



MODERN DENTISTRY in the NEWS

DSO-Supported Dentists: Giving Back At Home and Abroad

Thanks to collaboration between our state's Dental Service Organizations (DSOs) and the dentists they support, people in Texas – and throughout the world – are now getting essential dental care that was once unavailable to them.



TEXAS SERVICE DAYS

The Team: TCDSO members, Texas dentists and dental care professionals, and support staff partner with area nonprofits in communities throughout Texas to deliver needed care free of charge.

The Mission: Help Texas residents receive much-needed dental care

The Impact: Hundreds of Texans served, with care ranging from basic exams and x-rays to extractions and fillings

THE ORAL HEALTHCARE CRISIS IN TEXAS

- Nearly 20 percent of Texas residents live in a Dental Health Professional Shortage Area
- 115 Texas counties are classified as a Dental Health Professional Shortage Area
- 46 counties in Texas have no dentists

"SMILES FOR EVERYONE" - CHIANG RAI, THAILAND

The Team: DSO-supported Texas dentists and a team of employees partnered with local Thai dentists. The trip was organized through the "Smiles for Everyone" Foundation – a not-for-profit foundation affiliated with Smile Brands, Inc., a DSO that has served Texas communities for more than 30 years.

The Mission: Bring much-needed dental care to people in the impoverished community of Chiang Rai, Thailand, and ensure the community sustains an adequate level of care on its own by providing

equipment, and training local dentists.

The Impact: More than 700 children served – many having never seen a dentist in their lives.



"One case in particular involved a 16-year-old tribal boy who had a draining abscess on the lower left side. I asked him how long the tooth had bothered him, and he said four years. After I numbed him, he had a surprised look on his face, and then he just smiled and bowed. The tooth was removed, and he was experiencing no pain for the first time in four years."

–Dr. Randy Richardson, DDS,
Lewisville, TX