



# Volunteer dental programs

## Quarterly impact report

1 July 2024 to 30 September 2024



## Chairman's Introduction



The first quarter of each financial year is generally not the one generating the largest amount of impact. However, this past quarter has been by far the most productive first quarter, in the history of the Foundation, in terms of the dollar value of impact delivered by our generous volunteers. \$384K! What a great start to the year!

Our volunteers and partners in NSW and WA have once again contributed the most to this impact total. I have always been most impressed by the generosity and productivity of our WA volunteers but this last quarter, our Tasmanian volunteers have been performing as well as the WA dentists if we consider how many dentists are registered in each State. So well done Tassy.

Of course there are many contributors to these impact results. Our State Co-ordinators are involved in virtually every patient that our volunteers see so their commitment must be recognised too. We cannot employ our staff without the generous support of all our financial sponsors and donors. We try to recognise all of these in these Quarterly Impact Reports but there are some who choose to remain anonymous and others who donate through their ADA branch membership subscription payment processes. The Foundation has not been advised of the names of those Branch member donors, so I regret I cannot make personal my thanks to them. Their support is every bit as welcome as those we can recognise.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Rick Olive AM RFD

Chairman,  
ADA Dental Health Foundation

16 October 2024

## Creating impact with the ADA Dental Health Foundation

Our mission is to address the inequality between those Australians who can access the dental care they need, and those who can't.

Our vision is an Australia where no disadvantaged member of our community falls through the cracks and needlessly suffers from a lack of access to dignified professional oral health care.

Through the work that we do, we deliver better access to quality oral health care for all Australians regardless of their geographical or social situation.

From men and women who have overcome addiction, who are enduring long-term economic hardship or suffering from mental and physical health challenges; to those establishing their independence after domestic violence has stolen their freedom, and the homeless whose needless dental suffering compounds their more basic struggles, we are there to provide life changing oral health treatment wherever we can help.

Through our Dental Rescue Days®, Adopt a Patient and Rebuilding Smiles® programs, our national team connects eligible individuals with general dental and specialist oral health volunteers who provide their time, expertise and practice facilities at no cost to patients.

We also fund programs that facilitate better long-term oral health outcomes through our Healthier Smiles Community Service Grants and Oral Health Education Projects and reduce the inequality of access to education through our Indigenous Study Grants.

To date, we've created change for thousands of community members by enabling the pro bono delivery of more than **\$8,000,000** of professional oral health services.

We would like to thank all of our volunteer dental practices who make our programs possible as well as those companies who generously offer their financial support to our programs.

