



District of Columbia
DENTAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

July 2024, Vol. 70, No. 7



Dr. Cheryle Baptiste

Letter from DC Dental Society President Cheryle Baptiste, DDS, FICD, FIAMDI

Dear Members of the DC Dental Society,

As we reflect on the rich history of dentistry in America, it's fascinating to recall that Paul Revere, renowned for his mid-night ride, was also an early American dentist. Revere not only placed advertisements in local newspapers offering his dental services but also made a significant contribution to dental forensics by identifying a friend post-mortem through a bridge he constructed. This marks the first known case of post-mortem dental forensics.

In colonial times, dentistry was not recognized as a profession, with barbers or blacksmiths often performing extractions. During the American Revolution, soldiers suffered greatly from dental problems due to poor nutrition and lack of hygiene. Recognizing this, George Washington mandated the issuance of toothbrushes to soldiers, emphasizing the importance of dental health for military readiness.

Celebrations and Acknowledgments

July offers several opportunities to celebrate and raise awareness. International Kissing Day on July 6th reminds us of the importance of oral health in maintaining confidence and hygiene. The week of July 14th marks Nonbinary Awareness Week, culminating in International Nonbinary People's Day on July 14th, and July 16th is International Drag Day. Let us embrace these moments to recognize and support diversity within our community.

In June, we celebrated Caribbean American Heritage Month, recognizing the profound contributions of Caribbean Americans to the United States. My father, who hailed from Grenada, West Indies, arrived in the US in 1950 with only \$12 and a dream of attending Howard University. Eight years later, he graduated from the Howard University College of Dentistry in 1958. Students from the Caribbean often face financial challenges without federal scholarships, loans, or funding. I encourage those interested in supporting these students to contact Dr. Reginald Salter at HUCD (Reginald.Salter@howard.edu).

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Cover photo: DCDS members enjoying their time together at the Nats vs. Braves game June 7th.

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Advocacy Update

Hearing on Specialty License Proposal is July 10

Authorization for Botox also under consideration

DCDS and members dentists are preparing to testify during a hearing of the DC Council Committee on Health on July 10 to oppose a proposal to require all specialist dentists to obtain a specialty license and maintain board certification in order to practicing openly in DC as a specialist. DCDS estimates that approximately half of all specialist dentists overall would be ineligible to secure a specialty license because of the board certification requirement. This proposal is included in the [Dental Specialties Licensure and Scope of Practice Amendment Act of 2023 \(B25-0632\)](#).

The deadline to register as a witness is 4:59 PM on Monday, July 8 (see link to right). The hearing on Wednesday, July 10, will begin at 9:30 AM, although the exact time that the committee will take up the Dental Specialties Act is uncertain because of other items on the agenda. Originally the hearing was scheduled to be held in person. To avoid logistical and security complications related to the NATO summit that will be held in DC next week, now the July 10 hearing will be held exclusively over Zoom.

It is important that DC dentists testify at the hearing to explain the devastating, long term impact this proposal would have on the number of dentists practicing in DC and consequently on the health and well-being of the public.

The legislation also include a provision to authorize dentists to administer FDA approved neurotoxins (e.g., BOTOX), but only for dental purposes. DCDS is advocating for a broader authorization to allow dentists with proper training to administer these substances, along with dermal fillers, for cosmetic as well as dental purposes.

Want to help this effort? See the checklist to the right.

Visit www.dcdental.org/advocacy to learn more about DCDS advocacy efforts or write to info@dcdental.org.

Checklist to Defeat DC Specialist Dentist License

☐ Learn about the issue

[See DCDS information page](#)

☐ Cosign our letter of opposition

[Add you name via our sign on form](#)

☐ Share this info
Tell your DC colleagues about this issue.

☐ Sign up to testify
[Register to testify for the July 10 hearing on the DC Council website](#)



Come Meet Your New DC Colleagues

DCDS Welcome Home Summer Networking Event

Thursday, July 18, 5—7 PM

DCDS is hosting a special event to welcome all dentists who are new to DC. Join us for the 2024 Welcome Home Networking Event. Enjoy complimentary hors d'oeuvres, drinks and camaraderie. Plus the event will include a speed networking activity to help you to connect with your DC colleagues whether you are new to DC or have been a member of the community for many years.

Please be sure to RSVP so we can add you to our building access list.

