



## We are thankful for ...

KinderSmile Foundation has so much to be thankful for this year, from the construction of a brand new facility to the launch of new programs and partnerships. None of our efforts to increase oral care access and oral health education for underserved children would be made possible without the skills, energy & resources generously given by our volunteers, sponsors, board and staff. Thank you all!

In this edition of Tooth Talk, we want to highlight the progress made in Fall 2016 for which we are most grateful. (Click to jump to each topic.)

- [Grand-Opening: KinderSmile Community Oral Health Center](#)
- [Fresh Faces](#)
- [#ShareASmile](#)
- [Making an Impact on Essex County Health](#)
- [New Volunteer Opportunities](#)
- [Community Giving Tree](#)

### **Grand-Opening: KinderSmile Community Oral Health Center** Free dental home for underserved children & perinatal women

Ribbons were cut and doors opened on October 25th at KinderSmile Community Oral Health Center (KSCOHC), 10 Broad Street, Bloomfield.

Suburban Essex Chamber of Commerce members, business leaders, dental and health care professionals as well as KinderSmile Foundation trustees, friends, and staff joyously celebrated the realization of a longtime goal--a Dental Home for underserved children age 0-17.

Tours of the state-of-the-art dental clinic and talk of present & future plans marked the evening's festivities, which reinforced KinderSmile's commitment to eradicating pediatric dental disease. Guests were equally moved by stories of the extreme need for this facility, whether they had just been introduced to KinderSmile Foundation or had been toiling in the dust & wire-strewn construction site as KSCOHC came to fruition right before their eyes on the "soft" opening day, August 29th.

Since that date, nearly 500 children have benefited from the new Dental Home. Children can often be seen everywhere, learning interactively at our Education Station, practicing oral healthcare at the Toothbrush Station and receiving dental care in a place created just for them. Smiles abound; healthy ones!

You are invited to tour our new Dental Home. For more information, call 973-744-7003 Ext. 209.



Suburban Essex Chamber of Commerce joins KSF Board members & staff to celebrate ribbon-cutting at 10 Broad Street site.

### [Support KSCOHC](#)

## Fresh Faces

**New staff members bring experience, skills and commitment to mission**

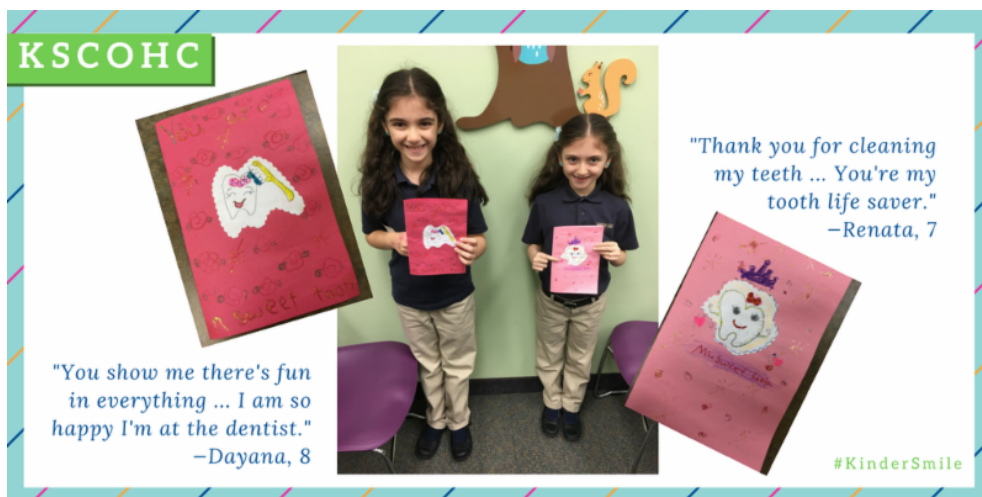
As KinderSmile Foundation continues to grow its programs, facilities and partnerships, so grows the staff. We are thrilled to have brought together a group of individuals with diverse backgrounds but a common passion for giving kids a dental head start.

