

CAUSES THAT MATTER



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Restoring Smiles in the Cowboy State

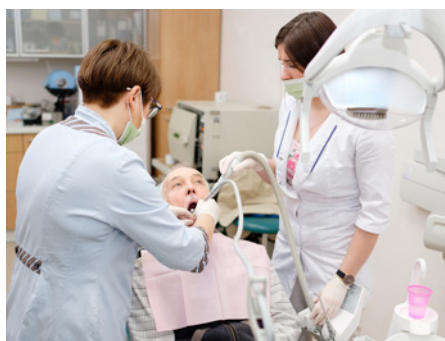
Casper Area Endowment Fund

In 2020, 59-year-old Jaime was diagnosed with laryngeal cancer and underwent tracheotomy surgery. To stop the spread of the cancer, Jaime also needed radiation treatment. Because of the infection in his broken and decayed teeth he was denied dental clearance for this life-saving treatment.

As a former dishwasher who could no longer work because of his illness, Jaime was living with his daughter and her family. Barely making ends meet, neither Jaime nor his family could afford the dental treatment necessary for him to be cleared for radiation.

Desperate and with nowhere to turn, the Dental Lifeline Network- Wyoming was able to step in and provide the treatment needed through their Donated Dental Services (DDS) program.

Dental Lifeline Network and the Wyoming Dental Association are founding partners of Dental Lifeline Network – Wyoming. They use a network of over 100 volunteer dentists and nine dental labs to provide dental care – free of charge – to the elderly, disabled, and those who are medically compromised and have no other way to get help.



In 2020, the DDS program served 60 Wyoming residents and generated \$97,835 in donated treatment.

Because of the \$5,000 grant from WYCF's Casper Local Board to DDS, the group was able to provide Jaime with more than \$16,000 in donated treatment he needed.

“Some of Wyoming’s most vulnerable residents endure unimaginable pain and embarrassment from serious dental problems...”

The support doesn’t end there though. After he completes radiation treatment, DDS will match him with a volunteer dentist who will create both top and bottom dentures for Jaime.

“My dad has never been treated like this” says Jaime’s daughter. “We are just very grateful that he will have teeth again because he is fighting with everything to beat the cancer, so it means a lot to us.”

Over the last year, Dr. Mark O’ Farrell,

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STATS & FACTS

Grant Amount:
\$5,000

Over 35% of Wyoming’s seniors are experiencing severe tooth loss.

Overall, the state ranks **42nd** in the nation on six key measures of senior oral health.

Source: 2018 Oral Health America Report

In 2020, the DDS program served 60 Wyoming residents and generated **\$97,835** in donated treatment.

Each of the patients who completed treatment received an average treatment amount for each patient of

\$3,391

A Kind Campout

Curt Gowdy State Park Family Fund

Driving through southeastern Wyoming, you will likely hear about a fun, beautiful place called Curt Gowdy State Park. If you're lucky enough, you'll visit. The park is full of interesting landscapes, lakes to boat and fish on, trails to hike, and spots where family and friends come together. It's an unexpected gem for first-time visitors and a treasure for locals. It's a piece of Wyoming we love to show off to the rest of America.

You may know Curt Gowdy as a decorated American sportscaster from the 1950s - 1980s. He was also an avid outdoorsman, passionate about conservation. Curt Gowdy, who the park is named after, moved from Wyoming in 1951, but never forgot the love he had for the state and its people. He wanted to share that passion with friends and family.

"Our goal as a family is to make the world more special through love,

kindness, and goodness," says Cheryl Gowdy, Curt's daughter. "If anyone knew how important that was, it was my dad."

Curt's philosophy was simple, he wanted to give to a place that would let families and children get out and know the outdoors – to spend time together in the outside. The Curt Gowdy State Park Family Fund at WYCF makes that possible. Cheryl and her family are passionate about making grants to programs at the park that bring people together. Cheryl, along with her mother and brothers, continue to make the park a place where families and friends can enjoy each other's love and friendship.

One of Cheryl's favorite programs at the park is the Governor's Capitol Campout. "It's a place where values matter," says Cheryl. "It's a place where families, children and friends can be together and enjoy God's universe."

Wyoming State Parks hosts the campout annually. The program gives families that would not otherwise have the resources to do so, a chance to learn to camp.

"I've received letters from the families who attended this event saying it changed their life," Cheryl explains. "One father wrote to me and told me this

weekend saved his relationship with his son, they talked over the campfire for over five hours that night."

