



# Creating Change Together

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Delta Dental of Iowa is committed to improving lives by supporting the health and well-being of the people we serve, and that commitment extends far beyond the insurance benefits we provide.

For 55 years, we've been deeply involved in Iowa communities, both through the Delta Dental of Iowa Foundation and our company giving. This report is filled with examples of how we contribute to help make our state a healthier place.

We invite you to learn more about the impact Delta Dental is having on health and wellness in Iowa. Whether you're a member, provider, business partner or team member, you make a difference — because it takes all of us working together to create meaningful change.

All the best,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "April Schmalz". The signature is fluid and cursive.

April Schmalz  
President & CEO  
Delta Dental of Iowa

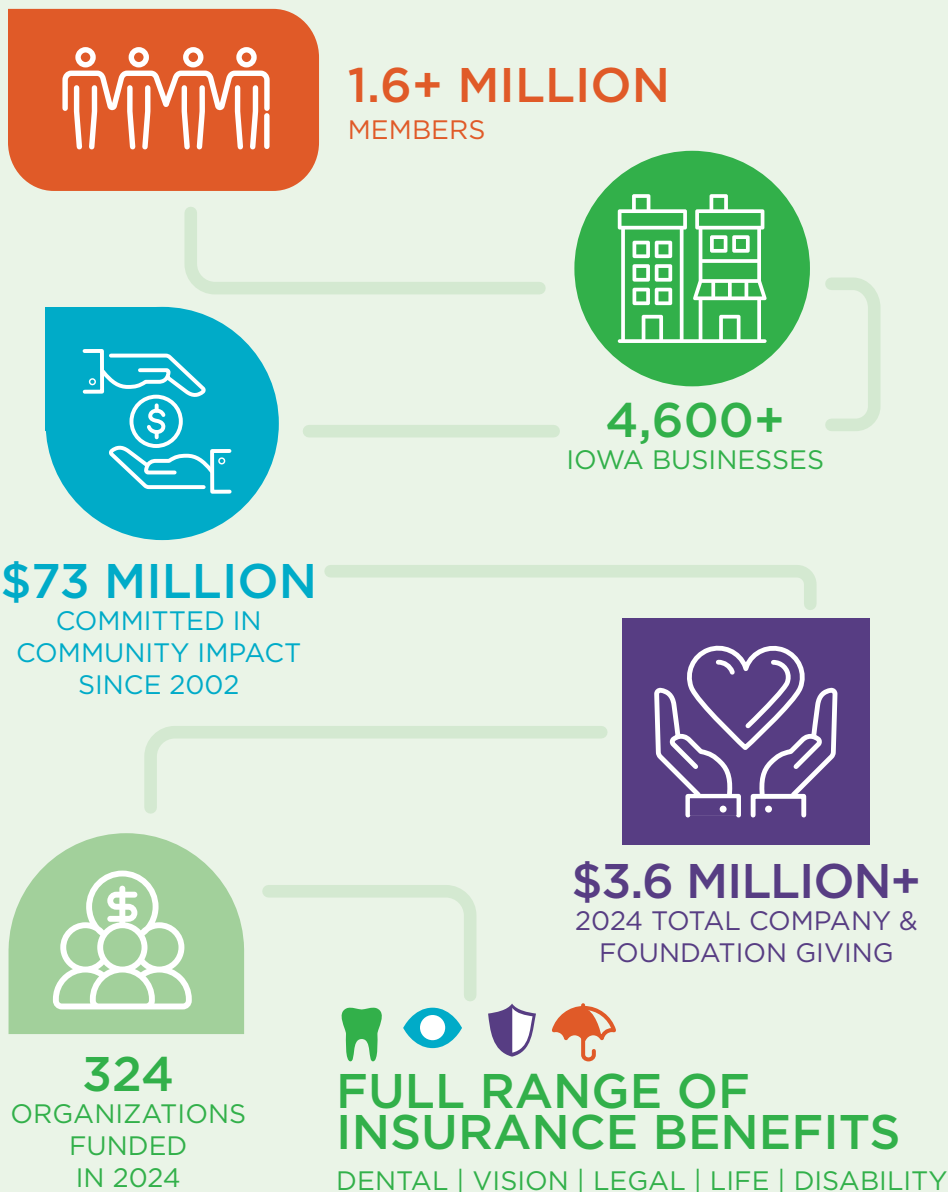
# Delta Dental of Iowa

Delta Dental of Iowa is a different kind of health and wellness company. As a not-for-profit organization, we put people first. That includes providing benefits for employers, individuals and government programs, as well as dedicating resources and funds to improve overall health and smiles in Iowa communities.

