene routines once they graduate from the program.
- Establish a link to a permanent Dental Home for the seniors. Encourage the senior participants to break the cycle and maintain a routine of visiting the dentist every six months, as recommended by the American Dental Association.



**KinderSmile**  
FOUNDATION

Giving Kids a Dental HEAD START in Our Community™

<b>Project Title:</b>	Kinder Smile Foundation "Smiles for Seniors Oral Health and Wellness Program"		
<b>Principal Applicant:</b>	KinderSmile Foundation		
<b>Program Income/Support</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Proposed Budget</b>	
Friends Foundation for the Aging	Seeking	\$ 30,000.00	
Dental Trade Alliance Foundation	Pending	\$ 25,000.00	
	<b>Total Program Income</b>	<b>\$55,000.00</b>	
<b>In-Kind Contributions</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Proposed Budget</b>	
Donations and Fundraising		\$ 15,000.00	
In-kind Clinical Supplies	Donated supplies from organizations such as Henry Schein Cares and America's ToothFairy	\$ 10,000.00	
In-kind Professional Services	In-kind dental professional services under Give Back A Smile Program	\$ 16,200.00	
	<b>Total In-Kind Contributions</b>	<b>\$ 41,200.00</b>	
<b>Total Program Income (Program Income/Support &amp; In-Kind Contributions)</b>		<b>\$ 96,200.00</b>	
<b>Program Expenses</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Proposed Budget</b>	<b>FFA Funds Requested</b>
Salaries	Program Dentist (Part time)	\$40,000	\$13,500
	Program Dental Hygenist (Part time)	\$2,700	\$1,000
	Program Dental Assistant (Part time) and Educator	\$10,000	\$3,250
	Health insurance, payroll taxes, malpractice insurance (part time)	\$8,000	
Program Costs	Administrative Expenses and Promotional Materials	\$1,500	\$1,500
	Lab Costs	\$22,500	\$5,000
	Clinical Supplies	\$10,000	\$5,000
	Meeting Food Expenses	\$500	\$250
	Transportation - travel vouchers for those in need	\$1,000	\$500
<b>Total Program Expenses</b>		<b>\$ 96,200.00</b>	<b>\$30,000</b>