

The Impact of Your Support: Oral Health at AFC

AFC’s commitment to addressing unmet health needs in the community drove us to launch a modest dental program in 2015 using a borrowed dental suite in the Arlington County DHS building. The need was much greater than our limited capacity. But thanks to the generosity of longtime volunteer, Mary Mellon – whose leadership gift in memory of her father who died due to a dental infection he could not afford to treat – AFC was able to build a three-chair dental clinic in our own facility in 2019. Thanks to Mary and hundreds of other supporters inspired by her gift, AFC has been able to make a tremendous impact on the oral health of our patients – and other low-income, uninsured Arlingtonians.

Growth in Visits to AFC’s Dental Program

FY15	36 visits	FY19*	1563 visits
FY16	799 visits	FY20**	2116 visits
FY17	814 visits	FY21**	972 visits
FY18	1021 visits		

*Moved dental program onsite – January 2019 **During COVID-19

Comprehensive Oral Healthcare

Beyond the basics, we’re now able to offer our patients advanced restorative dental care and give those with missing or decayed teeth their smiles back.

- Exams
- X-rays
- Treatment Planning
- Fillings
- Extractions
- Root Canals
- Crowns
- Dentures
- Partial
- Oral Surgery

Workforce Development Program

In 2018, we began partnering with Northern Virginia Community College to offer clinical placements for approx. 20 dental hygiene students per semester. To the great benefit of our patients and NOVA’s students, between 2018-2020, over 100 dental hygiene students rotated through our dental clinic.

Growing Our Network of Community Dental Partners

AUGUST 2019



Thrive, an organization that provides same-day, emergency financial assistance for Arlington residents, began providing \$1K/month to cover AFC dental patient fees – especially vital for those in need of more costly restorative procedures like crowns and partials.

DECEMBER 2019



(formerly A-SPAN)
AFC started seeing PathForward’s homeless clients in great need of but unable to access dental care.

MARCH 2020



AFC began partnering with VHC to provide dental services for the low-income, uninsured patients served by its Outpatient Clinic, including those requiring pre-op clearances for surgery.

MARCH 2021



Through our newest partnership, AFC is providing dental care to clients of Culpepper Garden, a low-income senior residence in Arlington.