



Some Insights on The Friends of NIDCR



As I ponder my 30 years of involvement with the National Foundation for Ectodermal Dysplasias (NFED), it is interesting to reflect on what people or circumstances led

to its successes in treatment care. The reason for the progress rests in one place.....the National Institutes for Dental Craniofacial Research.

When my relationships with key individuals at the NIDCR began, I could hardly imagine to what they would lead.

Sustaining those relationships has been easy via our involvement with the Friends of the NIDCR, a group committed to improving awareness of the Institute's work and working diligently to improve its budget.

Without those efforts and relationships our research successes would not have been possible. Quite simply, our continual relationship with the NIDCR and its "Friends" may have been the single most important facet of my years of work on behalf of the ED community.

Mary Kaye Richter
Past Executive Director
National Foundation for Ectodermal Dysplasias



As a representative of a patient advocacy group, I can't imagine not making involvement with the Friends of the NIDCR a top priority! The Sjögren's Syndrome Foundation

recognizes that the FNIDCR plays a unique role in bringing a wide range of constituents together to promote and support the work of the NIDCR, which is critical for patients whose condition or disease involves oral health.

The FNIDCR is a vital facilitator, helping us educate populations that are critical to the care of patients and accomplish the research that we hope will lead to better treatments and answers and ultimately improve the quality of life for millions.

The FNIDCR provides the only vehicle through which patient voices can join with all other stakeholders, so that together we can make a difference for the NIDCR and advocate for needed funding for all of NIH.

As NIDCR Director Martha Somerman stated recently upon referring to the NIDCR, "The sum is better than the parts." We are all better when we join together, learn from one another and join forces to make a difference in our future world.

Katherine Hammitt
Vice President of Research,
Sjögren's Syndrome Foundation



Oral health is often a stepchild. The NIDCR is a symbol for the recognition that the study of dental, oral and craniofacial illness is important to general health.

The impact of discoveries in improving the health of our population exceed the recognition.

The Friends of NIDCR exists to ensure that this role is understood by all the stakeholders - from Congress to the dentist in their office.

I consider myself exceptionally lucky to be part of the Friends of the NIDCR.

R. Bruce Donoff, DMD, MD
Dean
Harvard University, School of Dental Medicine



"I am a huge supporter of the National Institutes of Health, and particularly NIDCR, and the work you [the Friends of NIDCR] are doing. As a dentist, I personally

understand how dental and oral health research being done at the NIH and across the country is making a difference in Americans' lives. Your engagement is critical to the political process, and your advocacy is making a positive difference. I look forward to continuing to work with the Friends of NIDCR as we move forward."

Rep. Mike Simpson (R-ID)
Co-Chair, Oral Health Caucus



STAKEHOLDERS

AWARENESS – EXCELLENCE – INVESTMENT



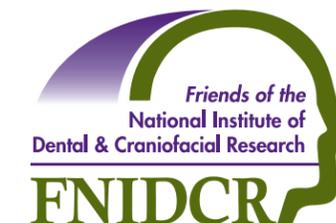
ACTIVITIES REPORT 2010-2011

FRIENDS OF THE NIDCR

The Friends of NIDCR promotes the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research and supports its mission by communicating the value of oral health research in improving the overall health of the body and the economy of the United States.



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From the President

Dear Members and Friends:
On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Friends of the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research, it is a pleasure to present our Activity Report for 2010-2011.

The Friends of NIDCR takes pride in how research conducted at NIDCR innovates, drives our nation's economy, and provides life-saving treatments and cures to the benefit of all Americans. That is why, as our nation is in the midst of a challenging budgetary environment meeting, our mission—to educate about the importance of investing in dental and oral health research for a better quality of life—is as crucial as ever.

I am proud that the Friends of NIDCR has undertaken initiatives that have helped to keep oral health research at the forefront of a very busy policy agenda in Washington and visible within our communities.

This Activity Report highlights details of these ongoing initiatives.

Speaking from the perspective of a dean, I contend that priming the research engine that creates the knowledge to populate the dental curriculum must be the primary goal of any dental school faculty. With the support of the Friends of NIDCR, we create a loud voice to advocate for research that makes a difference for those we teach and serve.

It is my duty to recognize Dr. Bruce Donoff, our Immediate Past President, for his tremendous contributions to these initiatives on behalf of FNIDCR, Executive Director Peter Anas and his staff for their exceptional support, and of course, our valued members whose enthusiasm for research, selfless contributions, and participation have helped to propel the Friends of NIDCR toward our goal



Christian Stohler DDS, DrMedDent
President, Friends of NIDCR
Dean, University of Maryland School of Dental Medicine



Being an Information Resource
Keeping Our Members Updated on Recovery Act Funding (ARRA) & Overall Federal Budget Process



FNIDCR's monthly E-news provides its members with important information about the latest NIDCR research, developments with the overall federal budget process as it moves through Congress, and much more!