When: Wednesday, July 18 from 5-7 PM

Where: DCDS Headquarters—2001 K Street, 3rd Floor North

Metro Access: DCDS Headquarters is located 3-4 blocks from the Farragut North, Farragut West and Foggy Bottom stations.

Parking: Garage entrance is on L Street between 21st and 20th. Parking fee is \$13 after 5 PM. Vehicle height maximum is 6'2".

All dentists who are new to DC will receive a Welcome Home Gift Set, and if not already a DCDS member, will have an opportunity to join!

This innovative event is made possible thanks to generous funding from the ADA Acquisition, Retention and Conversion (ARC) Grant program.

[Register Here for Networking Event](#)

Refer a Dentist and Receive Recruitment Bonus when they Join!

We are stronger together. Help DCDS grow.

Members are encouraged to invite dentists who are not current members to join DCDS and the ADA. When a non-member dentist joins, the referring dentist will receive a \$100 recruitment bonus in appreciation.

Thank you Dr. Keith Progebin for referring Dr. Jamie Progebin, who is listed as a new member on page 7.

Letter from the President, Continued

DCDS Advocacy and Updates

Thank you to everyone who participated in our recent DCDS Town Hall Zoom and those who plan to testify during the July 10th hearing on the Dental Specialties Licensure and Scope of Practice Amendment Act of 2023 (B25-0632, "Specialty Act"). DCDS has been informed that the DC Department of Health will request an amendment to the legislation, providing a pathway to licensure for specialists who have completed a CODA accredited residency program. This proposed change addresses our primary concern, but continued support and testimony are crucial to ensure our voices are heard. Our testimony will also advocate for the administration of FDA-approved neurotoxins and dermal fillers by dentists for cosmetic as well as dental purposes following the necessary training.

We congratulate Dr. Chanelle A. Roberts and Dr. Imani E. Lewis, the newest members of the DC Board of Dentistry, as well as Dr. Jonelle Anamelechi and Dr. Eric Bradshaw who are nominated to the board and pending confirmation by the DC Council. We also extend our gratitude to Dr. John Bailey and Dr. Iris Jeffries Morton for their years of dedicated service as they reach their term limits.

DCDS supports the proposed changes to the Clean Hands legislation, which would exempt the issuance of occupational and business licenses from the requirement of owing no more than \$100 to the DC government. This legislation, pending action by the DC Council, will raise the clean hands threshold from \$100 to \$2,500 and could help our members by significantly expanding the pool of potential candidates to fill staff vacancies.

We have been meeting with DC Healthcare Finance regarding the need to increase fees paid to dentists for covered dental procedures under the DC Medicaid program. They have asked us to voluntarily participate in a Dental Advisory Group.

Special thanks to Mr. Kurt Gallagher (DCDS ED) and his staff, Ms. Cheryl Michi, Ms. Maeceon Lewis and Mr. Guy Nagbe, for their unwavering dedication and hard work in addressing the concerns of our profession and the public.

Upcoming Events

We are excited to host a special networking event on July 18th at the DC Dental Society headquarters to welcome the newest dentists to DC. This event will feature a speed networking component to facilitate connections between general dentists and specialists. We hope you will join us.

Please save the date for our next continuing education event on September 10th, focusing on Breathing Disorders and Myofunctional Therapy, presented by Gillian Gladstone Teran, MA, CCC-SLP.

Wishing you all a wonderful July filled with professional growth and community engagement.

Warm regards,

Cheryle Baptiste, DDS
President 2024-2025

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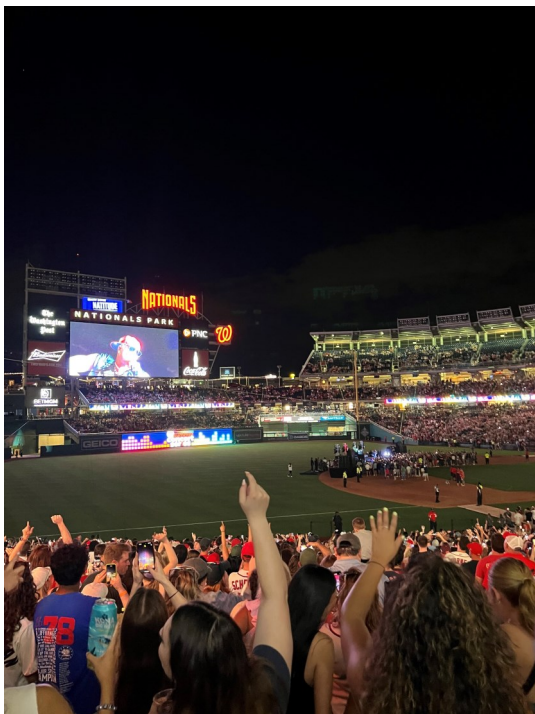
Guy Nagbe
Senior Associate

