This year’s impact report has a very different look and feel. We have a new logo, new colours and a new name. We haven’t forgotten the past, just that now is the time to acknowledge the new direction our charity is taking. Evaluating whether the name Dentaid with a globe in the logo still reflected everything we do, needed careful thought. On one hand, our UK work is busier than ever and accounts for a large proportion of our activity. However, the name Dentaid really means something in the dental sector and we remain committed to supporting dentists around the world.

A comment “Dentaid - do you fix dents in cars?” from a member of the public, convinced me it was time for a change. By adding ‘The Dental Charity’ to our name everyone can see and understand what we do.

But the logo change is nothing without delivery. I strive for us to not only talk about providing dentistry to those who struggle to access care but also ensure that our words are backed up by actions – every single day. Dentaid is now the largest charitable dentistry provider for vulnerable people in the UK. We couldn’t do this without our volunteers, funders, staff, partner charities, mobile dental units and supporters – some of whom I was privileged to ride alongside in the Straumann Charity Bike Ride in Spain. So, thank you to everyone who’s been part of our long history so far and here’s to the next chapter of Dentaid The Dental Charity.

Andy Evans

To donate, fundraise or join our team of volunteers visit www.dentaid.org
“Love conquers all things except poverty and toothache”

Mae West
Where we’ve been

Every week we receive calls from charities and organisations across the UK desperately seeking dental care for their clients. Please help us to be there for more people by donating.
Admir’s story

“I am in pain with my teeth 24/7. They hurt me so much that I have started putting aftershave on my gums which stings but is a different type of pain. I can’t eat or sleep properly because my teeth hurt all the time.

I’ve had problems with my teeth before. I was headbutted several years ago and had to have some teeth removed. But they have never hurt me as much as they do at the moment. They are affecting my confidence too. I have anxiety and depression and the problems with my teeth make it worse. I don’t want people to look at me. I have lost faith in toothbrushing, it hurts too much and there’s no point when my teeth are so bad.

My life wasn’t always like this. I had a business and a career as a commercial sculptor but I lost everything in Covid and ran out of money. It was a horrible time.

Most days, I come to the Salvation Army, and they are very kind to me. To make money I have been trying to work doing cartoons and portraits of tourists in Eastbourne. But sometimes my teeth hurt so much that it sends pains through my body and I can’t draw.

As soon as I heard you were coming I was so happy and pleased because hopefully now the pain will stop.”

We were able to help Admir by extracting his painful tooth and giving him the care and reassurance he needed.

So many others in Admir’s situation still desperately need our help.

www.dentaid.org/volunteer-in-the-uk/
Working with newly qualified dentists

We believe that educating newly qualified dentists (foundation dentists) about how to provide care for the most vulnerable people in our communities is essential. It gives them a different perspective on the impact dentistry can make.

We have regular volunteering opportunities for foundation dentists on our charity dental units. This year’s teams provided outreach dental care for people experiencing homelessness and addiction, and refugees and asylum seekers in the south-west and Yorkshire. We provided 19 clinics where foundation dentists gained valuable experience both clinically and in the delivery of care for highly vulnerable patients.

We would love to provide more but, unfortunately, we do not currently have funding to enable us to do this all year round. If you can help support this area of our work please get in touch.

“I learnt the barriers that refugees and asylum seekers face when trying to access dental care in the UK and the difficulties in providing dentistry to a group of people with high dental needs with limited or no access to care. I saw first hand the valuable and effective work that Dentaid does and I was grateful to be a part of the team for the day.”

Foundation dentist – Bristol
Reports are growing about a dental crisis in UK schools. Research published in March 2023 shows that 6.5 million children didn’t see an NHS dentist last year.

This, coupled with the cost-of-living crisis, which has seen four in five teachers providing toothbrushes and toothpaste for pupils in their classes,* is taking its toll on the dental health of children across the UK.

We believe that oral health education from a young age is crucial. Our BrightBites programme involves volunteers going into primary schools and nurseries in their communities to deliver a lively interactive presentation that covers all aspects of dental health.

By making the event fun, hands-on and involving parents, teachers and nursery practitioners, BrightBites is creating a lasting impression and everyone receives a toothbrush and toothpaste too!

Between March 2022 and March 2023 our volunteers delivered 111 presentations for 6,459 children.

*Beauty Banks in partnership with the British Dental Association (BDA) survey.

We need your help
Donations of toothbrushes and toothpaste are desperately needed to help us grow the BrightBites programme. Or sign up to become a volunteer. www.dentaid.org/brightbites/
Changing lives through dental care

“I’m getting on with my life and want to feel better. The Dentaid volunteers were brilliant and very understanding and kind. I’ve had a filling on my front tooth and a good scale and polish. They also gave me lots of advice. I know there’s more treatment I’ll need so it’s great that Dentaid will be coming back. I’m on my journey to having better teeth.”

Charlie, patient experiencing homelessness, from Winchester

“We support Ukrainian families who found they were unable to register with local dentists. Being able to go to Dentaid is helping them to feel more confident in their smiles. The difference made to clients’ lives has been amazing.”

Support worker, Hastings Families

“I got diagnosed with cancer a few years ago and since then I lost all my confidence mainly because most of my teeth fell out due to the treatment I was having. What I miss most about my teeth is being able to smile and laugh without the feeling that people may be looking at me. I also miss not being able to eat and drink what I want to. Thanks to Dentaid The Dental Charity, I am finally able to smile and feel confident in myself. I’m so excited to be able to smile again. I can’t wait to eat the foods I haven’t had for years. This is going to change my life.”

