



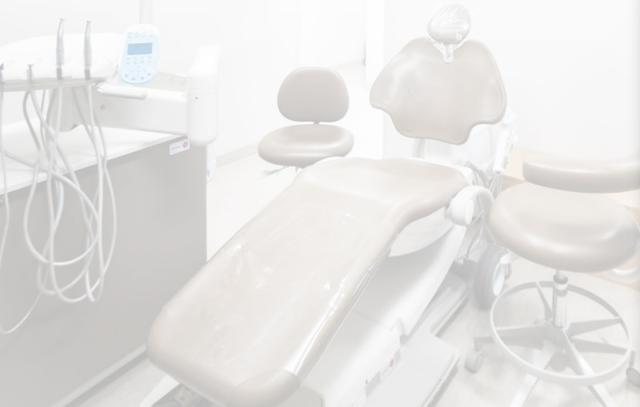
# Celebrating 20 Years of Smiles

**Sonrisas Dental Health  
Annual Report**

Fiscal Year 2020-2021

# Sonrisas Dental Health

**Sonrisas Dental Health, Inc.**  
is a non-profit dental center dedicated to providing access to quality dental care and oral health education to our community. We provide these services with dignity, respect and compassion. We offer two convenient locations in Half Moon Bay and San Mateo.



## Dear Sonrisas Family,

This time last year, we celebrated – with the superhuman efforts of our staff and generous support from donors and funders – safely reopening after the Covid-19 shutdown and providing nearly 10,000 visits. This year, our 20th, our achievement is having adapted to living with a global pandemic, embedding new safety equipment and protocols. At the same time, we have increased our capacity in the face of ever-growing demand and resumed in person Outreach events. Funding from Stanford Health Care and the William G. Irwin Charity Foundation allowed us to build two additional operatories. Thanks to this expansion and additional staffing, we will provide more than 14,000 clinic visits during FY21-22.

Faced with closed schools and senior centers, the Outreach team innovated, providing drive through screenings for 85 children. When some schools re-opened, we screened 220+ children outdoors. One third showed serious decay; 10% needed urgent care. Even a third of teenagers had active decay, reporting not being able to find a dentist with an available appointment. Sonrisas is committed to following up after screenings, providing a dental home for many children needing one.

Imagine eight- year-olds who've never seen a dentist! A big thank you to the almost 40 volunteers who made screenings possible.

Our commitment to treating the youngest low-income children in our community means we now have two pediatric dentists on our team with a 19% increase in visits for low-income children (89% of new child patients last year were low income). Inside, you will find the story of Allison, who received emergency care from Sonrisas after referral from our community partners, Bay Area Border Relief and ALAS.

A big thank you goes out to you, our donors and funders. We couldn't do any of this without your continuing support.

**On behalf of our patients, our  
future patients, and our staff:  
Thank you!**



*TC Fecher*

**Tracey Carrillo Fecher**  
CEO, Sonrisas Dental Health



*Nigel Taverner*

**Nigel Taverner**  
Board Chair, Sonrisas



# Meeting the Needs of Our Neighbors

## Since 2001.

Sonrisas was created in 2001 by community members to serve their low-income neighbors who lacked access to dental care. From the part-time clinic that opened in Half Moon Bay in 2001, Sonrisas has grown to two full-time clinics in Half Moon Bay and San Mateo.

Click to watch a video recap of our 20 years of smiles!



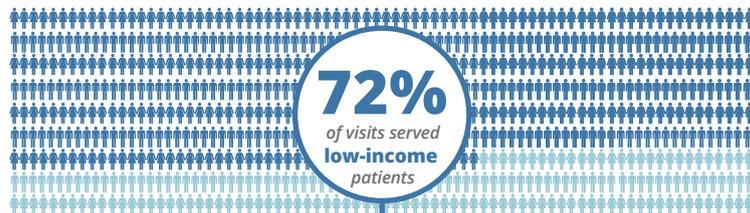
– JOSH BECKER, California State Senator

The past year and a half has brought the gaps in our health and wellness systems into sharp focus. I applaud providers that try to bridge these gaps through care, access, and the education they offer in our communities. **Addressing those inequities has been central to Sonrisas' mission since they opened their doors in Half Moon Bay."**

## Patient Care Outcomes

2020-2021

As one of a few clinics in our County serving Medi-Cal patients with pediatric specialist dentists on staff, Sonrisas serves an increasing number of low-income children.



**7,758** out of 10,792 total patient visits were visits of ATC Low Income Patients. **2,714** out of 3,932 total individual patients were served by our low-income Access to Care program.