## Volunteer Program Outcomes

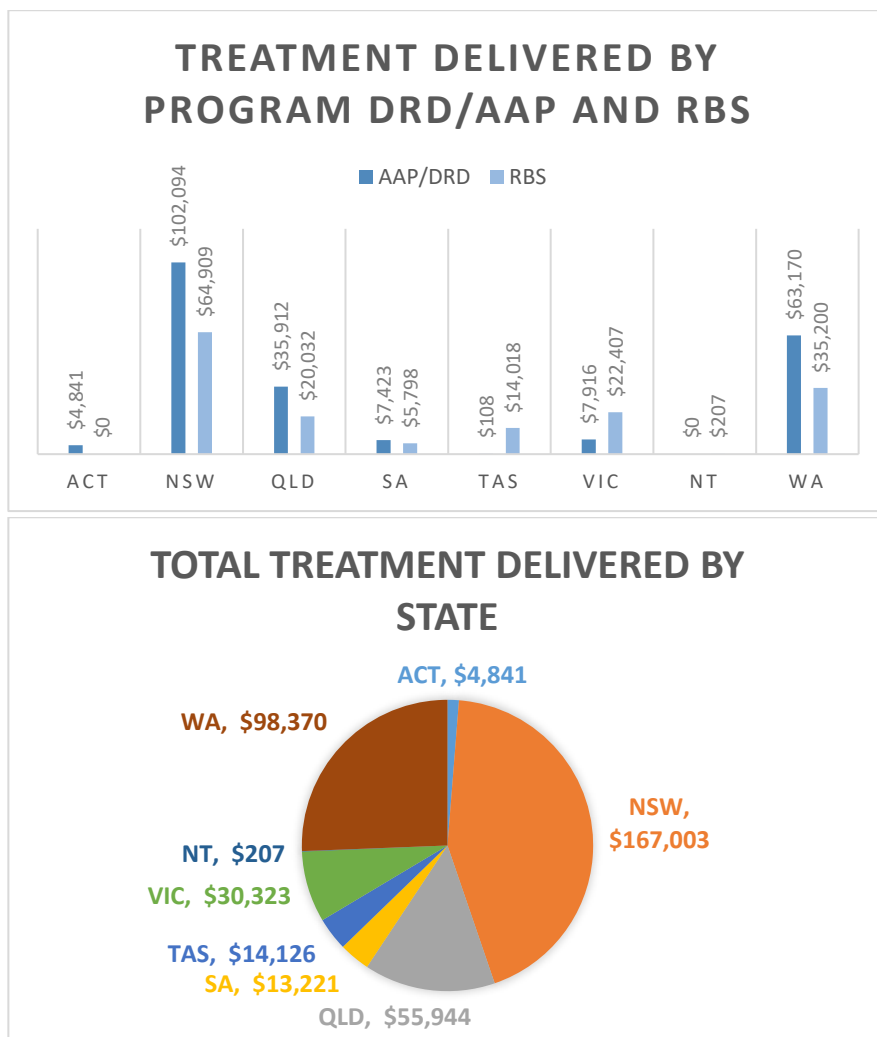
In this first quarter of financial year 2025 (Jul-Sep), the Foundation coordinated **11 Dental Rescue Days®** around Australia, providing **139** appointments to disadvantaged patients. The Dental Rescue Day® program coordinates access to local private practices and clinics for eligible patients, whereby a group of patients will receive a comprehensive general oral check-up in a single day as well as treatment for acute concerns.

**341** appointments were attended by patients under the **Adopt a Patient** program. Under this program, an individual patient attends a local private practice or clinic to receive dental treatment and will usually require several appointments to address their often more complex oral health issues. Currently there are **63** patients being treated under the AAP program in practices throughout Australia.

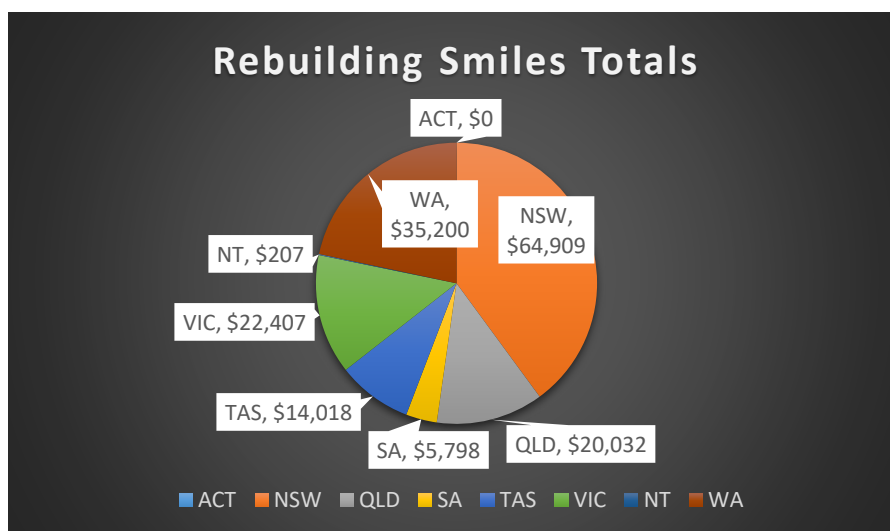
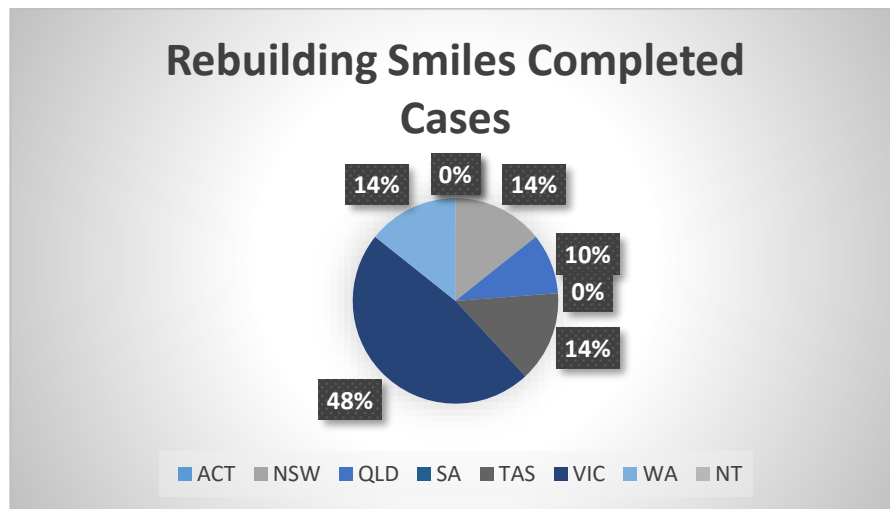
The **Rebuilding Smiles®** program focuses on providing assistance to individuals and families who have experienced family and domestic violence. During this quarter, **22** cases were completed with **80** patients currently connected to a practice or receiving treatment.