DC Dental Society
2001 K Street, NW
3rd Floor North
Washington, DC 20006
P: (202) 367-1163
F: (202) 367-2163
E: info@dcdental.org

DCDS Members Come Together at Nationals Park

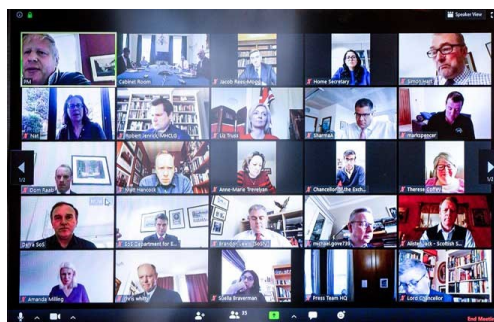
DCDS members had a fantastic time at the Nationals ball game on June 7! Nearly two dozen DCDS members, friends and family turned out to enjoy the game, and many stayed for fireworks and the free Flo Rida concert afterwards.

We hope to see you at our Welcome Home Summer Networking Event on July 18 as we introduce the newest DC dentists to the DCDS community. See page 3 for more details and to RSVP.



Coming Soon! DCDS Member Service Office Hours

Are you interested in learning more about your membership and the benefits that come along with it? Would you like to provide suggestions regarding DCDS programs? Starting in September, DCDS will pilot offering weekly virtual midday office hour sessions to better connect with our members. Watch for more details in the September newsletter.






Fall 2024 Continuing Education Presentations

Our monthly meetings are a fantastic opportunity for members to network, enjoy a meal together, and earn continuing education credits. And they're free for all members!

Monthly business meetings begin at 5:45 p.m. Educational session begins at approximately 6:00 p.m. [Visit the DCDS website](#) for course information, speaker bios, fees and cancellation policy.

[Register Here](#)

Meeting Date	Meeting Topic	Speaker	
September 10	Oral Motor/Orofacial Myofunctional Disorders In the Pediatric Population	Ms. Gillian Gladstone Teran	
October 17	Updates on Current Dental Materials	Dr. Nate Lawson	
November 14	Risk Management and Malpractice Avoidance	Dr. Marc Leffler	
December 10	Cybersecurity	Mr. Gary Salman	

About DCDS Speakers

Your DC Dental Society has developed a continuing education program that features leading experts in dental care whether they practice across the country or down the street. The inclusion of local presenters on the program for DCDS monthly meetings is intended to foster collegiality and support our local community. DCDS does not endorse one specialist over another, but celebrates D.C. talent.

Continuing Education Disclaimer: The District of Columbia Dental Society is an ADA CERP Recognized Provider. ADA CERP is a service of the American Dental Association to assist dental professionals in identifying quality providers of continuing dental education. ADA CERP does not approve or endorse individual courses or instructors, nor does it imply acceptance of credit hours by boards of dentistry. It is the responsibility of each participant to verify the CE requirements of his or her licensing or regulatory agency and to contact them with any questions regarding licensing. The DC Dental Society designates the above presentations for 2 CE credits each.

Concerns or complaints about a CE provider may be directed to the provider or to the **Commission for Continuing Education Provider Recognition** at [ADA.org/CERP](https://ada.org/CERP).

ADA CERP® | Continuing Education Recognition Program

Grant Opportunity from DC Health

Preventing Avoidable Dental Emergency Department Visits CHA-PADEDV-6.14.24

Intended to reduce dental-related Low Acuity, Non-Emergent (LANE) use of Emergency Departments (EDs), to improve effective use of dental services, improve patient experience, and improve health outcomes.

Anticipated Award Amount: \$150,000

Eligibility:

- Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC)
- Nonprofit or for-profit organizations providing clinical services within a dental Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSA).

Application Deadline: July 16, 2024

Visit [Preventing Avoidable Dental Emergency Department Visits](#) for more information.