In FY20-21, our **low-income pediatric visits increased by 19%**



**89%** of new SDH pediatric patients are **low-income** and served via our Access to Care program, an **increase from 81%** two years ago



Providing care in Half Moon Bay



Checking in at a drive-through screening



Director of Community Engagement  
Dr. Bonnie Jue, D.D.S., at a recent screening

# The Impact of COVID-19

*on oral health access among San Mateo County's most vulnerable residents*

## NATIONALLY:

### Equity Gaps in Oral Health Increased\*



**6 million US adults** lost dental coverage due to the Pandemic.



**People of Color** were more likely than White individuals to have lost insurance due to the Pandemic.



65% of **adults who lost dental coverage** due to the pandemic reported oral symptoms linked to disease and **did not get treatment** for those symptoms

## SAN MATEO COUNTY:

### Our Most Vulnerable Will Continue to Be Affected\*\*

An estimated 57,000 adults in San Mateo County report inability to resolve dental concerns due to lack of insurance coverage.

**58% of those at lower income (<200% FPL)** lacked dental insurance prior to the COVID-19 pandemic



**42% of those with lower income (<200% FPL) who lack dental insurance** report that they are unable to address dental issues as a result

San Mateo County residents with lower income, with less education, those without dental insurance, and those who identify as Black or Hispanic face continuing disparities in access to dental care.

\*Tranby EP, Jacob M, Kelly A, Frantsve-Hawley J. State of Oral Health Equity in America 2021 Research Report 1: A Coming Surge in Oral Health Treatment Needs — Pandemic-related events appear poised to create a spike in oral disease among adults. Boston, MA: CareQuest Institute for Oral Health Advancement; April 2021.  
\*\*San Mateo County Community Health & Needs Assessment 2019

# We've Increased Our Capacity

## to Serve More People in our County

In June 2021, with generous funding from Stanford Health Care and the William G. Irwin Charity Foundation, Sonrisas had the opportunity to build out two additional operatories in our San Mateo Center, bringing the number of dental treatment chairs in that center to 8. With full staffing for these two operatories, Sonrisas expects an additional 46 patient visits per week. Thank you to our generous funding partners for helping us to increase our capacity for FY21-22!



**Stanford**  
HEALTH CARE

THE WILLIAM G. IRWIN  
CHARITY FOUNDATION

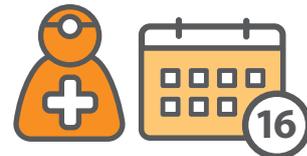
### THE STATS:



**8 Operatories in  
San Mateo and  
3 in Half Moon Bay.**



**More than 14,000  
dental visits anticipated  
in FY21-22!**

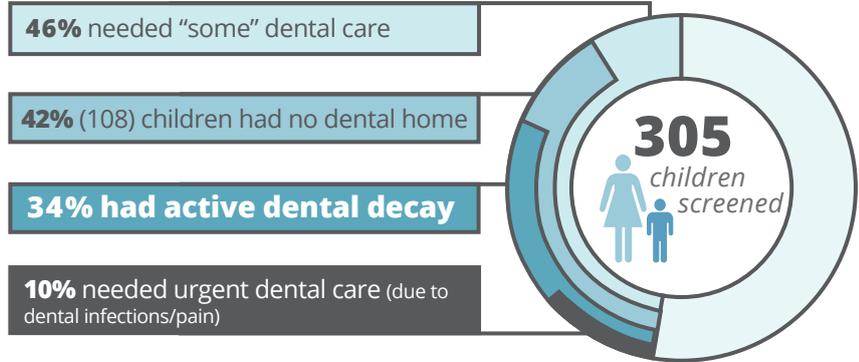


**16 hygienist days per week  
in FY2021-22 (an increase of  
9 from last year!).**

# Helping Families Access Care

Sonrisas Continues to adapt our Outreach programming during changing times. In FY 20-21, we provided drive-up dental screenings and eventually resumed on-site (outdoor) school screenings. Through Sonrisas' unique Care Coordination model, we helped children ages 0-18 and their families access dental coverage and care.

## OUR IMPACT: Drive-up and School Site Dental Screenings



Click to learn about FY20-21 Outreach from Dr. Bonnie Jue, D.D.S. Director of Community Engagement.



