

SAID Pride Clear at the Gathering of Nations Powwow 2016

MEMBERS PROVIDE HUNDREDS OF DENTAL SCREENINGS EXCEEDING EXPECTATIONS





The Society of American Indian Dentists (SAID) president, Dr. Darlene Sorrell, could not be more proud of the dedicated effort put forth by members and volunteers to provide hundreds of dental screenings at The Gathering of Nations (GON) Powwow.

The two day event, held at the Wise Pies Arena (The Pit), offered the free evaluations to children between one-year and twelve-years of age on April 29th and April 30th.

SAID members were all smiles when the last patient exited the Colgate Bright Smiles Bright Futures dental van on Saturday evening and the final tally of 318 was announced by Dr. Sorrell. While 300 was the goal set, it was clear the group was filled with pride and proud to have exceeded the forecasted number. Dr. Zellisha Quam, a new member of the SAID organization, coordinated the logistics locally for the collaboration between the SAID, Colgate and The Gathering of Nations (GON) Powwow. Quam's leadership and organizational skills were key in helping to advance this unique oral health collaboration. She and Dr. Sorrell, work tirelessly along with the other volunteer dentists to yield the grand total of 318 dental screenings. Board member, Dr. Winifred J. Booker managed the lines of communication, keeping them open between organizations throughout the planning stages. She led the boots on the ground campaign along with other volunteers to guide parents and children to the Colgate van throughout the two days of screenings.

The SAID members are to be commended for their dedication to ensure this event would become the success it ultimately turned out to be during The GON Powwow. The organization will evaluate the success of the collaboration during their upcoming annual meeting to be held this June 8 h through the 11th in Mesa, Arizona.