Nickmans establish new Healthy Smiles President's Grant

By AAPD Staff

In 2017-2018, AAPD President Jim Nickman of Lino Lakes, Minn., and his wife, Jean, have established a new grant award for the academy’s Healthy Smiles, Healthy Children Foundation, which helps put pediatric dentists one big step closer to providing dental homes for 1 million unserved children by 2022.

The AAPD President’s Access to Care Grant provides an additional award in 2018 in the state hosting the annual session. Kokua Kalihi Valley Comprehensive Family Services in Honolulu will receive $20,000 to expand access to dental services for children at more than seven elementary schools through the agency’s mobile dental unit, including preventive education, sealant and fluoride varnish treatments. The attendant expansion of dental resident training and extensive outreach efforts to integrate dental care in comprehensive primary care services are hallmarks of the agency’s multidisciplinary care model.

As a major entry point for immigrant families, the 24-square-mile area of Oahu served by Kokua Kalihi is home to the highest percentages of new immigrants and public housing residents in the state. Eighty-five percent are at or below the federal poverty level; nearly 40 percent are foreign-born, and half speak a language other than English in the home.

“Each year, Healthy Smiles receives more than 200 applications from nonprofits around the country for just a dozen grants, who turn to the academy for help in providing dental care for unserved kids,” said Dr. Nickman. “Jean and I are proud to do our part once again so that the foundation can say yes even one more time from among the many qualified applicants we have to turn down … Every kid counts.”

Healthy Smiles is the largest dentist-led charity serving children’s oral health in the United States. More than one-third of AAPD members contribute to the foundation annually. The foundation has made more than $4.5 million in access-to-care grants since 2010. Stop by booth No. 625 to learn more.
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“Oral Diagnosis in Pediatric Dentistry: Back to Basics” will be from 7:30 to 10:30 a.m. today in CE 3 with Dr. Juan F. Yepes. He will speak on oral diagnosis in the pediatric and adolescent patient. This seminar will be in case-presentation format and will speak to the entire dental team, including pediatric dentists, dental hygienists, dental assistants, residents and dental students. More than 15 patients with a variety of conditions, and never presented before, will be covered.

If you haven’t thoroughly explored the exhibit hall, you’ll want to spend some quality time there today. There’s pearls of another kind here: Products that you can bring home that will help your practice run smoother, safer and more efficiently.

From new products to fun activities, not to mention the Tech Bar, the Posters Sessions and the Kids Tech Corner, there’s plenty to please all ages.

Here are a few highlights:
• NuSmile: Be sure to stop by the NuSmile booth, No. 507, to learn about this trusted company’s newest products, SSC Cuspids, Zirconia Narrow 2nd Primary Molars and BioCem.
• DentsplySirona: Schick 33 makes it quicker and easier to get the digital images you need. Ask all about it at booth No. 736.
• SmileMakers: The line of kids at the SmileMakers booth, No. 400, makes it clear how much attention a Colossal Capsule Machine would attract at your practice. Ask at the booth about the show special that could get you $500 worth of free capsule toys and free inside delivery.
• Porter Instrument: The Silhouette Nasal Mask by Porter Instrument delivers nitrous oxide efficiently and effectively, while still allowing front-teeth access, offering the ideal experience for both dentist and patient. Visit booth No. 525 to ask about the company’s AAPD special.

Finally, be sure to finish your day at the President’s Farewell Dinner from 6:30 to 10:30 p.m. at the Waialae Country Club. This event will celebrate the AAPD Ohana. Ohana means friends, family and community, and this event will blend the AAPD family with the Hawaiian community in an exchange of local and mainland traditions. Dinner will feature the world-class culinary talents of Chef Alan Wong and will be capped with a native and fun dance party.