Next Board of Dentistry Meeting

Wed., July 17th at 9 AM
Virtual

All DC Dentists are encouraged to attend

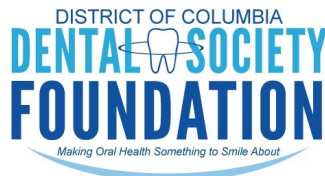
[Click this link](#) to join online.

A 3D, multi-colored word "Welcome" where each letter is a different color and has a 3D effect with shadows.

New Members

Dr. Melissa Bruno-Piverger	Dr. Nisha Joshi
Dr. Stacie Davis	Dr. Deborah Lanlokun
Dr. Christian Foster	Dr. Israa Mohamed
Dr. Arezou Garmestani	Dr. Jamie Progebin

DC DENTAL SOCIETY FOUNDATION



An Honor to Serve

"It has been my honor to provide services for patients in need through Catholic Charities. The patients are extremely grateful for their care. Our team takes so much pride in providing these services to these wonderful people with everyone being greatly rewarded by the experiences."

Dr. Jarred Abel

Sign up for DC Dental Cares, the DC Dental Society Foundation's pro bono program.

This program is win-win-win: for our community, for the individuals who receive dental procedures that would not otherwise be possible due to costs, and for the DCDS volunteer who gains that warm feeling that comes from doing good.

Patients are fully vetted for need by our partner, the Catholic Charities Healthcare Network (CCHCN), and the treating dentist sets the level of care provided. You can treat one person a year or several a month, all while in the comfort of your own office.

DC Dental Cares Sign Up Form

MEMBER VALUE

Save hundreds with DCDS and ADA Programs and Discounts

DC Dental Society has partnered with the following companies to bring you discounted pricing on the supplies and services for your practice.

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Educational Loans



Compliance Services



Consulting on Credit Card Fees



ADA Endorsed Programs

ADA endorsed companies bring you special member savings on products and services designed specifically to work for your practice: from professional liability insurance to business credit cards to office supplies and computers. There are also endorsements geared towards your home life, such as health insurance, appliances, and even automobiles.

Many members are able to recoup a great deal of their dues dollars through the savings they receive by simply participating in these programs. Take advantage of the benefits of membership.

For more information about these programs, visit the [DCDS website](#).

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We've saved over \$26,000—and counting. AND, we didn't have to change credit card processors. Who wouldn't appreciate saving both effort and money, which can now remain right where it belongs: in our own offices. All I had to do was send them the last three months of statements and they took it from there! The beauty of their win/win business model lies in its nature: they only benefit from actual savings achieved. If they can't save you money, there's no charge for their efforts.

If you're tired of feeling like you're at the mercy of credit card companies, it's time to take action. Let Merchant Advocate be your guide to greater financial freedom. Reach out to them today and start reclaiming control over your bottom line."



**-Dr. Aliya Kassam
Two Aces Dentistry
Washington, DC**

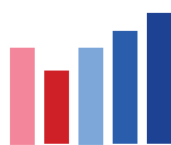
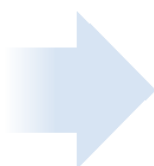


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GOVERNMENT OF THE
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DC MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR

HEALTH PROFESSIONAL LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM

On **March 15, 2024**, the District of Columbia Department of Health (DC Health) will accept applications for the Health Professional Loan Repayment Program (HPLRP). The program provides loan repayment services to eligible providers practicing in HPLRP-certified Service Obligation Sites (SOS) in the District.

Who Can Apply:

Primary Care, Mental Health, and Dental Providers, Including: Physicians, Dentists, Dental Hygienists, Registered Nurses, Midwives, Advanced Practice Nurses & Physician Assistants

The HPLRP will issue up to eleven (11) award contracts. Award contracts will cover two years of participation and award contract amounts will be equivalent to 44 percent of a provider's total eligible debt - up to a maximum of \$72,617.88 for physicians and up to \$39,938.83 for all other eligible primary care providers. The maximum award amount for four years of service is \$165,040.64 for medical doctors and dentists and \$90,770.07 for all other approved DC licensed providers.

When to Apply:

New provider applications will be accepted from
March 15, 2024 to April 15, 2024.

How to Apply:

dchealth.dc.gov/service/dc-health-professional-loan-repayment-program-hplrp

How to Complete an HPLRP Application

March 14, 2024 3-4pm

Meeting link: <https://tinyurl.com/5n6m9atd>

Join by phone: 202-860-2110

Access code: 2306 248 7393

Meet virtually with Cisco Webex.

