



San Francisco Dental Society

2143 Lombard Street
San Francisco, CA 94123
Phone: (415) 928-7337; Fax: (415) 928-5297
E-mail: exec@sfds.org
www.sfds.org

Your Community Partners in Oral Health for 140 years

About The SFDS...

The San Francisco Dental Society (SFDS), a component of the American Dental Association (ADA) and the California Dental Association (CDA), has been serving the profession of dentistry since 1869. Its 1000 plus members, representing approximately 76% of all licensed dentists in the City and County of San Francisco, collectively exemplify the SFDS mission of supporting the highest ethical practice of dentistry and enhancing the standard of care for the public served by the dental profession.

All SFDS members are licensed to practice dentistry in the State of California. Among the benefits provided to SFDS members are continuing education, legislative liaison, peer review and patient relations programs, community service programs, a staff referral service, subscriptions to local, state and national dental publications, and a professional library, in addition to other services.

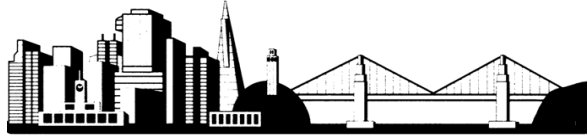
The current president of the SFDS is **Dr. David Ehsan**. The Executive Director is Ms. **Deborah Elam, MS, CAE**.

You may contact the San Francisco Dental Society at (415) 928-7337 or at info@sfds.org.

Press Kit

News Releases

Dental & Health Related Links



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Organizational Info...

In 1869, a small group of dentists in San Francisco founded the San Francisco Dental Society. It was the first component of what came to be the California Dental Association. The Society was founded as a non-profit membership organization dedicated to improving and promoting the dental health of the San Francisco community, to represent and serve its membership, and provide equal access and inclusion of all dentists who meet the association's membership and ethical standards. Through its committees, programs and activities, the Society meets the goals for which it was established.

The San Francisco Dental Society has grown into a successful dental society with 1000 plus members and forms the local component of the American Dental Association and the California Dental Association. The society represents more than 76% of all the licensed dentists practicing dentistry in the City and County of San Francisco who collectively exemplify the SFDS mission of supporting the highest ethical practice of dentistry and enhancing the standard of care for the publics served by the dental profession.

The Society provides continuing education opportunities for member dentists and their staff in the form of required license renewal courses and evening or all day educational programs. The staff administers to its individual members, committees, officers, the Board of Directors, and the public.

Flyers, notices, and a bi-monthly newsletter, *The Bridge*, are distributed or coordinated by the Society to communicate about policy, bylaws, elections, committee activities, community outreach programs, regulations, and articles by experts on issues of immense importance to dentists and their staffs. These communications are vital services to our members.

Other assistance provided by the Society, but is not limited to:

- Dentist referral service
- Peer Review system coordination
- Liaison between committees and the public
- Public resource service by phone, fax, e-mail and mail



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WHO WE ARE...

THE SAN FRANCISCO DENTAL SOCIETY

Background

The San Francisco Dental Society is a professional organization that acts as the unified voice for dentistry for the benefit of the San Francisco community and its 1000 plus member dentists in advancing public awareness and dental education.

The San Francisco Dental Society supports only the highest ethical practice of dentistry and works to improve the standard of dental care for the public.

The Society is a component of the American Dental Association and the California Dental Association.

Mission

The mission of the San Francisco Dental Society is to serve the needs and issues of its members, advance the art and science of dentistry, and promote the improvement of the health of the public through:

Vision

The San Francisco Dental Society is the united voice of dentists and oral health care in the community

Driven and Responsive to Members' Needs (Service)

Anticipates Practice & Community Needs with a Future Focus (Future Oriented)

Inclusive of People, Perspectives and Practices (Diversity)

Strategically Guided by Integrity and Ethics (Sincere)



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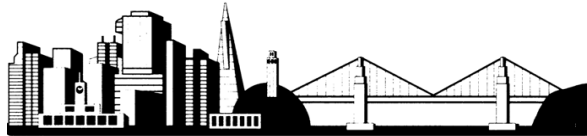
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Fact Sheet...

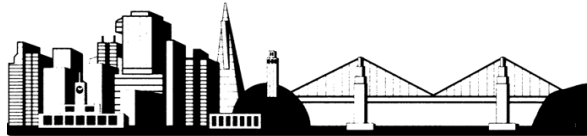
IMPORTANT STATISTICS

From the Surgeon General

In 2000, the Office of the Surgeon General released its first report on oral health.

Here is what they discovered regarding the oral health of our nation's children:

- **Tooth decay is the single most common chronic childhood disease, 5 times more common than asthma and 7 times more common than hay fever**
- **More than 51 million school hours are lost each year due to dental related illness**
- **More than half of children ages 5-9 have had at least one cavity or filling; 78% of 17-year-olds have experienced tooth decay**
- **By age 18, more than 7% of children have lost at least one permanent tooth to decay**
- **25% of all low-income children have not visited a dentist before entering kindergarten**
- **More than 1/3 of low income children have untreated tooth decay**
- **For every child that lacks medical insurance, there are 2.6 that lack dental insurance**
- **Tooth decay is the most common chronic childhood disease, affecting 50% of 1st graders and 80% of 17 year-olds**



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Fact Sheet...

Donated Dentistry

The dental profession has an exemplary record of helping those in need. In recent ADA surveys, dentists have reported providing more than \$1 billion each year to the nation in free and discounted care to needy patients. In addition to its research and education agenda, the ADA Health Foundation is the profession's central agency for charitable support of national and regional access programs that help strengthen public awareness of oral health and make dental care available to those in need.

The National Foundation of Dentistry for the Handicapped, a not-for-profit charitable affiliate of the ADA, has helped almost 30,000 low-income disabled and elderly people receive more than \$34.1 million in services from more than 8000 volunteer dentists and 1,864 participating dental laboratories through its Donated Dental Services program.

State and local dental associations like the SFDS, along with other groups and individual dentists, continue working to deliver care to those with the greatest needs. But in the end, charity alone will not eliminate the disparities in access to care. State and federal governments must join organized dentistry in attempting to make good oral health and oral health care a reality for all Americans.

In SFDS's first year of established partnership with the SFDPH, over 40 member dentists volunteered to provide oral health screenings for SFUSD kindergarten classes, now conducted annually from September to May. In its seventh year, forty-eight dentists donated close to 80 hours to screen San Francisco's kindergarteners.

Volunteer Statistics