

## Program Outcomes

The Give Kids A Smile program has been very successful since its inception in 2003.

- Over 3,300 kids have received oral health care through the GKAS Program.
- Over \$1,300,000 of free services have been donated by the dentists and their staff.
- Over 50% of the children screened return to the dentist for restorative work.
- 5% to 10% of the children have eight or more cavities that will be fixed.



1830 6th Avenue  
Moline, Illinois 61265

1202 W. Third Street  
Davenport, Iowa 52802

1500 Plaza Place, Suite 110  
Muscatine, Iowa 52761

115 S. 2nd Street Unit 6  
Maquoketa, Iowa 52060

101 S. Chestnut  
Kewanee, Illinois 61443

103 3rd Street  
Carbon Cliff, Illinois 61239

**Chris Allers**  
Program Manager  
309.736.6650  
[callers@bethany-qc.org](mailto:callers@bethany-qc.org)

**Evena Wash**  
Billing Clerk  
309.736.6616  
[ewash@bethany-qc.org](mailto:ewash@bethany-qc.org)



## Give Kids A Smile

Provides preventative and restorative care to children who do not have access to oral health care.



# Give Kids A *Smile*



## **What is the Give Kids A Smile program?**

The Give Kids A Smile (GKAS) program is a community program and national screening day aimed to increase access to dental care to the underserved, low-income children. This program is endorsed by the American Dental Association (ADA) and the ADA Foundation and is coordinated locally by the GKAS Board of Advisors. It is one of the many community services programs of Bethany for Children & Families.



## **What qualifies my child for these services?**

GKAS services are available to children ages three to 17 who are at or below 200% of the federal poverty level, who have never been to a dentist, who do not have dental insurance, or have Medicaid but cannot find a provider who accepts that type of insurance.

## **Where does the program take place?**

Give Kids A Smile takes place on a mobile dental clinic that travels directly to schools in Rock Island and Scott Counties. Five licensed dental staff members provide exams in the mobile clinic. An additional eighty to 95 volunteer dentists, provide restorative work in their office.

## **What does my child receive while in the program?**

Children who qualify for this program receive the following dental services in the mobile dental clinic free of charge:

- education to help improve oral health
- cleaning
- exam
- sealants (if necessary)
- fluoride treatment

The volunteer dentists also provide follow-up care but specialists are based on availability.

These services may include:

- amalgam and composite fillings
- extractions
- root canals
- orthodontia



## **Who goes with my child to the dentist?**

Parents are strongly encouraged to attend the dental office with their children. If a child is referred to a specialist for dental work the general dentist cannot complete, the parent must accompany the child to his/her appointments. In general, outside volunteers, and staff from Bethany accompany the children to their dental visit. Bethany agency vehicles are used to transport the children to the dentist for restorative work.



## **How are referrals handled for this program?**

School nurses send out a parent letter and consent form to children at their school. The forms are returned to the school nurse who then gives the form to the GKAS Program Manager. The manager reviews the forms for completeness and then, based on the information given, decides whether or not a child is allowed into the program.



Keeping *children* safe, strengthening *families*, and building healthy *communities* since 1899