

Colorado Dental Association
Compelling Need, Creative Solutions

Colorado Mission of Mercy (COMOM)

Thousands of Coloradans suffer from untreated pain and infection. The dental profession has seen this need and is proud to do its part to help.

WHAT

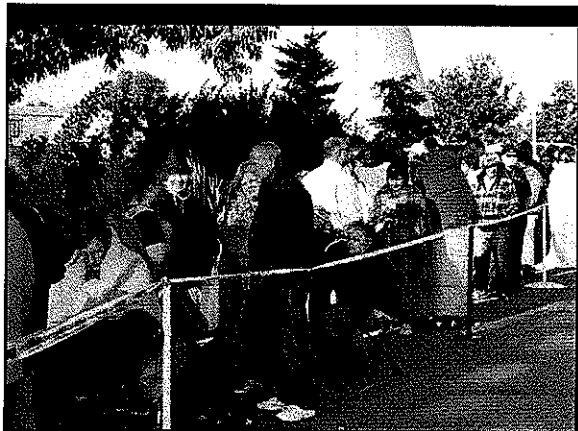
- 2 day, 100 chair dental clinic
- Free care for ~1,500 adults and children who do not have dental insurance and cannot afford care

WHEN & WHERE

- COMOM travels to a different area of the state each year.
- COMOM 2009: Sept. 11-12, Brighton
- COMOM 2010: Colorado Springs

HOW

- Dentists, medical professionals and members of the community volunteer their time to provide treatment.



Dentistry: A Critical Part of Wellness

- The head and body are connected. The health of your mouth substantially affects the health of the rest of your body.
 - This fact is often not acknowledged in health care policy.
- Poor oral health causes many systemic problems.
- Poor oral health also affects mental well being, self esteem, employment opportunities and more.

Dentistry is Prevention

- Good oral health can prevent many health problems – and not only in the mouth.
- Identifying and treating problems early can eliminate substantial costs later – both in dental and other medical care.
- Much of current health care policy emphasizes preventative measures, but oral health is often overlooked.
- Many people don't have a means to access preventative dental care.

Economics of Dentistry

- Dental insurance economics are very different than the economics of medical insurance.

Medical Insurance	Dental Insurance
Plans are usually comprehensive	Many plans are not comprehensive, instead providing spending authority to a defined low \$ limit
Plans generally provide catastrophic coverage	Many plans do not provide coverage for restorative treatment, especially extensive/catastrophic restorative care
Generally limits to out of pocket expenses	High out of pocket expense for restorative care
Public programs for low-income adults	No public program for low-income adults

- For every adult without medical insurance, there are 3 adults without dental insurance.
- Over 60% of Coloradans do not have dental insurance.
- Restorative care can be unaffordable for many, even those with insurance.

Options for Care in Colorado

Children	Adults	Elderly
Public Insurance: Medicaid		Dental Care Act-Old-Age-Pension-Program
Private Insurance (parents)	Private Insurance	Private Insurance
Fee for Service	Fee for Service	Fee for Service
Charitable care	Charitable care	Charitable care

- Medicaid has no adult dental benefit in Colorado
- Colorado Dental Association website: www.cdaonline.org, "Low Cost Care"

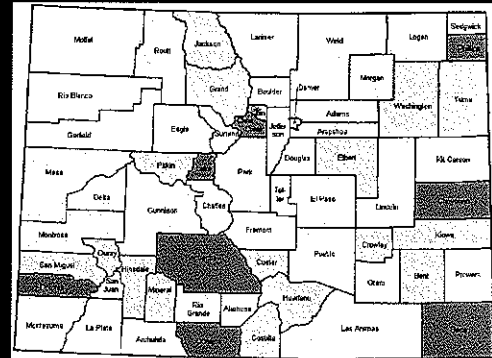
Medicaid

- Substantial decline in provider numbers in the last few years
- Well under 500 total providers
- 18 counties without a single provider
- 8 additional counties have only 1 provider

