



Providence Seaside Foundation

Justin Abbott, patient navigator, is ready to provide children and their parents with information about the Providence Healthy Smiles program.

PROVIDENCE Healthy Smiles

Dental care continues to improve lives

Improving oral health is the goal of the Healthy Smiles program in Clatsop County. Supported by your gifts and a grant from the Oregon Community Foundation, Healthy

Smiles has been offering schoolchildren and their families ways to better care for their teeth.

Justin Abbott runs Healthy Smiles, which includes a dental sealant program and dental learning labs. In 2019, he was able to visit nearly all schools in Clatsop County.

Kindergarten through eighth-grade students participate in dental learning labs geared to their grade level. Dental assistants teach the children about teeth and how to care for them.

“In our school district, the majority of students’ families are challenged by poverty that often threatens their healthy smiles,” said Liane Bogh, RN, Warrenton-Hammond School District. “The students enjoy participating in the dental education and receiving their dental goodie bags. Months after the dental education activities, I have overheard children in competitive debate over how many times they brush and floss their teeth!”

Justin also connects families with dental care if a problem is uncovered during the sealant process or by the school nurse.

“Justin works diligently every year to ensure this program is successful in our schools,” said Tobi Boyd, RN, Seaside School District. “If I have a student who has tooth pain and no insurance, I call Justin. He has been able to either get that student signed up for the Oregon Health Plan or has been able to get them in to see one of our local dentists – sometimes pro bono. Our community has definitely seen the benefits from such amazing programs and Justin’s hard work.”

Thank you for supporting this vital service and providing our community’s children with healthy smiles.

2019 Highlights

Simulation baby

Thanks to a grant from the Ford Family Foundation, nurses in labor and delivery can train for unusual or life-threatening events. The first 10 minutes of life is critical for newborns. Baby Ford is designed to provide realistic training for interventions, such as clearing an obstructed airway. While few babies have breathing problems at birth, when one does, quick action is required. Having Baby Ford to practice on gives our caregivers confidence to handle these critical situations quickly and efficiently.



ED renovation starts

Remodeling of the Emergency Department began in July 2019. The first phase included building out the triage room, reception area, security office, waiting area and a portion of the nurse’s station. The reception area will also serve as an after-hours entrance. Once completed, the emergency department will have nine treatment rooms, two rooms for patients who need an extra secure and quiet environment, triage space, and an airborne infection isolation room. Thank you for your support of this important project.

2019 total dollars raised by fund

- Area of Greatest Need | 2%
- Innovation | 14%
- Dental | 20%
- Pet Therapy | 5%
- Festival of Trees | 42%
- Other Funds | 17%