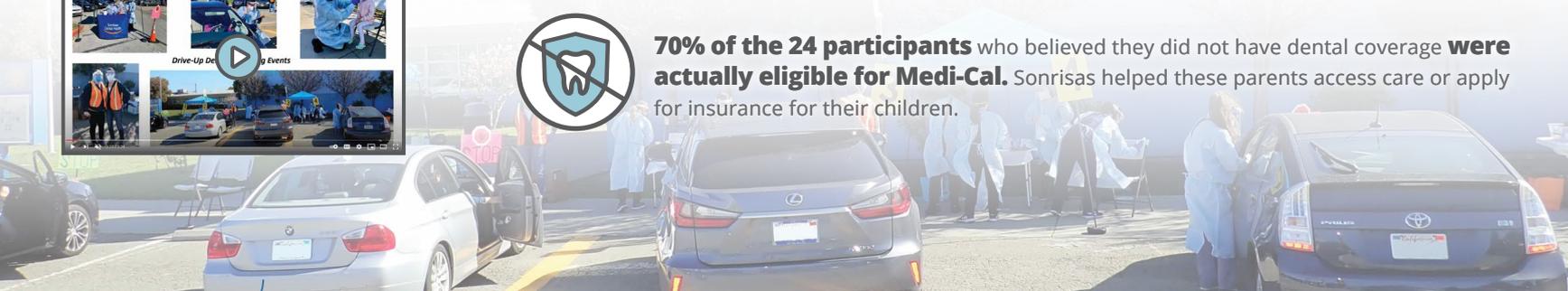
### FOR DRIVE-UP PATIENTS,



**54% had not seen a dentist in more than a year.** At our drive-up screenings, which saw children ages 0-18, **33% of teens had active dental decay** in their permanent adult teeth. Some participants were children as old as 8 years old who had never seen a dentist



**70% of the 24 participants** who believed they did not have dental coverage **were actually eligible for Medi-Cal.** Sonrisas helped these parents access care or apply for insurance for their children.



# Partnering to Serve Our Community



In recent years, Sonrisas has teamed up with fellow direct service providers including **Puente** to provide dental care to farmworkers and their families in the Pescadero area, and more recently with **Bay Area Border Relief (BABR)** and **Ayudando Latinos a Soñar (ALAS)** to help newly arrived San Mateo County residents access dental care, many for the first time, as they settle in the United States. In addition to providing dental care to patients who come to Sonrisas through our partners, Sonrisas also offers

technical assistance and training for our partner organizations to help them counsel their clients as they consider treatment options.

In early 2021, 8-year-old Allison and her mother, Jessy, were referred to Sonrisas by ALAS and BABR. They had recently arrived in the Bay Area after a years-long wait in a border tent camp. With no access to dental care, Allison had developed extensive and painful tooth decay and related infection in her bone. When Allison came to our Half Moon Bay Center, Dr. Gabriella Bateman, D.D.S., was amazed by how brave and cheerful the little girl was. Sonrisas' clinical team was able to treat Allison's infection and decay, and she is now healthy and thriving in school.

Click to learn  
about how  
Allison is doing!

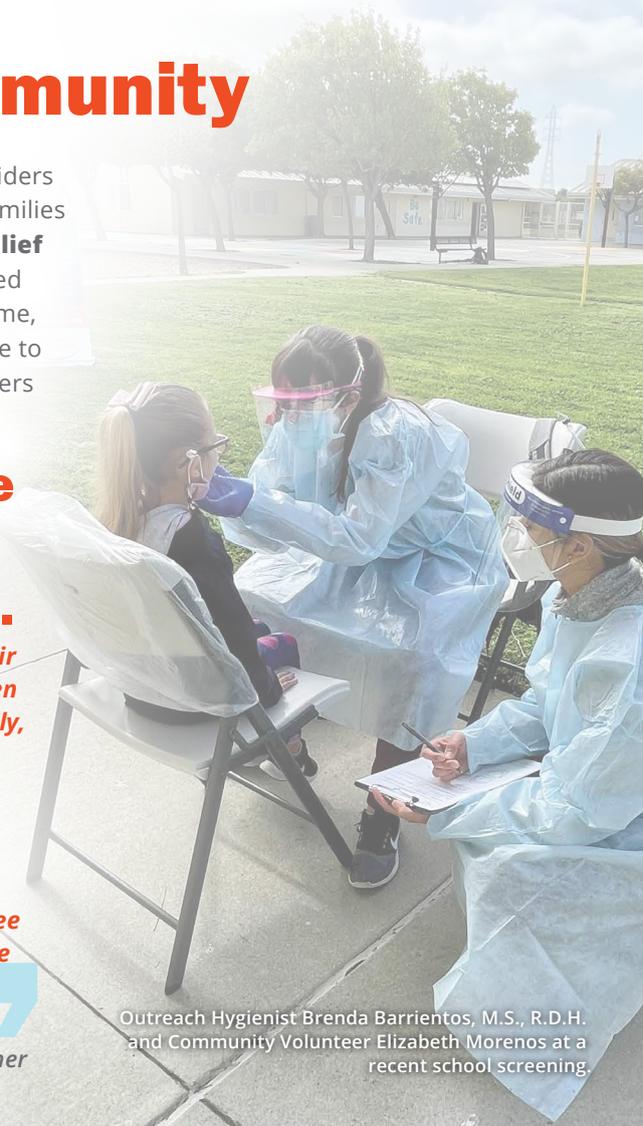


“**They gave  
her back  
her smile.**

*I appreciate all their efforts. They've been like part of the family, because they are always thinking of us, calling us. They ask me 'Is your daughter all right?' It's impressive to see how much they care about our health.*

