

Mouthing Off!

Summer 2009

HDC
HOWARD DENTAL CENTER

HOWARD DENTAL CENTER CELEBRATES 15 YEARS!

Coming Up

Mark your calendars for the following events benefitting Howard Dental Center



Colorado Gay Rodeo
Rocky Mountain Regionals
July 10, 11 & 12
Jefferson County
Fairgrounds



2009
AIDS Walk
Saturday
August 15
Cheesman Park



2010
Bingo Ball
Saturday
February 20
Watch for details!

“Denver Mayor Wellington Webb Wednesday praised the compassion of those who started the area’s first private-style dental office for people living with HIV and AIDS. Champagne flowed and cookies crumbled at the grand opening of Howard Dental Center...” (Rocky Mountain News, December 15, 1994).

2009 marks the 15th anniversary of Howard Dental Center (HDC). What began as a discussion between dentists and dental educators became a collaborative endeavor to create a unique clinic. They were concerned about the lack of oral health services available for people living with HIV/AIDS. Spearheaded by **Dr. Terry Brewick, Kerry Maguire, William Pfeifer** and **Arthur Robbins**, their concerted efforts resulted in what is known today as one of the nation’s premier specialty oral health clinics. The group did everything from defining the concept, finding the space, and painting the walls to gathering start-up donations and volunteering their skills.



Founders Terry Brewick (l), Kerry Maguire, Arthur Robbins and William Pfeifer at a 2001 HDC fundraising event. (old file photo)

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Bingo Ball 2009 ... Can you say “sassy”?

It just gets better and sassier... Bingo Ball 2009 was just *too* much fun! What better combination than fun, frivolity and fundraising for a great cause? The effervescent Nuclia Waste once again graced us with her presence (and the demure shyness she is known for). Bingo numbers have never been so amusing. Master of Ceremonies, Mike Nelson, 7News Chief Meteorologist kept the crowd entertained, energized and waving bid numbers wildly.



Nuclia Waste with Jeff Olbertz (l) & board member, David Bryant (r)

Over 250 guests scrambled for the plethora of one-of-a-kind silent auction items including handmade offerings from our own board members: Joe Mauro (demonstrating bee keeping with his own hive), Bonnie Ferrell (cooking

Continued on back page

Focus on Board Members

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Dentist

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Dental Hygienist

Mercy Diaz, EDDA

Dental Assistant

Denise Mungin

Office Manager

Mary Salsich

Development Director

Margaret Sharpe, MSW, LSW

Case Manager

Christopher Ott, M.D.

Dr. Christopher Ott (or Doc Ott, as we affectionately call him) is one of our most dedicated board members. Chris learned of Howard Dental Center while he was an intern at St. Joseph's Hospital. He wanted to give back to his community and work with a HIV/AIDS service organization. **George Couzens**, a board member and passionate about HDC's mission, recommended that Chris check us out. After sitting in on a few board meetings, he was hooked. George's passion definitely rubbed off on Chris.

So, why does he stay involved? Chris's reply is simply because of the quality of oral health care that HDC provides. He believes strongly that when our services affect the everyday lives of our patients, they had better be top-notch. Chris is proud to be involved with a nonprofit whose employees are not only fantastic at what they do, they care compassionately about each patient.

Chris believes everyone should know about the excellent services offered at our clinic that benefit our patients' over all health and well-being. His goal is improving community outreach to both our patient population and our donors.

But it's not all work and no play. Chris and his partner, Jeremy, travel whenever the opportunity arises. However, having just bought a new house and new scooters, they find themselves staying in town and cruising over to visit friends.



HDC Past President, Dr. Chris Ott on his new scooter.

LEAVE A LEGACY

Planned giving is a wonderful way to support a cause you love. Consider a gift of money, securities, real estate, or property holdings to Howard Dental Center. This gift may also include automobiles, any recreational vehicles or even precious metals.

And it's simple. All you need to do is name Howard Dental Center as a

recipient of your estate in your will. You may specify an amount or a percentage of the residual estate.

***A legacy gift insures
Howard Dental
Center's future. It is
one of the best ways
to demonstrate your
belief in our mission.***

Providing for Howard Dental Center through planned giving is a generous way to leave a legacy!

For more information, contact **Mary Salsich** at **303.863.0772**.

Spotlight

On New Staff

Ernest Duff (Ernie), Executive Director

Kicking off the new year, Ernie took the reins of the organization on January 2 and it's been non-stop since then!