Fall 2016 brought the biggest expansion to the KinderSmile team since founding in 2007. Two full-time and four part-time staff members joined the foundation in administrative and/or clinical roles, including Stan Cohen, Vilma Hernandez, Deborah Kanter, Ashley Perez, Miriam Vergara and Monique Whyte. Thank you for joining our mission to increase access to oral care & oral health education for underserved children.

Read More: [View complete listing of KinderSmile Foundation staff](#)

## #SHAREASMILE

Tooth Talk will now feature a section where we share our most smile-inducing moments from the season! Don't forget to tag #KinderSmile or #ShareASmile for the chance to be featured on our social media accounts or in the next edition of Tooth Talk.



Sweet sisters, Dayana and Renata, returned to KinderSmile Community Oral Health Center after seeing Dr. Maria with glittery "thank you" cards they had been working on all week!



## Making an Impact on Essex County Health

**KinderSmile treats 467 children & perinatal women in first 3 months**

KinderSmile Pre/Postnatal Program has been re-named, re-structured and largely expanded to become KinderSmile Perinatal Health & Wellness Program (KSPHW). Most notably, the improved program provides continuity of dental care for pregnant & recently postpartum women who are uninsured to receive the treatment/education they need to be oral health ambassadors not only for their families but also their communities.

So far, 18 women have completed the Perinatal Health & Wellness Program and are currently receiving treatment at KSCOHC. Through budding relationships with East Orange WIC program and Partnership for Maternal & Child Health of Northern New Jersey, we strive to "graduate" at least 75 women from KSPHW by August 2017.

Read More: [Perinatal Health & Wellness Program Assures Dental Health](#)

While there are myriad benefits for mothers to join KSPHW, its paramount purpose is to increase the rate of local babies linking to a Dental Home by age one.

We are proud to share the first round of data regarding the underserved population we treat at our Dental Home in downtown Bloomfield Center. Since opening late August 2016, KinderSmile has treated 467 pediatric & perinatal patients hailing from 48 different New Jersey towns. The majority of patients are from Bloomfield (23%) but another 18% travel from Newark--our original hope for being located in a central metro hub.

Read More: [Quick Facts of Impact, Fall 2016](#)

### [Sponsor a Smile](#)

#### New Volunteer Opportunities

[Students & professionals earn credits for giving back to the community](#)

KinderSmile Community Service Learning Program has been a staple of our organization since inception, providing high school, college and graduate students with mentoring and guidance to become active leaders in their communities. KSCSLP changed for the better this August 2016 when multi-disciplinary professor, Deborah Kanter, joined the staff as Deputy Director of the program.

Read more: [Humanities Professor Finds Fit at Dental Home](#)

Our brand new initiative, "Give Back a Smile" Dental Volunteer Program, has created a unique platform for dental professionals to volunteer their services at our new Dental Home and earn continuing education credits for their NJ Board of Dentistry license.

Read more: [Volunteers Jumpstart Recruiting Efforts](#)



Community Service Learning Program volunteers, Shivam & Shayari, lead sisters through KinderSmile's proprietary learning app.

### Volunteer

## Community Giving Tree

KinderSmile Foundation relies on generous grantors, sponsors & donors

All of the progress that KinderSmile Foundation has made--not just in Fall 2016 but over the past nine years--would be impossible without your support! Our charity does not receive state or federal funding, so we rely on a mix of insurance reimbursements, private grants and individual donors to keep KSF running.

Increasing access to oral healthcare for patients who are **uninsured** or have low-reimbursement insurance, such as Medicaid/NJ FamilyCare, is central to our cause. So the bulk of our income must come from private grants and individual donors who connect with our passion for giving kids a dental head start.

Read More: [Growing a Community Giving Tree](#)

Special thanks to the individual contributors below who donated a total of \$21,300 worth of supplies and general funding. We cannot thank you enough.



[www.kindersmile.org](http://www.kindersmile.org)

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KinderSmile Foundation is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation.  
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