NYU College of Dentistry serves the multicultural population of New York City through community outreach initiatives integrated into the educational curriculum. Students contribute through field training, an integral part of education, which allows them to directly work with individuals, families, and real life situations. NYU College of Dentistry is committed to providing direct care and health education to the city’s residents.

Bringing Care to Where it’s Needed Most

The NYU College of Dentistry wants students to develop a strong sense of community while they are in school. That is why part of the curriculum includes initiatives to take students and faculty into low-income neighborhoods throughout New York City.

NYU College of Dentistry conducts outreach in several ways. Every dental student (380 per year), gets 8 outreach experiences in the community in their first and second year of dental school, visiting public schools and early childhood education centers, and providing screenings, exams and preventive services. This is built into the curriculum in pediatric dentistry.

All students must complete four-month-long community-based rotations, in which they spend one day a week providing direct patient care under faculty supervision in one of seven locations in four boroughs. A second type of outreach takes place in dozens of locations throughout the city and is an entirely voluntary effort shared by faculty members and students. In 2015, the number of volunteer community events reached 126.

Key Facts

- 10,000 - 12,000 individuals are treated per year on rotations in the community, which includes 4,000 - 5,000 people screened per year by voluntary outreach efforts.
- Exams and fluoride treatments for 4,000 preschool-aged children at 80 different early childhood education centers.
- Over 1,600 foster care children and adolescents examined and treated.
- Over 4,000 children a year seen by the portable dental program.
- Over 2,000 children a year seen by the Dental Van.
- Over 8,000 children a year seen at pediatric clinics.

Some places where you can find us...

Homeless Shelters

Some of our initiatives bring care to older New Yorkers in food banks, such as NY Common Pantry in East Harlem, soup kitchens and homeless centers.

Foster Care Agencies

At Forestdale Inc. in Forest Hills, Queens, NYU Dentistry provides complete comprehensive care to over 400 long-term foster children.

Another initiative provides care at Covenant House, a shelter and social services agency for homeless, abused and abandoned children.

The Graham Windham Partnership provides comprehensive care to children and adolescents in foster care, seeing over 1,600 patients since 2011.

Women’s Health Centers & Family Clinics

Such as the Center for Women with Disabilities, as well as centers for abused women. Comprehensive care to underserved patients in family clinics such as La Casa de Salud in the Bronx, Ryan-Nena Community Health Center, and Governeur Health.

As Well As...

- Libraries
- Churches and Synagogues
- Health Fairs and Senior Resource Fairs
- College and Community Health Fairs
- Community Learning Schools
- Embassies and Consulates in Nigeria, Nicaragua, Guatemala and Mexico
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**Portable School-Based Services**

The “Bringing Smiles to New York City Schools” School-Based portable dental program is part of the NYU College of Dentistry’s pediatric department. The program works to increase access to school-based comprehensive pediatric dental care services through the establishment and operation of portable dental clinics in New York City public elementary schools.

This community-based program includes on-site dental services provided in over 100 public schools, early childhood education centers, and foster care programs.

Through this wide-spread network of community-based sites, the Department has been successful in providing preventive and restorative care, and appropriate referrals for families, as well as oral health education and staff training, and other special events.

The program runs for 5 days a week, operates throughout the city, and sees over 4,000 children a year.

**Dental Van**

The NYU College of Dentistry’s “Smiling Faces, Going Places,” Mobile Dental Van has been serving the community for 16 years, visiting head start programs, elementary schools and health fairs to provide comprehensive dental care to New York City children.

The dental van treats over 2,000 children every year in all five boroughs, and providing oral health instruction, direct care such as cleanings, fluoride treatment, sealants and fillings.

**Senior Citizen Initiative Pilot Program**

The NYU College of Dentistry has begun a pilot program that will build off of the success of the pediatric mobile dental van program.

With so many low-income seniors in New York City lacking proper access to oral care services, the NYU College of Dentistry aims to fill the gap in much-needed services by using the van to visit seniors right in their own neighborhoods. Senior patients will experience the same kind of excellence from the college’s dental staff that made the van a popular program.