Medicaid: Counties No Provider



Medicaid: Counties 1 or less Provider

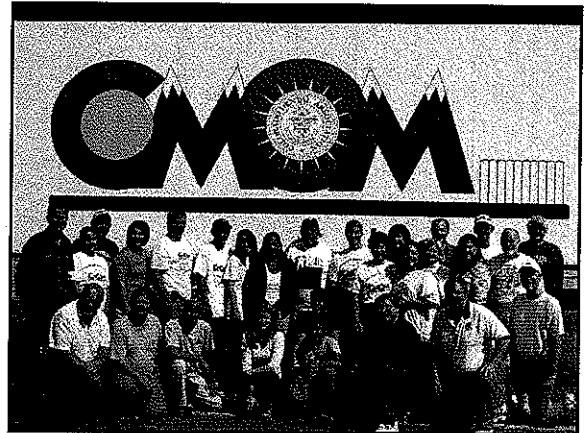
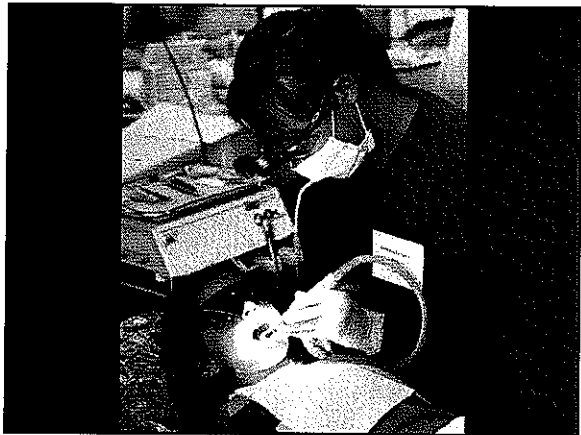
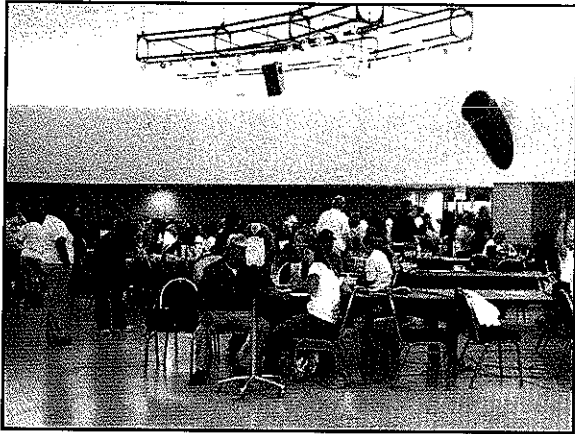


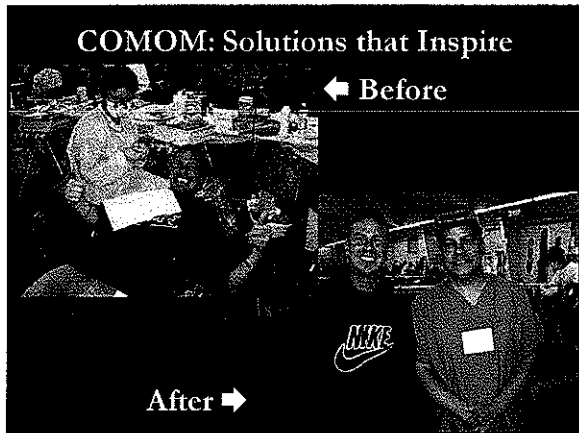
Medicaid: Creative Solutions

- Discussion of a carve out for program administration

Care for Seniors

- Foundation of Dentistry for the Handicapped: Dental HouseCalls Program





COMOM by the Numbers

Over 800 volunteers
 ~1,300 patients treated
 Almost \$1 million in care provided

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 2 days ■ 28 treatment hours ■ 115 treatment chairs ■ 150 dentists ■ 100 dental hygienists ■ 800 total volunteers 	<p>At least:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 1291 patients seen ■ 82 children treated ■ 536 fillings ■ 463 extractions ■ 478 cleanings ■ 55 teeth replacements ■ 6993 total procedures ■ \$972,536 in care <p><i>*Preliminary statistics</i></p>
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COMOM: Not the Only Solution

- People shouldn't have to struggle to receive basic dental and medical attention.
- While volunteerism alone cannot solve the access problems, COMOM is a powerful testament to the fact that dentists care about the underserved and want to lead the way when it comes to improving access to oral health care.