Their family fund makes these sorts of connections possible today, and into the future.

Photo Credit: Wyoming State Parks



Wyoming State Parks hosts an Annual Capitol Camp Out, a learn-to-camp program for a population that would not otherwise have the resources or expertise to do so. With the help of donors like the Gowdy family, these families are able to keep the camping gear they used and learned with.

STATS & FACTS

Cheryl Gowdy and her mother, **Jerre Gowdy**, serve as fund advisors for the Curt Gowdy State Park Family Fund, a Donor Advised Fund, at the Wyoming Community Foundation. Because of their generosity, they are sharing the love of family and the outdoors through programs they grant to the park.



Governor's Capitol Campout Grant:

Families are provided camping gear that they then get to keep, helping ensure they can continue camping long after the event.



\$2,000-\$4,000

Amount the Curt Gowdy State Park Family Fund has granted to support programs for the Wyoming State Parks & Cultural Resources.



Turning a New Leaf – The Family Tree Program at the Wyoming Children’s Law Center

Multifund Grant: BP Communities Fund, LEK Endowment Fund and the Tony Cate Fund

Every parent wants what’s best for their child. When a divorce occurs or parents are not together, it can be difficult for parents to get on the same page. Unfortunately, those situations can also be a traumatic for a child. The Family Tree Program at the Wyoming Children’s Law Center (WCLC) is working to reduce some of that trauma. They work with parents to help resolve conflict, reach compromise for custody, and focus on a child-centered approach to divorce.

The Family Tree Program offers mediation services and promotes compromise to help parents resolve conflicts and resolve custody and visitation issues. The Family Tree

Program also offers parenting development plans and parent education.

Because of your support, a grant from WYCF to the Family Tree Program is helping families through custody agreements and the conflicts that may arise.

“Wyoming courts do not offer free mediation and have no formal “non-adversarial” paths for parents to resolve custody and visitation disputes,” says Donna Sheen, Director of the WCLC. “Our Family Tree Program was designed to address this need. We offer parents a way to resolve disputes and develop co-parenting plans and skills for their children.”

The Family Tree program assists parents in a variety of situations. All the services are free and open to anyone who wants the help or is court-ordered to receive it. All the

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Family Tree Program helps mitigate divorces for families, free of cost in order to create the least amount of stress possible for children experiencing divorce.

STATS & FACTS

Grant Amount:

\$7,000

Founded in **2009**

All services are **FREE** for families

51% of families live in rural areas that do not have access to local visitation services

In-Person Exchanges and visits happen only in Albany County but services are offered statewide through **phone or video conferencing**



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Chair of the Dental Lifeline Network- Wyoming has seen the program continue to have significant and often life-changing impacts on patients.

“Some of Wyoming’s most vulnerable residents endure unimaginable pain and embarrassment from serious dental problems in addition to the other physical and financial challenges they experience as a result of their ages, disabilities, and health,” says Dr. O’Farrell.

DDS ensures that their patients have the ability to eat and communicate normally, to live without debilitating oral pain and chronic infection, and to smile brightly.

“Turning a New Leaf” continued

services are free and open to anyone who wants the help or is court ordered to receive it.

“Parents need to be heard and their worries addressed,” says Donna. “Our staff talks parents through things that wouldn’t normally get done in court, and that’s a good thing.”

Resolving Conflict for Kids

Parents don’t have to be friends, live together, or married but they still need the tools to work with one another. Parents learn that conflict, if not dealt with in a productive manner, can have negative impacts on children. The WCLC helps parents work through conflict.

Sonja Bartrop, Administrative & Program Coordinator at WCLC, explains the Family Tree Program is a space of comfort. “We help families communicate with children without having to use the police department and use a constant space they are comfortable with instead of going to court,” says Sonja.

The program helps avoid going to court when it’s not necessary, but the courts are there if they need it and they want that exchange.

Because of thoughtful donors like you, families around the state of Wyoming get the parenting help they need.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

April 30-May 1

Wyoming Afterschool Alliance

Wyoming, Colorado, Montana Joint
Conference: Design to Grow
designtogrow.org



October 7-10

**Wyoming Women's
Antelope Hunt**

wywf.org/wyomingwomensantelopehunt/

May 16-18, 2022

Rescheduled!

Wyoming Nonprofit Conference

Casper, WY
wycf.org/nonprofitconference



**THANK YOU! Look inside to see
the difference you've made.**

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