## MISSION

We are dedicated to improving the health and smiles of the people we serve.

### DELTA DENTAL BY THE NUMBERS



### VALUES



IMPROVE LIVES



ONE TEAM



EMBRACE  
CHANGE



EXCEPTIONAL  
QUALITY SERVICE



LEADERSHIP  
AT ALL LEVELS



BRING SMILES

# Delta Dental of Iowa Foundation

In 2024, the Delta Dental of Iowa Foundation committed more than **\$2.6 million in grants** across Iowa to strengthen and transform the health and smiles of all Iowans. The Foundation pursues our mission through investments in oral health, oral and overall health integration, and overall health, all through an equity lens.

## MISSION

Strengthen and transform the health and smiles of all Iowans.

## VALUES



### ALL IOWANS

All Iowans deserve to be healthy. We address barriers within health care systems and strive for statewide reach through an equity lens.



### PARTNERSHIPS

We recognize that our grantees' and partners' success IS our success, and we are committed to engaging with partners in a spirit of transparency and goodwill.



### SYSTEMS CHANGE

We focus on strengthening and transforming systems. We pursue our mission to shift conditions to improve health.



### LEADERSHIP

We are a leader in the sector. We aim to be a catalyst for change, a builder and an innovator. We actively engage partners in the philanthropic, public and private sectors to advance our mission.

## EQUITY LENS



### Oral Health

Activities that promote healthy smiles for all Iowans



### Oral Health & Overall Health Integration

Activities that strengthen connections between dental, physical and emotional health



### Overall Health

Wellness, vision and related activities that enable Iowans to live healthy and active lives

# Expanding access

## System and Capacity Building Grants

To further the mission of our partners, the Foundation approved grants to support system and capacity building to impact the oral and overall health of underserved populations.

Nearly **\$1.3 million** was committed to the following projects in 2024:



Iowa Dental Advocacy for Professional and Personal Thriving (IADAPT)



I-Smile Silver

**Community Health Center of Fort Dodge:** \$350,000 to support the addition of a new Mobile Dental Clinic

**Eastern Iowa Health Center:** \$247,013 to support Tele-Optometry virtual eye appointments and exams, and \$25,000 for scanners for crown and denture fabrication

**Grinnell Regional Medical Center:** \$30,000 mental health access expansion

**Iowa Dental Foundation:** \$150,000 to support Iowa Dental Advocacy for Professional and Personal Thriving (IADAPT), a mental health pilot program for Iowa dentists

**Iowa Department of Health and Human Services:** \$200,000 for I-Smile @School and \$212,988 for I-Smile Silver Pilot Project

**NewBo City Market:** \$75,000 to support Mental Health Equity Incubation Program



NewBo City Market, Cedar Rapids



# Delivering education & advocacy

## Community of Health Grants

In 2024, the Foundation invested **more than \$710,000** in Community of Health grants to 27 organizations seeking to address oral and overall health disparities among individuals who are disproportionately impacted in our state. Some of these projects include a focus on:

### ORAL HEALTH

- ✓ Dental workforce recruitment and retention
- ✓ Youth oral healthcare career development exploration
- ✓ Oral health in pregnancy and prenatal research
- ✓ Oral healthcare coordination and education for refugees and immigrants
- ✓ Integrated oral healthcare and mobile dental clinic coalition planning
- ✓ Veterans' oral health research

### OVERALL HEALTH

- ✓ Community-led health initiatives to increase access to overall public health education, resources, services and care coordination for marginalized populations
- ✓ Mental health projects to expand awareness and access to training, education, resources and services for youth, domestic violence survivors, after-school providers, rural lowans, refugees and immigrants
- ✓ Projects to support advancement of culturally competent care through LGBTQ healthcare inclusivity training and training/certification of Black and multicultural community health workers



Dental/Medical Career Pathways for Immigrant and Refugee Students, Oral Health Programs, Cedar Rapids



Refugee & Immigrant Voices in Action (RIVA), providing health screenings and education (project is a collaboration with RIVA, Knock and Drop Iowa, and MyHealthIowa-MiSaludIowa)

# Partnering for health

## 2024 Core Partnership Grants

Core Partnership grants support ongoing, operational or educational efforts and activities of organizations whose programs are in alignment with advancing the mission of the Foundation in strengthening the oral, vision and overall health of Iowans. These grants are proactive and by invitation.