Across all three volunteer programs, pro bono treatment of **\$384,035** has been delivered by our volunteer general practitioners and specialists during the quarter.

## Treatment Delivered



## Rebuilding Smiles completed cases

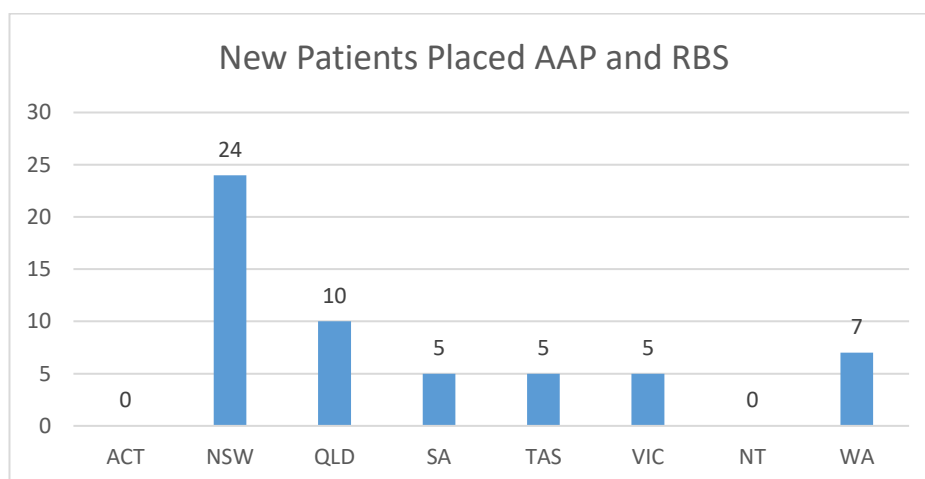
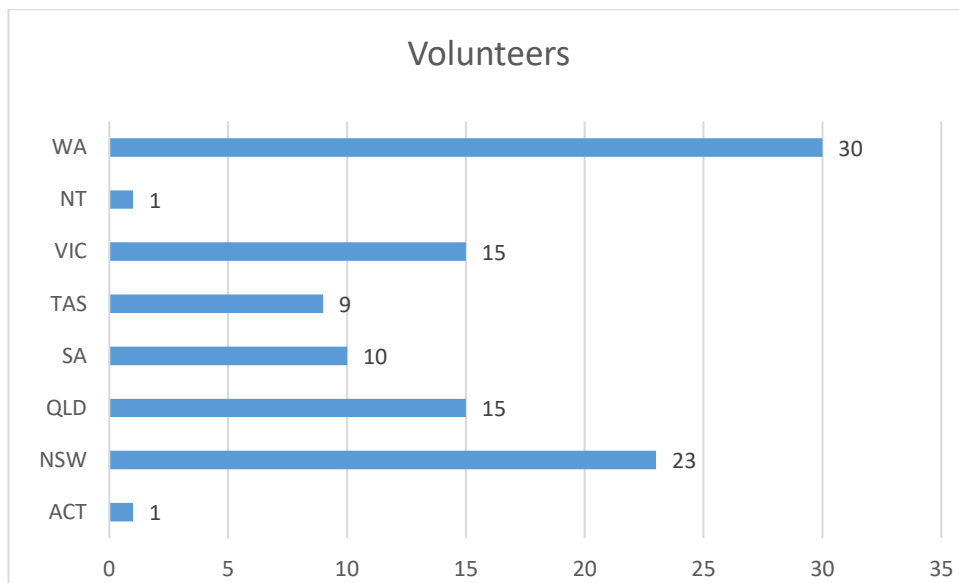


