Dientes Community Dental Care’s mission is to create lasting oral health for the underserved children and adults of Santa Cruz County and neighboring communities.
Dear Dientes Family,

This past year has been a whirlwind of amazing milestones! You made it possible for 11,036 children, adults, and seniors—the most ever—to get the oral healthcare they needed through 37,444 visits! Thank you!

You also helped us grow capacity to see more patients in our Beach Flats Clinic and add Outreach dental care at five new schools throughout Santa Cruz County. Because of your investments, we are closer to realizing our vision of children focusing on school instead of a toothache, adults getting jobs due to a healthy smile and seniors eating nutritious foods—regardless of their circumstance.

Your support has allowed Dientes to boldly dream! We have looked for new ways to provide high quality, comprehensive dental care to more people. We realize that a happy, productive Santa Cruz County means that all people can visit the dentist. But visiting the dentist alone isn’t the only indicator of oral health—predictors like income, race, language, zip code all determine access to care. To better address these barriers, we are partnering.

Together, we are building a foundation of health.

Last fiscal year, we made great strides in a new collaboration to increase access to dental care. We are in the planning phase of our 1500 Capitola Road integrated health and affordable housing project in Live Oak. Once completed in 2020, this project will enable 7,000 more patients a year to achieve a healthier future.

We believe that everyone deserves a healthy smile. Thank you for being our partner in building a strong community where all can reach their full potential!

Thank you!

Laura Marcus,  
Chief Executive Officer

Steve Moody,  
Board President

Statement of Activities  
as of June 30, 2018 (audited)

Income: $8,447,362  Expenses: $7,572,078  Net Income: $875,284

Client Services: 94%  Administration: 4%  Fundraising: 2%

Earned Income: 88%  Grants & Contributions: 12%
OUR CARE:

- **5,925** Children Taught Oral Hygiene in Schools
- **127** Average Appointments a Day Across All Clinics
- **1,031** Homeless Patients Served
- **1,459** Emergency Visits Provided

**What people are saying**

“I was one of those kids whose parents couldn’t afford dental care.”  
- Brian, Donor

“It really is a blessing to have access to Dientes.”  
- Amber, Patient

“I recognize my good fortune of having dental insurance plus savings to pay the majority of what insurance doesn’t cover.”  
- Bob, Donor

OUR FAMILY:

**Donor Highlight:**

**Building a Healthier Community with Joe Collins and Crew**

Joe Collins and his team manage rental real estate throughout the county, and every few months they donate profits to chosen organizations through the Community Foundation of Santa Cruz County (CFSCC). Joe first donated to Dientes in 2013 because of the good things he had heard from friends who were Dientes patients and from the advisors at CFSCC. He and his team are proud of the quality housing they provide, and of their ability to give back to our community.

Recalling back to his first Dientes tour, Joe said, “What really impressed me was the clinic. It didn’t look like a health facility for low-income people—it’s a quality place. The dignity is there. No one should be treated as inferior just because they are low-income.”

Joe said their vision for supporting organizations like Dientes is building a healthier community, adding, “I wish that we lived in a society where we didn’t have to give to charity—I wish that we didn’t need a Dientes because everyone had access to quality healthcare. But because we are not there as a society, we must be charitable in our community.”

Joe Collins and his crew are excited to support Dientes!

Photo Credit: Jeremy Lezin for CFSCC
Volunteers:
We are grateful for the work that our volunteers have given to help us provide dental services for the people in our community who need it most. Thank you!

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Dental Volunteers:
Monterey Bay Dental Hygienists’ Association

Sutter and Kaiser Help Expand the Beach Flats Clinic!

Thanks to support from Sutter Health and Kaiser Permanente, we have expanded access to care by opening our Beach Flats Clinic 4-days a week! This growth will serve nearly 1,000 patients a year like Dennis, who is now on a path to achieve his dreams.

Dientes first met Dennis at Project Homeless Connect, a 1-day resource event for individuals experiencing homelessness in our community where we were providing emergency treatment and referrals. Dennis had not been to a dentist since 1990. In need of a lot of care, he was referred to our then part-time Beach Flats Clinic.

For Dennis, the unaffordability of dental care had more than just an impact on his oral health. He explained, “My confidence was affected the most. I kept getting turned down for jobs. In the interviews, I really felt like my smile was stopping me from moving forward.”

Reflecting back, Dennis describes how dental care transformed him and built his confidence, “My life is so different now, one year later. I found a full-time job and I know that I can now achieve the things I’ve been dreaming of,” Dennis said with a smile, adding, “I knew I had to keep moving forward. With Dientes, I can.”

We are so grateful for Sutter and Kaiser’s help in building a healthy, productive community!