Iowa KidSight, Iowa City

### Oral Health Core Partnership Grants:

\$92,299 investments in six organizations focused on continuing education opportunities for the oral health profession and statewide oral health coalition support

### Overall Health Core Partnership Grants:

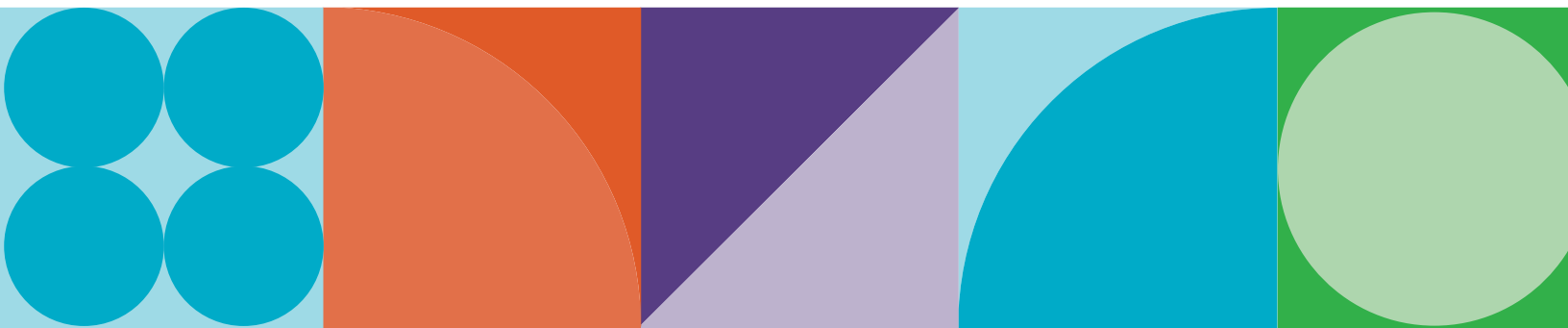
Investments totaling \$137,165 in six organizations focused on vision health, statewide coalition efforts focused on mitigating Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), and a statewide campaign to reduce stigma around mental health



Rethink Your Drink, Storm Lake

## RETHINK YOUR DRINK

To advance oral and overall health, the Foundation invested nearly \$300,000 in Iowa schools and communities to support the Rethink Your Drink program in 2024 by providing water bottle filling stations to eight schools and three libraries. In addition, 23 communities received an outdoor water station installed along trails, public parks and other public community spaces.



# Supporting healthy activities

## Community Impact Contributions

Delta Dental proudly supports projects through direct investments and charitable giving to increase healthy activities, support healthy communities, and improve the social and emotional well-being of Iowans. In 2024, Delta Dental contributed **\$954,688** to direct investments and charitable giving.



Healthiest State Walk



Give Back with Anawim Housing



Athene Bridge, West Des Moines



Youth & Shelter Services, Cambridge



Iowa Mission of Mercy, Sioux City



Urbandale Uplift



**TOOTHBRUSH DONATIONS** In 2024, Delta Dental of Iowa and its Foundation donated **more than 395,000** toothbrushes and provided educational materials to Iowa schools, clinics, veterans service organizations, hospitals, I-Smile coordinators and Head Starts in all 99 counties. With every toothbrush donation, there is an educational component to support establishing and continuing good daily oral health habits.



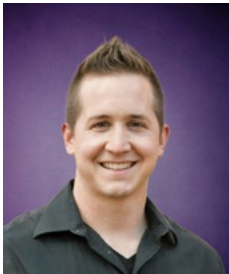
# Connecting communities with dentists

## FIND – Delta Dental of Iowa Donor-Advised Fund

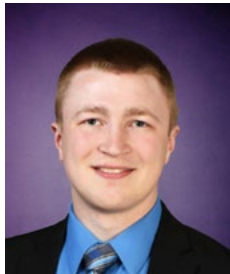


The Fulfilling Iowa's Need for Dentists (FIND) Project is committed to connecting dentists and underserved communities with the resources needed to combat Iowa's dental workforce shortage and ensure dental care is close to home for every Iowan.

