

Prepared by the Center for Social Research at North Dakota State University



CENTER FOR SOCIAL RESEARCH

Mission of Mercy events are made possible through the North Dakota Dental Association (NDDA), the North Dakota Dental Foundation (NDDF), many generous donors, and hundreds of volunteers. The goal of each community event is to provide treatment for patients experiencing barriers to oral health care.

The NDDA and NDDF sponsored a Mission of Mercy event on October 1-2, 2021, at the Bismarck Event Center in Bismarck, North Dakota. At the event, patients were given a survey to complete, asking for their responses to questions about their oral health care. The following tables reflect the results of the October 2021 survey.

Table 1. Total Patients Who Received Dental Treatment, Mission of Mercy Participant Survey, 2021		
Total Patients Who Received Treatment 670		
Number Completing Questionnaire 452		

Table 2. How Patient Heard of Event, Mission of Mercy Participant Survey, 2021 (multiple responses allowed)			
Number Percentage (%)			
Friends and Family	213	51.57	
Social Media	140	33.90	
TV/Radio	59	14.29	
Social Agency/Church	23	5.57	
Newspaper	23	5.57	
Other	23	5.57	
Flyer/Poster	17	4.12	

Table 3. Respondent Indicated Having Dental Pain, Mission of Mercy Participa	ant
Survey, 2021	

	Number	Percentage (%)
Responded Yes	178	44.61
Duration of dental pain:		
1 week or less	17	10.00
2 weeks to 1 month	42	24.71
2 to 3 months	15	8.82
4 months or longer	56	32.94
Occasionally	40	23.53
Grand Total	n=170	100

Table 4. Respondent Visited Emergency Room for Dental Pain, Mission of Mercy Participant Survey, 2021

	Number	Percentage (%)
No	301	78.80
Yes	81	21.20
Grand Total	n=382	100

Table 5. Third Party Dental Coverage, Mission of Mercy Participant Survey, 2021 (multiple responses allowed)

	Number	Percentage (%)
None	272	69.74
Insurance through my job or spouse	52	13.33
A plan I purchase on my own	12	3.08
Government assisted (i.e. Medicare, Title 19)	45	11.54
Other	24	6.15

Table 6. Whether Respondent Has a Dental Home for Follow-up Care, Mission of Mercy Participant Survey, 2021

	Number	Percentage (%)
No	252	69.04
Yes	113	30.96
Grand Total	n=365	100

Table 7. Place for Follow-up Dental Care, Mission of Mercy Participant Survey, 2021		
	Number	Percentage (%)
Bridging the Dental Gap	19	20.88
Prairie Rose Family Dentist	14	15.38
Aspen Dental	9	9.89
A Lifetime of Smiles	4	4.40
Indian Health Service	4	4.40
Downtown Dental	3	3.30
Joy Dental Design	3	3.30
Miller Dental	3	3.30
Polished Dental	3	3.30
Smile Missouri River Dental	3	3.30
Sunshine Family Dentistry	3	3.30
Bright Dental Studio	2	2.20
Carrington Dental care	2	2.20
Family Health Care	2	2.20
Aberdeen Dental	1	1.10
All Smiles Dental	1	1.10
Astetic Dental Center	1	1.10
Bismarck Advance Dental and Implants	1	1.10
Bismarck Family Dental	1	1.10
Brend Dental	1	1.10
Clinic for Oral Health	1	1.10
Deeter Dental	1	1.10
Den tonics Private	1	1.10
Dr. Arthur Frank	1	1.10
Goebel Pediatric Dentistry	1	1.10
Jason Dahl Family Dental	1	1.10
Lake Superior Community Health (MN)	1	1.10
Northland Dental	1	1.10
Park River Dental	1	1.10
Pheasant Run Dental	1	1.10
Selle Family Dental	1	1.10
Grand Total	n= 91	100

Table 8. Length of Time since Last Dental Visit, Mission of Mercy Participant Survey, 2021		
	Number	Percentage (%)
Never	1	0.32
Less than 1 year (<12 months)	103	32.91
1 to 2 years (12 to 35 months)	102	32.59
3 to 4 years (36 to 59 months)	46	14.70
5 to 9 years (60 to 119 months)	28	8.95
10 years or longer (120 months or more)	33	10.54
Grand Total	n=313	100

Table 9. Length of Time since Last Time Teeth Cleaned, Mission of Mercy Participant Survey, 2021		
	Number	Percentage (%)
Never	6	2.34
Less than 1 year		
(<12 months)	53	20.70
1 to 2 years		
(12 to 35 months)	85	33.20
3 to 4 years		
(36 to 59 months)	44	17.19
5 to 9 years		
(60 to 119 months)	38	14.84
10 years or longer		
(120 months or more)	30	11.72
Grand Total	n=256	100

Table 10. Reason for Not Getting Dental Care, Mission of Mercy Participant Survey, 2021 (multiple responses allowed)		
	Number	Percentage (%)
No dentist was available where I live	12	3.05
Dentist offered appointment but I could not make it	19	4.82
No insurance and I didn't think I could afford it	292	74.11
Did not think I needed to go	17	4.31
Didn't know who to call	10	2.54
Cannot find a dentist to take my insurance	24	6.09
Cannot find a dentist who will take a payment plan	69	17.51
Do not like receiving dental care/afraid of dentist	41	10.41
Other	59	14.97

Table 11. Travel Time to Mission of Mercy Clinic, Mission of Mercy Participant Survey, 2021		
	Number	Percentage (%)
10 minutes or less	185	44.26
11 to 30 minutes	144	34.45
31 minutes to 1 hour (31 to 60 minutes)	23	5.50
2 hours (61 to 120 minutes)	34	8.13
3 to 4 hours (121 to 240 minutes)	26	6.22
More than 4 hours (241 minutes or more)	6	1.44
Grand total	n=418	100

Table 12. Number of Participants, by County of Residence, Mission of Mercy Participant Survey, 2021		
County	Number	Percentage (%)
Barnes	3	0.72
Bottineau	1	0.24
Burke	1	0.24
Burleigh	237	56.70
Cass	8	1.91
Dickey	2	0.48
Eddy	1	0.24
Emmons	2	0.48
Foster	2	0.48
Grand Forks	2	0.48
Kidder	1	0.24
Logan	1	0.24
McHenry	2	0.48
McKenzie	1	0.24
McLean	10	2.39
Mercer	2	0.48
Morton	102	24.40
Oliver	1	0.24
Richland	1	0.24
Sioux	3	0.72
Stark	9	2.15
Stutsman	8	1.91
Walsh	1	0.24
Ward	7	1.67
Wells	3	0.72
Williams	4	0.96
Out of state (MN, SD, MT)	3	0.72
Grand Total	n=418	100