

City of Lawrence  
Outside Agency  
Bi-annual Report  
2016

Reports on activity should be submitted electronically to Danielle Buschkoetter, at [dbuschkoetter@lawrenceks.org](mailto:dbuschkoetter@lawrenceks.org). Reports on activities from January 2016 to June 2016 are due on July 15<sup>th</sup> 2016. Cumulative reports on activities from January 2016 through December 2016 are due on February 15<sup>th</sup> 2017.

**Agency Name:**

**Reporting Period (please check one):**

☐ January - June  
(deadline July 15)

☒ January – December  
(deadline February 15)

1. Give a brief narrative of the activities that were funded with City funds over the reporting period checked above.

Charitable dental care was provided to low income, uninsured residents of Douglas County. 1,081 individuals were seen at DCDC for services between January 1 – December 31, 2015 who are uninsured and who have incomes that fall below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level. These patients pay discounted fees on a sliding scale (if they are able) that do not cover the cost of the care provided. Many of them are in crisis and cannot pay fees at all. The full value of the charitable dental care that DCDC gave away in 2016 was \$420,065. This was all uncompensated care. City, County and United Way funds are used to assist with delivery of charitable care.

2. Provide specific detail (and supportive documents, if needed) to demonstrate progress made toward your goals/objectives.

We have made it a goal that 60% of our patients seen in the clinic for dental exams will complete their dental treatment within 6 months. Currently, only 40% of our patients are completing their treatment plans within 6 months. We believe the primary reason that more patients aren't completing their treatment plans is due to cost; but appointment availability is also likely a factor. Our current wait time for non-urgent appointments is 5-6 weeks. We do have higher compliance of completion of treatment plans with children who have Kancare (71%) because these services are covered and the family incurs no out of pocket expense. But uninsured individuals often cannot find the resources to pay for all of their treatment and therefore may only take care of the issue which is causing dental pain and wait until the next emergency to do anything more. Our second goal was to increase the number of dental sealants and fluoride varnishes placed on school aged children by 10% over 2014. Dental Sealants and Fluoride Varnish are a simple, effective form of prevention for dental caries (cavities). The total number of dental sealants placed in 2014 was 6,607. In 2016, we placed 8,235 dental sealants. This is 25% increase over 2014. In 2014 we placed 3,838 fluoride varnish applications and in 2016 we placed 4031 fluoride varnish applications, a 5.5% increase over 2014. Our last goal was to increase the total number of preventive dental appointments by 10% over 2013. As an organization, focusing on prevention is something we make a priority. In 2013, we had a total of 4,003 preventive appointments. In 2016 we had 4,683 preventive appointments. This is a 17% increase over 2013.

3. How have you impacted the citizens of Lawrence?

The Douglas County Dental Clinic is one of only two General Dentistry offices in the community providing services to patients with Kansas Medicaid. If the clinic did not exist, there would be serious barriers to accessing dental care for children. 61% of our patients in 2016 had Kansas Medicaid.

These individuals would have a very difficult time accessing care and would likely be forced to drive to Kansas City or Topeka to find care. There are no private practice dental offices in the community who offer reduced fee dental care to uninsured residents. The Douglas County Dental Clinic provides access to care to the uninsured and handles dental emergencies regardless of the patient's ability to pay. The number of individuals presenting in the Emergency Department for dental related issues would be much greater if the dental clinic were not here. Our clinic has provided access to affordable dental care to thousands of adults and children who call our community their home.

4. What barriers, if any, have you encountered?

The need for dental care for low-income, uninsured residents far exceeds our capacity and available resources to deliver charitable care. Even our reduced fees often prevent people from accessing care.

5. Review the line-item budget you provided in your application. How much of your allocation has been spent?

We have received and spent \$15,000 of our \$15,000 allocation for FY2016. The entire amount was used to provide charitable dental care to uninsured residents of Douglas County.