Mike, a NM Mission of Mercy patient from Sandoval County, arrived at the Santa Ana Star Center on Sunday morning about 8:00 am. His lone request was to “help in the take down of the clinic” as a way of giving back for all the dental treatment he received and so appreciated the two days before that! He was immediately assisted with the volunteer waiver, provided a volunteer badge, and shown ways he could help as the clinic was dismantled. Mike is a veteran, unable to receive dental care through the Veterans Administration, and attended the clinic to receive help with his oral health issues. Like so many of those who attended the clinic, he was clearly thrilled with the quality of care, the attentiveness, and the opportunity that the clinic afforded him. Like so many of the 1340 volunteers who gave of their time to make Mission of Mercy possible, he too found a way to give back that Sunday morning. Thanks, Mike, and thanks to ALL of the 1340 volunteers who made NM Mission of Mercy happen in Rio Rancho!

A Job Well Done!

A Special Thank you to the 2014 NM Mission of Mercy Event Co-Chairs, Drs. Shelly Fritz, John Crisler, and Doug Sheram for their hours of planning for this incredibly successful event. Their hard work resulted in 1055 residents of Sandoval and surrounding counties receiving much needed dental treatment that they could not have otherwise afforded. As one such resident so aptly stated: “I was beyond impressed with the clinic for their hours of planning for this incredibly successful event. Their hard work resulted in 1055 residents of Sandoval and surrounding counties receiving much needed dental treatment that they could not have otherwise afforded. As one such resident so aptly stated: “I was beyond impressed with the clinic’s organization, efficiency, and willingness to want to help from the start of the line outside of the building to the final table at the exit. Everyone of you did an amazing job!”

GND-BREAKING ENDEAVOR RESULTS IN SUCCESSFUL NM MOM RADIOGRAHY NETWORK

Peter Reynolds, owner of Granite Technical Services, has been a strong supporter of the dental community and The New Mexico Dental Foundation in particular for the past 10 years. He has continually donated his time and IT expertise to help the Foundation grow and provide more outreach to those in need. In 2014 Peter stepped forward to donate over $7229 of in kind services to New Mexico Mission of Mercy.

At New Mexico Mission of Mercy 2014, networked digital radiography throughout the clinic made it possible to deliver a significantly higher volume of quality dental care to those who needed it most. Peter served as the volunteer Project Manager working with Hewlett Packard, Diane Burns of DEXIS Digital X-Ray, Dr. John Crisler and Trish Rule, NM MOM Program Administrator, to bring the digital radiography to fruition at the event. The result was trend setting and other Mission of Mercy programs across the country are looking to replicate the process.

“Your 100% digital radiograph setup was truly amazing. As far as I am concerned, this should be the standard for all MOM events,” said Kevin Conroy, Arizona MOM Foundation Executive Director. Hewlett Packard donated 71 laptop computers, monitors, printers, a server and other equipment for the event, the networking services, and multiple personnel to assist. Diane Burns with DEXIS, provided the software tools for the radiography to take place. Peter coordinated the efforts of all.

The digital radiography enabled NM MOM to double the capacity to take x-rays because there was no need to individually print each x-ray. Second, and most importantly, the dentists who were making treatment decisions and the dentists delivering the actual care had real time access to x-rays at chairside. They were able to enlarge and enhance the x-rays with state of the art tools that dramatically elevated the diagnostic information they needed to deliver the best care possible.

“New Mexico Mission of Mercy was an extremely good cause to donate to, a personal challenge, and in restrospect, a great endeavor. We pioneered it and with this model it can be replicated to help even more patients at other Mission of Mercy events,” said Peter when asked why he chose to give in this way. “It allows the opportunity to provide a better level of care to the patient, is more diagnostic, and certainly easier for the dentists to read.”

Peter graduated from the University of New Mexico after growing up in Utah. He has been working in the IT field since 2003 and formed his own company, Granite Technical Services, three and a half years ago. His primary focus is technology in dental offices and he estimates the dental community provides 86% of his business currently. When not working or donating his time, Peter enjoys skeet shoot competition, hunting, and taking his family on camping trips.

“At the mission of mercy, the volunteers create a feeling of competition, hunting, and taking his family on camping trips.”

“We set a precedent at this event,” said Peter, “and we hope to ‘pay it forward’ to other Mission of Mercy programs so that they too can provide the best level of care to their patients as well!” TOGETHER, Peter and so many others helped change lives, one smile at a time this year’s NM Mission of Mercy!”