- Jessy,  
Allison's mother

Outreach Hygienist Brenda Barrientos, M.S., R.D.H.  
and Community Volunteer Elizabeth Morenos at a  
recent school screening.



# At Sonrisas, Care Is Individual



**Dr. Travis Wu, D.D.S.**, a Bay Area native who trained at the University of the Pacific, treats many patients through Sonrisas' partnership with San Mateo County, serving patients on SMMC's waitlist who have faced lengthy waits for care. As a Sonrisas dentist, he takes pride in providing high-quality, individualized dental care for low-income patients, helping them return to oral health as quickly as possible. In the below video, Dr. Wu shares the story of a recent patient who has once more been able to venture out in public with confidence, since working with Dr. Wu to repair or replace many missing or broken teeth.

Click to watch the full video of our interview with Dr. Wu.



## For many patients, establishing a dental home at Sonrisas is life-changing.



It can also shape careers. Hear from Estefany, a former patient who recently completed her dental assisting internship at Sonrisas, about the way her time at Sonrisas has shaped both her oral health and her future career:





**Access to Care**  
  
**ATC**  
 LOW INCOME  
 PATIENT PROGRAM

# This Year:

support from our funders and individual donors helped us provide

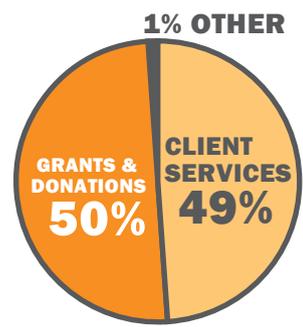
**7,758 ATC Patient Visits**  
*(72% of 10,792 total visits)*

Pediatric Specialist Dr. Judyth Lee, D.M.D., with a young patient

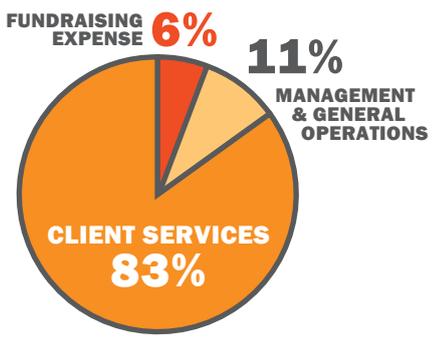
## Sustainable Growth To Meet Increasing Needs

Financials - Annual Budget **\$3,631,238**

### SONRISAS FUNDING SOURCES



### SONRISAS EXPENSES



### THE STATS:



Dedicated Sonrisas Staff Members



Languages Spoken by Staff



Clinics Serving San Mateo County



### Overarching Mission:

To provide access to quality dental care and oral health education to our community with dignity, respect and compassion.



**2021 is our 20th anniversary year, and we invite you to honor this milestone with us!**

To support our mission in a meaningful way, please visit us online at: [www.sonrisasdental.org](http://www.sonrisasdental.org)  
Or reach us by email at: [development@sonrisasdentalhealth.org](mailto:development@sonrisasdentalhealth.org)



Sonrisas Dental Health's Outreach Screening Team provided outdoor screenings during FY20-21

### **Board of Directors**

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- Larry Cappel, Ph.D.
- Sheryl Young
- Rick Navarro, M.D.
- Larissa Laila

### **CEO**

Tracey Carrillo Fecher

# Sonrisas Offers A Huge Thank You

To our Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Funding Partners



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**Event Sponsors 2020-2021:** Boston Private, Insperty, Jetty Wave Distillery, Patterson Dental, Pega, Plunj, Republic Services, Rotary Club of Burlingame, Rotary Club of Millbrae, Rotary Club of San Bruno, Sonrisas Board of Directors.

## HALF MOON BAY CENTER

650-726-2144 OPEN: Mon - Fri 8 AM - 5 PM  
210 San Mateo Rd, Suite 104, Half Moon Bay, CA 94019

## SAN MATEO CENTER

650-727-3480 OPEN: Mon - Fri 8 AM - 5 PM  
430 N El Camino Real, San Mateo, CA, 94401