Additional Information:

Providers interested in the program must be employed or have an employment contract with a certified Service Obligation Site (SOS) to provide direct patient care for at least 20 hours per week. A site must be an approved SOS for a provider to be eligible for the HPLRP. To become an SOS, a site must be a public or nonprofit entity located in a Health Professional Shortage or Medically Under-served Area/Population (HPSA/MUA/MUP) and must submit a Site Certification Application to the HPLRP. HPLRP applications, including recommendation letters and loan verification information, must be completed and received by DC Health by April 15, 2024.

Providers at for-profit facilities are newly eligible. See the website for details.

The anticipated contract start date for selected applicants is **August 2024**.





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Become a Member of the Seattle Study Club Network

Open enrollment to new members for the academic year 2024/ 2025

The Greater Washington Academy of Dental Studies (GWADS), an affiliate of the Seattle Study Club provides its members with an annual residency-type program in interdisciplinary dental therapeutics that may be right for you.

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Learn more about joining The GWADS Study

Club for our academic program 2024-2025.

For more information and registration call 202-293-7177.

Applications will be accepted through July 20th, 2024

CULTIVATING KNOWLEDGE * UNDERSTANDING * COLLABORATION * CAMRADERIE

How dental pain management has changed over the years

ADA Morning Huddle, July 1, 2024

The ADA Library & Archives has launched a digital exhibit that traces the progression of orofacial pain management throughout history, highlighting how recommendations.

[Full story: Dental pain relief has changed over the years](#)

Groups support diversity within dental profession

ADA Morning Huddle, June 27, 2024

Multiple dental associations exist to support dentists from various racial and ethnic backgrounds. Learn more about four of these groups.

[Full story: Support for diversity within dental profession](#)

Update on general practitioner dentist earnings

ADA Morning Huddle, July 1, 2024

The ADA Health Policy Institute provided insight into the earnings of general practitioner dentists in 2023.

[Full story: 2023 earnings for general practitioner dentists](#)

From the ADA

Legislation would provide access to dental for individuals with developmental disabilities

ADA Morning Huddle, July 1, 2024

The ADA Library & Archives has launched a digital exhibit detailing pain management in dentistry.

[Full story: Dental pain relief has changed over the years](#)

Deadline to use Phase 7 Provider Relief Fund Opened July 1

ADA Morning Huddle, July 1, 2024

All dentists who received funds during the seventh phase of the Provider Relief Fund have until June 30 to use the money.

[Full story: The seventh Provider Relief Fund reporting Period will open July 1 and remain open through September 30](#)

Overcoming perfectionism in dentistry

ADA Morning Huddle, July 1, 2024

Dentistry represents the perfect intersection between scientific precision and artistic creativity. It is not simply about treating teeth; dentists are artists.

[Full story: The pursuit of excellence among dentists](#)

Classifieds

Seeking Dental Practices for Acquisition in DMV Area

Description: Established dentist in the DMV (District of Columbia, Maryland, Virginia) region actively seeking to purchase dental practices. With a commitment to excellence in patient care and a proven track record of successful practice management, I am looking to expand my professional footprint by acquiring existing practices. If you are considering selling your dental practice and want a seamless transition that preserves your legacy while ensuring continued quality care for your patients, I am interested in discussing potential opportunities. Contact me to explore a mutually beneficial arrangement.

Contact: Dr. Despina Markogiannakis | 571-451-3533 | DrDMarko@gmail.com

Condo Unit for Sale

Description: Situated in the Foggy Bottom Submarket of Washington, DC, this property renovated in 2016 is a total of 5,000 SF which is comprised of a 3,800 SF Dental Suite with 7 chairs, reception, X-ray room, bathroom, and kitchen, along with a 1,200 SF Chiropractor Suite featuring 3 treatment rooms, restroom, storage, and spacious waiting room. Positioned opposite the George Washington University Hospital, it offers high visibility in the Washington Circle. The current chiropractic tenant is open to a sale leaseback arrangement.

Contact: Roxanne Ghashgai | 240-899-7355 | Roxanne@Inf.com

DCDS Member Ads

FREE Employment Ad for DCDS Members. DCDS members who are seeking employment or who have open staff positions can place a classified ad at no charge. Click on the link below to get started.

Advertise with DCDS

Classified ads in the DCDS Newsletter are easy. Simply submit your ad through [the DCDS online form](#). We will then send you a payment link. Payment must be received prior to publication.