### 2024 FIND Recipients



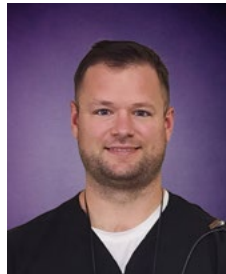
Dr. Kale Floyd  
*Eldora*



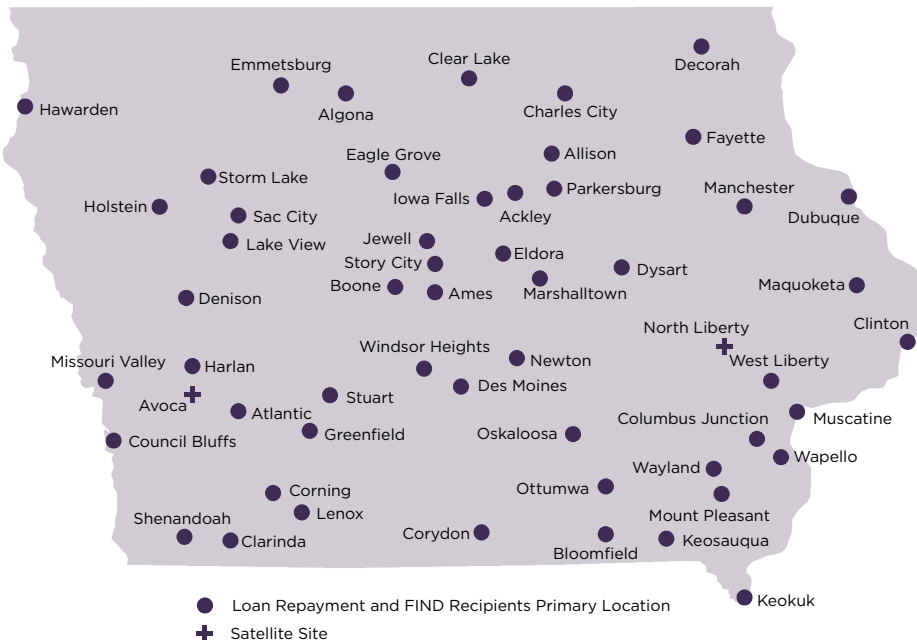
Dr. Zachary Johnson  
*Lenox*



Dr. Maxwell Loew  
*Corydon*



Dr. Chet Meneely  
*Atlantic/Avoca*



MEETING THE NEEDS OF UNDERSERVED PATIENTS SINCE 2002



61 participating private-practice dentists



349,000 patient visits



941,000 dental services

The FIND Project is a collaborative effort with Delta Dental of Iowa, University of Iowa College of Dentistry and Dental Clinics, Iowa Area Development Group, Iowa Department of Health and Human Services, Iowa Dental Association, the Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines, and local communities.

# Improving lives with vision care

## DeltaVision Free Vision Clinic

DeltaVision and the Delta Dental of Iowa Foundation, in partnership with OneSight EssilorLuxottica Foundation, Eastern Iowa Health Center and Prevent Blindness Iowa, offered free comprehensive eye exams to 507 Cedar Rapids-area adults and children, of which 438 were provided with free eyeglasses.

Nearly 90 volunteers including local ophthalmologists, optometrists, opticians and other skilled and general volunteers provided services at the event. This was the fourth year for the free vision clinic to be offered in Iowa and the second year it was held in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.



2024  
DELTAVISION  
FREE VISION  
CLINIC



507  
community  
members  
served



438  
pairs  
of  
glasses



90  
volunteers

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## How to Apply for Funding

To apply for funding or for more information on a specific program, visit [deltadentalia.com/foundation](https://deltadentalia.com/foundation) or contact the Foundation at [IA\\_Foundation@deltadentalia.com](mailto:IA_Foundation@deltadentalia.com).

**Delta Dental of Iowa Foundation**  
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