

SDM Shout Out

Weekly News Updates for SDM Faculty, Staff and Students

UB Dental Welcomes WNY Veterans

DENTISTRY SMILES ON VETERANS

A DAY OF FREE DENTAL CARE!

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In honor of Veterans Day, the University at Buffalo School of Dental Medicine thanked our nation's servicemen and women by providing them free care.

This was the sixth Dentistry Smiles on Veterans Day – a partnership between the University at Buffalo School of Dental Medicine and the Eighth District Dental Society.

Through one day of free care, the program delivered free health services to 178 veterans who lacked dental insurance or did not qualify for dental treatment through the Veterans Health Administration, a benefit reserved only for those who received service-related injuries. In addition to dental services, Nurse Practitioners from the UB School of Nursing treated nearly 70 patients by taking vitals, administering vaccinations, reviewing medical histories and performing preoperative examinations.

After the veterans received treatment, dental school staff assisted those who lacked a primary care dentist with finding a dental home, with UB or with a dentist in the community.

The event opened with a procession led by the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve Honor Guard, followed by brief remarks from Dean Joseph Zambon, UB President Satish Tripathi, US Congressman Brian Higgins, NYS Senator Tim Kennedy and Dr. Brendan Dowd, Assistant Dean, Clinical Operations and event organizer.

"As a former Naval Officer, this event means a great deal to me," says Joseph Zambon, DDS, PhD, dean of the UB School of Dental Medicine.

"I feel great pride witnessing my fellow colleagues within the dental community rally together to help those who served in the U.S. Military. We were honored to host this year's event again and thrilled to have our colleagues from the School of Nursing participate as well."

Hundreds of volunteers from the community, including 27 local dentists and 3 hygienists, 250 UB dental school staff members and dental students, took part in Dentistry Smiles on Veterans Day.

"It was wonderful to help many of our local Western New York veterans with their oral health for a day. It's always an honor to treat the folks of this country who help keep us safe," stated Dr. Dowd. "We hope they can continue their dental care here at the University at Buffalo's School of Dental Medicine."

UB SDM Student to Receive the Maureen R. L. Mussenden Scholarship



Areeg Naeem, Class of 2025

Areeg Naeem, '25 has been chosen this year's recipient of the Maureen R. L. Mussenden Scholarship.

The Maureen R. L. Mussenden Scholarship is given to a first generation graduate student (the first in their family to attend college) and is registered in one of the five UB Health Sciences schools. The student will receive one-third state tuition, per academic year for four years.

With a focus in health law and corporate law and specialized expertise in hospital/university affiliation agreements, Maureen R. L. Mussenden served as associate counsel in UB's Academic Health Center. A native of Tortola, British Virgin Islands, she earned a BA from Keuka College and a JD from Cornell Law School. She was a member of several legal organizations and also was actively involved with numerous community organizations. She died in 2010 at age 54, after a courageous battle with cancer.

SDM Pediatric Dental Club Out in the WNY Community



SDM Pediatric Dental Club with Dr. Carrie Wannamaker, Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatric & Community Dentistry in Sherman, NY. The group reached out to the Amish community, providing a day of health screenings, fluoride varnish and oral health education.

If you have any news you would like to share, please contact Kelli at natale@buffalo.edu.

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