Bringing Stakeholders Together
Demonstrating How NIDCR Research Benefits the Community



FNIDCR Town Hall:
University of Maryland Dental School

"Bringing Oral Research Home" at the University of Maryland Dental School was the first in a nationwide series of town halls that underscore the value oral health research brings to communities and to highlight the benefits of oral health research funded by the NIDCR. The audience of over 200 included students, researchers, physicians, faculty, alumni, donors and dental association executives, as well as local residents who are interested in oral health.



The two-hour forum included presentations from UMD Dental School research grantees, an eye-opening panel discussion and remarks from **NIDCR Acting Director Isabel Garcia** and the President of the University of Maryland.

Joining with Oral Health Groups
Generated Congressional Support to Save CDC's Division of Oral Health

FNIDCR contributed to the advocacy efforts of the Congressional Oral Health Caucus, and joined with fellow oral health organizations, to rally support among House members to oppose the downgrade of the CDC's Division of Oral Health to branch status with a May 2011 "Dear Colleague" Letter to appropriators. This letter garnered 46 bipartisan signatures from House members. In November 2011, the CDC announced it would not downgrade the Division of Oral Health

Creating Ongoing Awareness & Increased Visibility of NIDCR on Capitol Hill



left to right: FNIDCR Executive Director Peter Anas, Rep. Nita Lowery (D-NY), Former NIDCR Director Dr. Lawrence Tabak, NIDCR Deputy Director Dr. Isabel Garcia and former FNIDCR President Dr. Bruce Donoff

Arranged courtesy visits for NIDCR directors to update legislators about the latest developments and advances in research being conducted through NIDCR funding.

Honoring Excellence
Hosting a Successful 12th Annual Conference & Awards



Continuing a tradition of promoting the work of the NIDCR, this year's conference attracted an audience of researchers, dentals school deans, professors and researchers, clinicians, local area practitioners, and corporate and association executives, matching the previous conference attendance levels.



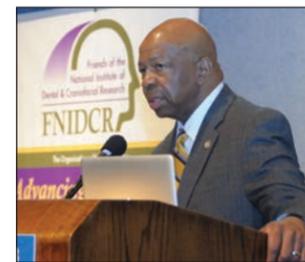
"From the afternoon research presentations on "Oral Health: Research Advancements & Technology Innovations," to the camaraderie at the networking reception, to the stirring remarks by Congressman

Keeping Oral Health & Investment in NIDCR on Policymakers' Agendas
FNIDCR -- the organization with one message -- Advancing Oral Health Research for a Better Quality of Life.

With so many interests vying for the attention of Members of Congress—both domestic and foreign policy—it is a constant challenge to keep oral health research high on the agenda of our nation's policymakers. Through a multitude of strategies, FNIDCR strives to accomplish this task annually.

Increased, by six-fold, the Congressional Oral Health Caucus to 24 members

Created in conjunction with FNIDCR, the Congressional Oral Health Caucus is a bipartisan body in the U.S. House of Representatives that champions oral health. Through relationship-building on Capitol Hill and grass roots efforts, FNIDCR helped to increase membership in the caucus by six-fold since June 2007. FNIDCR works with the caucus to project the importance of oral health research to legislator via congressional letters, Capitol Hill briefings, and other effective legislative and awareness initiatives.



Rep. Elijah Cummings

Continued to fight for sustained investment in oral health research amid a tight budgetary environment:

Correspondence to the Executive Branch



FNIDCR sends letters to key officials of the Executive Branch, including the president of the United States and director of the Office of Management and Budget, as they work to annually formulate the president's budget.



Cummings, to the uplifting keynote address by Dr. Ken Salyer, followed by the recognition of outstanding achievements in oral health research of this year's awardees, a day of learning and high spirit for NIDCR was had by all," said **Leo Rouse**, Conference Chair and Dean of the Howard Dental School.

In her luncheon keynote address "Enhancing Oral Health Care Through Research and Innovation," **NIDCR Director Martha Somerman** provided many examples of innovative research that is being supported and conducted by NIDCR and the great implications for clinical practice and future dental education.



Created an "Oral Health Research Fact Sheet"

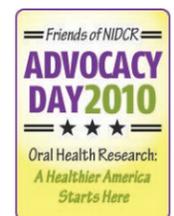


Providing concise data and examples of how oral health research benefits all Americans, the Fact Sheet was published for the oral health community to share with legislators. It was distributed to key members of Congress, including the Oral Health Caucus, appropriators, and members of the "Supercommittee."

Provided Written Testimony to Congress

FNIDCR presidents have submitted written testimony to the congressional appropriations subcommittees that are responsible for funding NIH and NIDCR. Through its written testimony, FNIDCR's position on the importance of proper federal funding for research has been entered into the public record.

Held an informative Congressional Briefing



Hosted in cooperation with the Oral Health Caucus, our briefing blended the perspectives of NIDCR and the research and patient communities to provide a common voice about the benefits of medical research to all facets of society.

... All contributing to efforts that saw NIDCR realize an increase in FY2012 funding amid a tough budgetary environment.