

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**



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## **2025 OKLAHOMA MISSION OF MERCY SETS UP IN TULSA**

**TULSA, OK – (January 21, 2025)** — The [Oklahoma Mission of Mercy](#) (OkMOM) partners are pleased to announce that its annual two-day free dental clinic will take place Friday, Feb. 7 and Saturday, Feb. 8, 2025 at the Exchange Center at Expo Square in Tulsa.

Leading up to the event, the Exchange Center will transform into a fully-operational dental facility with more than 1,000 dental professionals and general volunteers offering no-cost oral health services to as many patients as possible.

OkMOM welcomes those who are uninsured, under-insured, or who lack regular access to dental care, regardless of age and without any identification requirements. At the clinic, patients undergo an initial dental screening to identify their most critical needs and determine a treatment plan before they are routed to the appropriate service area. Services provided at OkMOM include cleanings, x-rays, fillings, extractions, and some root canals and partials. There are no pre-registration requirements for patients.

"Oklahoma Mission of Mercy is a testament to the power of collaboration and compassion. This event not only delivers critical dental care to those in need but also strengthens the fabric of our communities by restoring smiles, confidence, and overall health," said Dr. Rieger Wood, a Tulsa dentist, former Oklahoma Dental Association President, and one of the 2025 OkMOM co-chairs. "It's a reminder that when we come together as dental professionals, volunteers, and neighbors, we can create lasting change."

Since the first event in 2010, dental professionals volunteering their time at the Oklahoma Mission of Mercy have more than 19,000 people and performed more than 116,000 dental procedures, the sum of which are valued at more than \$16.5 million in donated dental services.

"The most important thing we want attendees to know is that this event is open to everyone and that it is a judgement-free environment," said Dr. Lindsay Smith, a general dentist from Tulsa, also a former ODA President, and a 2025 OkMOM Co-Chair with Dr. Wood. "We want to take care of patients' most urgent oral health issues without anyone feeling shame or fear."

Volunteer translators who are collectively able to speak more than 20 languages including American Sign Language will be on site both days. Patient forms are also available in English, Spanish, Vietnamese, Arabic, Hindi, Chinese, and French.

The OkMOM volunteer team is made up of dentists and dental students, hygienists, dental assistants, office staff, x-ray technicians, dental equipment maintenance experts, nurses and nursing students, physicians and physician assistants, pharmacists and pharmacy techs, as well as general volunteers who help with check-in and patient navigation.

The OkMOM clinic is open to all ages, although patients under age 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Treatment will be offered on a first-come, first-served basis on both Friday, Feb. 7 and Saturday, Feb. 8. Doors open at 5:30 a.m. each day and due to high demand, attendees should plan to be on site for 6-8 hours. The number of patients treated each day will vary based on many factors, so patients are encouraged to arrive as early as possible to get in line.

There will be no indoor overnight waiting available, so patients should make arrangements to stay warm and safe until the event begins. More patient information can be found online at [okmom.org/patient-faq](http://okmom.org/patient-faq).

“Here in Oklahoma, getting consistent dental treatments can be a challenge for many due to financial or geographic limitations. But we have amazing people and organizations coming together at OkMOM to educate the public and support them in prioritizing their health,” said Dr. Justin Beasley, an Oklahoma-City based dentist who serves as the President of Oklahoma Dental Foundation. “It’s important work, and it’s inspiring to see the impact a healthy smile can have on someone’s life.”

**NEW THIS YEAR:** Veterans who served in the U.S. Armed Forces may receive early entry on Friday at 7:00 a.m. by pre-registering and being screened on Thursday at the venue at 3:00 p.m. More information about the veterans’ program, including documentation needed, is available online at [okmom.org/veterans](http://okmom.org/veterans).

To sponsor the 2025 Oklahoma Mission of Mercy or to donate to the Legacy Fund which supports OkMOM, please visit [okmom.org/donate](http://okmom.org/donate) or contact Oklahoma Dental Association via phone at (800) 876-8890. To become a volunteer, please visit [okmom.org/volunteers](http://okmom.org/volunteers). (Note: Volunteer sign-up closes January 26 and nearly all spots are full.)

The Oklahoma Mission of Mercy is produced by the Oklahoma Dental Association and the Oklahoma Dental Foundation, and the event has received generous funding through the Oklahoma State Legislature via an American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grant this year. This event is endorsed by the Oklahoma State Department of Health.

Sponsors of the 2025 OkMOM event include: DentaQuest, Dental Depot, Liberty Dental Plan, the Tobacco Settlement Endowment Trust (TSET), and the Oklahoma Dental Hygienists Association. Additional support provided by Henry Schein Dental Products, the Eastern Oklahoma Dental Society, and the Northern Oklahoma Dental Society.

**Oklahoma Mission of Mercy Free Dental Clinic**  
Friday, February 7 and Saturday, February 8, 2025  
*(first come, first served – no pre-registration required)*

Doors open at 5:30am each day  
Treatment will continue until the max number of patients have been served.

**Location: Exchange Center at Expo Square**  
4145 E. 21<sup>st</sup> Street - Tulsa, OK 74114  
Website: [www.okmom.org](http://www.okmom.org)  
Phone: (800) 876-8890

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**The Oklahoma Dental Association**, founded in 1907, has a membership of more than 1,700 dentists (nearly 80% of all Oklahoma dentists). The organization is a constituent of the American Dental Association and exists to advance the art and science of dentistry and to promote public health. ODA provides continuing education for dental professionals, produces dental events and conferences, publishes the *ODA Journal*, and advocates for better legislation on behalf of Oklahoma dentists and the dental industry. For more information about the ODA, visit [www.okda.org](http://www.okda.org). To find a dentist, visit [findadentist.ada.org](http://findadentist.ada.org).

**The Oklahoma Dental Foundation** improves the oral health of Oklahomans by funding scientific research, supporting dental education, and increasing patient access to care. The Oklahoma Dental Foundation’s mission is to *build partnerships to improve and advance oral health*. ODF offers essential dental education and provides life-changing free dental care and oral health education to Oklahomans in need. For more information, visit [www.okdf.org](http://www.okdf.org).

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Note: For high-res photos and video of previous events or to schedule interviews with event organizers and participating dentists, contact [jjohnson@okda.org](mailto:jjohnson@okda.org). For media inquiries on site at the event, call (405) 623-7206.