Ernie has worked for social change, social justice and human rights for over twenty-two years, both at the grassroots and national levels. He first worked in New York with the homeless, mentally disabled and chronically ill, and then in the resettlement of political refugees and rehabilitation of torture victims. After moving to Berkeley, California, he headed up a national effort providing comprehensive services for exonerated former prisoners of the U.S. prison system.

In 2006, Ernie and his family relocated to Denver. He returned to torture treatment as Executive Director of the Rocky Mountain Survivors Center until joining Howard Dental Center. A minister and psychologist, Ernie holds masters degrees from Yale University and the New School for Social Research. He lives with his wife and two daughters, and a dog in Centennial, Colorado.

Ernie is thrilled to join Howard Dental Center and work in yet another area of human rights and health. If you have not already done so, and you are in the neighborhood, stop by and meet our new executive director.



Lydia Perez, Dental Assistant

Lydia graduated from Emily Griffith Opportunity School, College of Health Sciences as a dental assistant in 2007. Her experience during a two-month externship at Howard Dental Center was educational as well as rewarding. Lydia wanted to give back to her community. She liked the idea that Howard Dental Center is a nonprofit clinic benefitting the underserved. Because of her talents, she was offered a full time position after finishing the externship.

Lydia enjoys working directly with patients and using her skills in assisting the dentists in chair-side procedures. Her life is not all work and no play. Lydia enjoys junkets to Las Vegas to try her luck.

From our Colleagues & Clients

“ Howard Dental Center is one of the finest and most accomplished stand-alone oral health programs for people living with HIV disease in our country. ”

~Dr. David
Resnick, DDS,
*Director, Oral Health
Center, Infectious
Disease Program
of Grady Health
Systems, Atlanta, GA*

“ These people really care about what they do. They help me look in the mirror and be OK with what I see now. ”

~Sean

Donor Spotlight (continued)

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In Memory of George Couzens

Carl Haas

In Memory of Art Robbins

Virginia Pringle

In Memory of Dr. Patrick Stranahan

Wayne Knox
 Gertie and David Lasher
 Dr. Patricia Stranahan and Mr. Tom Bond



The following have shown their commitment to our future as Founding members:

Wisdom Tooth - \$500 Lifetime Membership

Michael Barish
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 Bob Searn & Sally Preston
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 Clyde Waggoner
 Dean Williams

Molar - \$250

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Cuspid - \$100

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 Mark & Rhonda Canino
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 Tom Gosselin
 Richard & Katie Hughes
 Jeffrey Lodi
 Anne MacRae
 Jeffrey Moser
 Curtis Johnsen & Ann Somers
 John Volp, DDS
 John Warner
 Dr. J. Douglas Wilson

Baby Tooth - \$50

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We are indebted to the generosity of our many donors! We could not offer the level of care we do at Howard

Bingo Ball Sponsors

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 KMGH 7NEWS
 Colorado Homes & Lifestyles
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 Metromode Magazine
 Reserve List



Tim Greer (l) with Veronica Johns-Richardson, Leslie Herod, Katina Banks and Andy White are looking sharp.

Table Sponsors

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 Z Cuisine

Corporate & Association Contributions

Aix Restaurant
 Amlavi



Representing one of our sponsors, Anthem Blue Cross & Blue Sheild, are Judith Jung (HDC Board Member) (l) and Mike & Jamie Occhipinti.

Dental Center without the following who contributed between April 15, 2008 - April 15, 2009. Thank you!



Ernie Duff, HDC Executive Director accepts a M•A•C AIDS Fund check from M•A•C staff.

Anheuser Busch
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Mayor's Office of HIV Resources: Ryan White Care Act
University of Colorado School of Dental Medicine

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Anne MacRae
Kurt Anderson & Aron Marks
Frank and Betty Mauro
Joseph Mauro
Patricia Miller
Mozhgan Moameni



Betty Stranahan (l), HDC Board Member, Bonnie Ferrell, Rick Morales & Terry Brewick are all smiles.

Cindy Muench
Bob Myre
Ray Nassimbene
Dr. Christopher Ott
Glenn Palumbo, DDS
Eileen Pappas
Vincent Pesce
Kenneth Peters
Jeffrey Phillips
Elizabeth and Michael Reynolds
Richard Riedel
Kristin Robbins

HOWARD DENTAL CENTER TURNS 15! *continued from front page*



Dr. John Howard, one of the first dentists in Denver to offer care to HIV/AIDS patients.