## Volunteers

During the quarter, **104 general dentists, prosthetists and specialists** around Australia provided pro bono services to patients. Additionally, many of their staff were involved with coordinating appointments, assisting in surgery and providing oral hygiene and education to patients.

Our Volunteer lists are steadily growing and we have renewed interest and engagement in assisting our programs from those who continue to support our programs. If you know of a colleague who might like to assist us please spread the word about the great value that volunteering can offer.

Our Coordinators continually strive to offer their utmost support to the clients referred to our waiting lists and to the dental practitioners who participate and volunteer in our programs.



## Quarterly Snapshot

Patients treated:	521
Appointments (all programs):	618
Rebuilding Smiles Cases Completed:	21
Volunteers:	104
Total treatment provided:	\$384,035
Charities assisted:	100



## Quarterly Spotlight



**Pictured-** Dr Jane Boroky, St Peters Dental Clinic, Kaurua Country-SA

I have always had an urge to help people, which, I am sure, is actually shared by many dentists.

Over the years I have volunteered with Girl Guides and Scouts, with different clubs and groups including a current University outdoor club, done some teaching in Dentistry including post grad training, worked in underdeveloped countries, and in rural areas.

I have gained experience in managing anxiety and those 'quirky' patients, developed skills in special needs dentistry, and empathy with those doing it tough.

Now I am in the comfortable position of owning my own clinic and have the opportunity to give back to some of those patients who fall through the cracks for social, financial or medical reasons.

My practice has been involved with ADA DHF for many years. We previously ran Dental Rescue Days, where we opened specifically on a Saturday morning to see patients allocated by the Foundation, and we also take part in the 'Adopt a Patient'

program. This seems to work better for us currently, as there is no call for staff to come in on a separate day or give their time pro bono. Some staff have been highly engaged in the past, others not so much. Now the allocated patient is just slotted into our normal booking system.

The process is easy, the administrative requirements are not onerous, and I would encourage all dentists who are in a position to do so, to give a little back to the profession and to society. You can see the impact on every single patient who comes through the program."



**Pictured-** Dr Jane Boroky, Ricky (Dental Assistant) & Somaya (Dental Assistant/Receptionist), St Peters Dental Clinic, Kaurua Country-SA

**"Volunteering is in my blood! I've always had the urge to help people, which, I am sure, is shared by many dentists"**

**Would you like to Volunteer?** We are sure that many dentists are providing care above and beyond to assist those in need. If you share the desire to contribute further, we encourage you to register as a volunteer on the ADA Dental Health Foundation website found [here](#).

## Other News

### First Nations Study Grants

Two applicants have been selected as recipients of this year's grant. The ADA DHF has awarded each recipient \$5000 to assist with things such as dental equipment and textbooks and to financially support students while they are on placements or living away from home.



**Ashley Bainbridge**  
Bachelor of Oral Health  
Central Queensland University



**Naomi Stacey**  
Bachelor of Oral Health  
Central Queensland University

Keep an eye on our [website](#) for next year's grant dates.

### Healthier Smiles Grants

The ADA DHF and Mars Wrigley Foundation's Healthier Smiles Community Service Grants program is a well-established initiative supporting dentists and dental students from across Australia who seek to improve oral health outcomes by providing screening, treatment, and education to those most in need. Ten grants have just been awarded across Australia. Grantees will be announced very soon on our socials and [website](#) and will be featured in the December issue of the ADA Bulletin.

### We would like to extend our thanks

**I would like to acknowledge and thank the following clinics for their continued support and offer of their facilities without which we would struggle to treat so many patients.**

- ❖ **St Pats Oral Health Clinic WA**
- ❖ **OHCWA/UWA Dental School Clinic WA**
- ❖ **Filling the Gap Clinic ADANSW**
- ❖ **Common Ground SA**



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