The smiles on the faces of the children who were here for Give Kids A Smile! said it all: They were having fun. It is so important that a child’s first experience with a dentist is a pleasant one, and everyone who was involved with the event made that happen. My sincere thanks to all who had a hand in making this annual event a huge success. I also want to thank our many alumni who opened their offices for all, or part, of the day to participate in the event. One of the most important things we do as dentists is help kids form good oral health habits.

Laughter and smiles abounded on February 1, when some 350 children came to the Newark campus for the 11th annual Give Kids A Smile! event. The national program provides free oral health education, screenings and, in some cases, treatment for children ages 12 and under who do not have regular access to dental care. It is held in partnership with the American Dental Association and the New Jersey Dental Association, and was funded by a grant from the PNC Foundation.

Because many of the kids were seeing a dentist for the first time, organizers made sure the experience was a pleasant one. On the Newark campus a magician put on an interactive show, and dental students fashioned animals out of balloons, painted the kids’ faces, and played carnival-style games with them. “We don’t want these children to be afraid of going to the dentist in the future; we want them to remember this day as an enjoyable one,” explains Debra Goldsmith, RDH, MS, associate professor, and director of the Newark event. “We hope after today they establish good oral health and hygiene habits, and we want them to know they have a dental home here at NJDS.”

A total of 34 kids were seen at NJDS’s three extramural sites, and 30 were seen in Scotch Plains, bringing the number to more than 400. NJDS alumni across the state opened their offices to underprivileged kids, and more than 150 UMDNJ faculty, staff and students volunteered at the event.

Above and left: Going to the dentist can be fun, especially if it’s national Give Kids A Smile! day. Pictured are kids from Newark, who couldn’t help but smile during the event. About 400 children were seen at NJDS sites throughout the state.
A Congressional Visitor Comes to NJDS

Donald M. Payne, Jr., who represents New Jersey's 10th District, paid a visit to New Jersey Dental School on February 19. A long-time advocate for New Jersey's working families, he chose to come to NJDS because it is the state's only dental school and the largest provider of oral care to underserved populations. Along with a stop in the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Department, where he tried his hand at stitching, the tour included the Department of Pediatric Dentistry and the Special Care Treatment Center.

A Newark native, Congressman Payne was elected to Congress in November 2012 after the death of his father Donald Payne. Before going to Washington he served as Newark Municipal Council president and was director of student transportation for the Essex County Educational Services Commission. His current agenda includes creating jobs, increasing health and economic security and investing in education. As a member of the Congressional Black Caucus, he is also working to reduce health care disparities among minorities.

Getting to the Heart of the Matter

NJDS faculty and staff donned red on February 1, in support of National Wear Red Day.

It’s estimated that cardiovascular disease affects more than 23 million women every year, yet only one in five knows the symptoms and risks unique to females. By wearing red women signify they will take charge of their own health and help fight the disease.

The NJDS ladies in red are: (bottom, center) Onyx Zeda. (first row, l–r) Christine Melendez, Rosa Chaviano-Moran, DMD, and Evelyn Kerstig; Second row: Jasmine Brookins, Keisha Nettles, Brenda Brower and Andrea West; Top row: LaToia Taylor, Kathy Ryan, Robin Wright, Debra Bereski, and Pat Wagner.

Calendar of Events

**Accreditation Reception**

Thursday, February 28
4:45 pm
Delta Dental Educational Conference Center Multipurpose Room

Light refreshments will be served

**Lunchtime Concert**

Monday, March 18
Noon-1pm
NJMS Gallene Alumni Lounge

Drs. Alice and Amiram Sheffet will play
Dohnanyi and Dvorak Piano Quintets
Minority Students Receive Scholarships

Two second-year students each received a prestigious scholarship from the American Dental Association Foundation. Yanelis Perez received the Pre-doctoral Student Scholarship, and Dania Santana was awarded the Underrepresented Minority Pre-doctoral Student Scholarship. The awards are highly coveted, with only 25 recipients in each category from across the country.

Both Ms. Perez and Ms. Santana are Cuban-born, live in Miami, FL, and graduated from Florida International University.

Publications

Book Chapters
Shahid Aziz, DMD, MD, associate professor, and Vincent Ziccardi, DMD, MD, professor and chair, both Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery.

Pamela Alberto, DMD, clinical associate professor, Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

Journal Articles
Louis DiPede, DMD, interim chair; Robert Flinton, DDS, professor; and T.K. Vaidyanthan, PhD, all Restorative Dentistry.

Grants

Scott Kachlany, PhD, received a $100,000 grant from the Foundation Venture Capital Group to study the efficacy of Leukothera in the treatment of veterinary white blood cell diseases.

Steven Toth, DMD, instructor, Community Health, and Jill York, DDS, assistant dean of Extramural Clinics, received a $50,000 grant from the State of New Jersey, Department of Health, Division of HIV, STD, and TB Services, for care and treatment of patients.
Presentations

David Krol, MD, adjunct, Pediatric Dentistry, presented “Especially the Mouth Part” during Pediatric Grand Rounds at Stony Brook Medical, Stony Brook, NY. Dr. Krol also began serving as a co-editor of the *Journal of the California Dental Association* in January for the theme issue “Medical/Dental Collaboration and Integration.”

Saul Weiner, DDS, professor, Restorative Dentistry, presented “Complications in Implant Treatment” at the 5th Implant Dentistry Consensus, held at the Sharjah University College of Dentistry in the United Arab Emirates in December.

In Memoriam

Howard H. Pomeranz, DDS, clinical professor, Department of Endodontics, passed away on January 27, 2013, at the age of 77.

A graduate of Columbia High School in Maplewood, NJ, Hamilton College and the University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine, he was a member of the Matthew H. Cryer Society, the highest academic honor awarded at Penn Dental Medicine. He also received the Mosby Book award for academic scholarship there.

Dr. Pomeranz served in the U.S. Army from 1957 to 1958 and in the Army Reserve for six years. He came to NJDS in 1969 and remained until his death. During his tenure he served as director of postgraduate endodontics from 2001 to 2003. He was also a clinical professor and co-director of postgraduate endodontics at Columbia University from 1995 to 1998. He was the author of many journal articles and lectured around the world. In 1976 he became a Diplomate of the American Board of Endodontics.

In addition to teaching, Dr. Pomeranz was in private practice from 1963 to 1994, primarily in Millburn, N.J., with Gerald Fishelberg, DDS, a clinical professor in Endodontics at New Jersey Dental School.

An ardent New York Giants fan, Dr. Pomeranz was born in Newark, grew up in Maplewood and lived in East Orange for nearly 50 years. He is survived by two sisters, Avis Kniffin, of Princeton Junction, and Ellen Sax, of Brookline, MA, and their husbands. He also leaves two nieces, Abigail Kniffin, of New York City; and Jennifer Jones and her husband, of North Brunswick, N.J. Other survivors are a grandniece and a grandnephew.

Expressions of sympathy in memory of Dr. Pomeranz may be directed to the Foundation for Healthcare Advancement, Howard Pomeranz Memorial Scholarship, 120 Albany St., Tower II, Suite 850, New Brunswick, N.J. 08901, Attn: Jenny Kershner. Ms. Kershner may also be reached at jkershner@njhf.org, or 973-679-4693.