Alison, head and neck cancer patient, from Southampton

“I wish I had the confidence to go out and enjoy my life, but I can’t because of my teeth, it’s so embarrassing to even ask for help at this stage. However, with Dentaid I feel it’s nothing like a normal dental practice, I can easily get help and I don’t feel like I’m being judged when the dentist and dental nurse are volunteering their time to help people like me.”

Mandy, patient experiencing homelessness, from Weymouth

Please help us treat more of the most vulnerable people in our communities by fundraising for Dentaid The Dental Charity

fundraising@dentaid.org
“Look at my new smile!”
Fred Colgrave, head and neck cancer patient
A thank you to our volunteers

It’s hard to express our gratitude for our volunteers who give up their time to make our clinics happen – we really can’t thank them enough.

Every UK clinic we run relies on a volunteer dentist and dental nurse working alongside our team to deliver dental care for the most vulnerable people in our communities. Within minutes, dental professionals who’ve never met before are working together to deliver life-changing dental care in a mobile surgery. They meet patients who face an array of practical, physical and emotional barriers to accessing care – but by showing such compassion and understanding our volunteers give our patients the chance to be listened to.

“The more I work with Dentaid The Dental Charity, I appreciate how important it is to use my skills to help those less fortunate. It is truly life affirming to be able to have the opportunity to relieve pain and suffering for those in need.”
Dr Neil Sikka BChD, Dentaid volunteer

Please help us!

We have volunteering opportunities for dentists, dental nurses and dental care professionals at our clinics across the UK. You can volunteer as little or often as you like on days and at locations that work for you.

www.dentaid.org/volunteer-in-the-uk/
Regional hubs

As Dentaid The Dental Charity’s work continues to expand across the UK, the need to establish regional hubs is becoming clear. Hubs reduce costs, travel time and our environmental impact allowing us to visit more towns and cities more often.

Thanks to our partnership with Septodont, we now have a base in Kent with two members of staff and a charity dental unit operating from their headquarters in Maidstone. Septodont generously funded the mobile unit which is used for our clinics in Essex, Kent and Sussex. Clinics across Lancashire, Merseyside, Yorkshire and Leicestershire were delivered on a mobile dental unit based in Halifax. We also have a vehicle in Belfast delivering care for people experiencing homelessness in Northern Ireland in partnership with Bupa Dental Care.

Next steps

Untreated toothache is miserable for anyone but for vulnerable people with other challenges in their lives it can lead to greater problems. By growing our hubs and extending our reach we can ensure that more people can access the treatment they need, but we need your support to do this.
After a long absence, we are delighted that teams of volunteers are once again supporting local dentists in Uganda, Malawi, Cambodia and Morocco.

Dentaid’s overseas volunteering programme started more than a decade ago enabling dental professionals in Africa and Asia to share expertise and reach new communities by working alongside teams from the UK.

Each trip is different, but the teams deliver care in schools, community buildings, prisons, orphanages and remote regions without access to dental care. People of all ages travel from miles to receive treatment and the teams can see around 200 patients daily. Sadly, many teeth can’t be saved but we run fluoride varnish, fissure sealant and toothbrushing programmes which incorporate oral health into everyday life.

"Due to the lack of available dental facilities in the area, for many patients this was their first trip to see a dentist and we saw between 180–200 patients a day. I truly believe it is character-building in so many ways – professionally and personally. The trip pushed me out my comfort zone, it also developed me in a professional way."

Mitch Greenley, dental nurse
Overseas equipment

From donations of hand instruments and toothbrushes to full surgeries and training modules, equipment donations to our overseas projects come in all shapes and sizes.

Dental services in a remote region of Madagascar will be restored after Dentaid The Dental Charity provided a refurbished surgery to The Good News Hospital Mandritsara. The equipment will be used by British dentist Debbie Hardiman and her team to deliver dentistry in an area where there have been no services for several years.

Refurbished dental equipment has also been provided for projects in Uganda, Jamaica, Ghana and Tanzania. In Malawi, we continue to support the Maldent project which is training new dental professionals who will deliver outreach care in poor and remote communities.

To help us reach more communities that are suffering due to lack of access to dental care please donate.

To donate equipment visit www.dentaid.org/donate
Our Impact
from March 2022 – March 2023 we:

**UK**
- Ran 338 charity dental clinics for people experiencing homelessness and other under-served groups
- Provided dental care for 2,489 of the most vulnerable people in our communities relieving pain and increasing confidence
- Had six mobile dental units and a trailer delivering care (with another becoming operational soon)
- Ran clinics at 48 new locations helping more vulnerable groups to access life changing dental care

**Overseas**
- Gave oral health instruction toothpaste and toothbrushes to 6,459 children
- Had 50 volunteers who donated 16,800 hours of their time by joining our overseas teams
- Enabled 6,691 people in Uganda, Malawi and Cambodia to see a dentist working alongside our local dental partners
- Installed 16 training units in Malawi for the next generation of dental professionals
The Figures

For the first time ever, our income has exceeded £1 million thanks to the generosity of our supporters. This means hundreds more people have received life changing dental care. For every pound raised 77p is spent on delivering dentistry to those who need it most.

What we raised

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<th>Source</th>
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What we spent

- 77% on charitable activities
- 23% on management costs
Thank you to:

Every single one of you who’s donated time, money, equipment, supplies and support to help us make a difference with dentistry including:

- Ken Finlayson for his tireless fundraising in memory of his wife Kimberley and son James
- Macmillan Cancer Support and Southampton Hospitals Charity for supporting our clinics for people living with head and neck cancer
- The teams that organised events in their dental practices to support our work in the UK and overseas
- The dental practices, companies and corporate supporters who joined fundraising events this year
- Everyone who took part in Dentsply Sirona’s Miles for Smiles fundraising walk and completed 27,400 steps
- Denplan for sponsoring our UK clinics and BrightBites oral health scheme in schools and nurseries