HDC was named in memory of **Dr. John Howard**, who was one of the first dentists in Denver to offer care to HIV/AIDS patients. John brought to the community the sense of urgency in dealing the oral health of people suffering from HIV/AIDS.

Founded under the nonprofit status of Colorado AIDS Project, HDC saw its first patients on December 7, 1994 at its original location, 1245 E. Colfax Avenue. **Charlie Garretson**, a local real estate broker, offered the vacated, fully-furnished dental office for minimal rent. HDC received its own nonprofit status on January 1, 1996.

Dedicated to bringing “compassionate, professional dental care in a private practice setting to HIV+ individuals who are medically indigent,” the original mission has not changed, only the words defining it. HDC was originally, and continues to be, funded with private donations and the **Ryan White CARE Act** (Enacted in 1990 by Congress and named in honor of Ryan White, an Indiana teenager who contracted HIV through a tainted hemophilia treatment in 1984, the act provided funding to improve availability of care for low-income, uninsured and under-insured people living with HIV/AIDS). The clinic has grown from one dentist, **Dr. Beth Kreider** and her dental assistant, one hygienist, **Lorna Bonnet** and the office manager, **Cathy Farnsworth**, with a total of 137 patient visits at the beginning of 1995 to 10 employees and just under 3,000 patient visits in 2008.



HDC's first office manager, Cathy Farnsworth.

And where are we today? As a specialty oral health clinic, we represent a link between dentistry and medicine. As the disease has evolved, so have we. Our goal has always been to provide comprehensive care and we have expanded that goal to integrated care. Our highly professional and well-trained staff treats each patient as a whole person and frequently interacts with

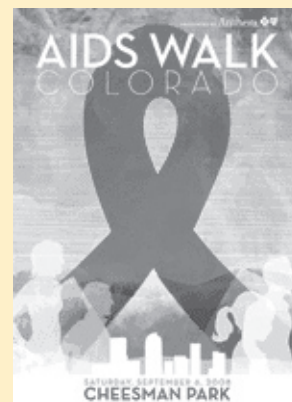
the patients' physicians in order to provide the most appropriate treatments. In 2008, we added a medical case manager to create effective outreach, intake, and patient retention systems. In 2009, we welcomed our new Executive Director, Ernie Duff (see page 3) whose goal it is to take HDC to new heights.

Howard Dental Center began as the dream of a few dentists who saw an injustice. Fifteen years later, it stands as a testament to the hard work and creativity of those who have been blessed with its association.



HDC Board member, John Serfling chats with Felicia Diamond and Margaret Sharpe at the AIDS Walk.

Save the Date



2009 AIDS Walk

Join the Howard Dental Center Team and walk or run in the 2009 Colorado AIDS Walk!

On **Saturday, August 15, 2009**, Howard Dental Center will once again be one of the recipients of the money raised at AIDS Walk Colorado.

Howard Dental Center Board Member, **John Serfling**, is leading our team. John holds the distinction of being the all-time #1 individual fundraiser for the AIDS Walk in Colorado!

Visit the website:
<http://www.aidswalkcolorado.org>

For more information
or to sign up for the team:
Mary Salsich
303.863.0772
m.salsich@
howarddental.org



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Providing comprehensive
and integrated oral health
care to adults, youth
and children living with
HIV/AIDS

2008 Bingo Ball *continued from front page*



Co-chairs Chris Walker & Cindy Nelson were dazzling.

(creating embroidered T-shirts). The live auction generated intense bidding for “not to be missed” items such as a trip to LA to see Jimmy Kimmel Live, Indy-style racing and a visit to the “Pearl of South America” – Buenos Aires.

Not only was the bidding fast and furious for the auctions, when asked to further support Howard Dental by joining the Tooth Fairies, the response was overwhelming. We have 35 new members, including seven Lifetime Members (see page 6)!

What is a successful event without outstanding sponsors? We give a hearty thanks to Anthem Blue Cross & Blue Shield, 1st Bank, KMGH 7News, Colorado Homes & Lifestyles, Metromode Magazine, Reserve List, Hamburger Mary’s, AlSCO, and Peebles Prosthetics.

As one guest enthusiastically stated, “This gets more fun every year!” Don’t miss Bingo Ball 2010. Watch for details. If you are interested in sponsorships or volunteering for the BB Committee, contact Mary Salsich at 303.863.0772 or m.salsich@howarddental.org.

