

Dental Hygiene Community Outreach – Nancy Cheung

The Chabot College Dental Hygiene Program would like to thank the Chabot-Las Positas Association of Retired Employees for the CARE Fund Special Projects Grant Program. With the funds awarded, we were able to purchase character puppets for oral health education as well as a table throw cover to be used at our community outreach events.

The dental hygiene students provided dental and oral health education to groups of children at the child care center on campus as well as the Head Start Program in the city of Hayward. The puppets were an excellent visual aid and made learning about brushing and flossing fun for the children. Both the children as well as the adults were engaged and enthusiastic about learning.

The table cover has been used at every community service outreach event. We hosted our First Annual Give Kids a Smile Event on campus in conjunction with Pre-Dental Students from Cal State East Bay. Dental hygiene students donated close to \$5,000 in dental hygiene services to children ages 16 months to 12 years. Other outreach events include the St. Rose White Tent Event, Harbor House, Head Start and Science in the Park.

The benefit of the educational puppets as well as the table cover will last for years to come. The dental hygiene program serves the community through outreach events throughout the year. Early childhood caries is one of the leading causes of death among young children. Educating children at an early age could save a life. The Chabot College Dental Hygiene Program with the support of the Chabot-Las Positas Association of Retired Employees continues to make a difference in the community. Thank you!

