



Sonrisas  
Dental Health

sonrisas

2022 | 2023 Annual Report



# Dear Sonrisas Family,

Nationwide, 30% of children ages 6-12 miss school due to poor oral health, up to 25% of sickness-related work absences are attributed to dental disease, and one in five adults 65+ are missing all their teeth. Although San Mateo County is one of the wealthiest regions in the country, our low-income neighbors are acutely impacted by the lack of access to dental care. You likely know children and adults whose future is impacted by the lack of dental care, including education and work opportunities, continuing the cycle of poverty. Poor oral health is clinically linked to increased risk of heart disease, stroke and diabetes, which also disproportionately affects disadvantaged communities. Sonrisas Dental Health is dedicated to delivering excellent dental care with cultural humility, no matter the physical, developmental, or financial challenges our patients face.

Over the past fiscal year, 4,800 children and adults received dental services – ranging from urgent care to routine, preventive care – at Sonrisas clinics through nearly 14,000

patient visits. 74% of these visits benefited low-income community members. At the same time, 3,000 low-income children and older adults in San Mateo County received dental screenings and oral health education.

As the demand for dental care continues to increase, Sonrisas is taking strides towards sustainable, community-centered growth. This process includes inviting patients and the broader community to the table and caring for the Sonrisas team that delivers these services.

On behalf of the Sonrisas Board, staff, and our community, we want to express our gratitude to you: our partners, donors, and neighbors for your commitment to and investment in our common mission.



Tracey Carrillo Fecher | CEO



Nigel Taverner | Board Chair



## Care Coordination

With new immigrants and immigrant families constituting a major portion of Sonrisas service recipients, Sonrisas' clinical and care coordination staff speak seven languages in addition to English, ensuring everyone in the community feels seen, safe, and respected. Care coordination focuses on assisting with benefit eligibility, explaining care needs, finding dental homes for those without one, and establishing holistic oral hygiene families can practice together.

# an impactful year

Sonrisas had nearly 14,000 patient visits in FY 2022-2023. 74% of these visits served low-income households.

**3,000**  
school screenings in FY22-23





## School Partnerships

Sonrisas partners with school districts throughout San Mateo County to provide dental screenings to high-risk students.

## Access to Care

Sonrisas provided 10,256 dental treatments to low-income patients. Of those, 4,745 dental visits were for children.





# Strategic Plan

In FY22-23, Sonrisas concluded the first year of its three-year plan, consisting of strategic priority areas of patient and community engagement, organizational culture, and sustainable growth.

## Highlights of Year 1

- Pilot patient survey launched. Patients give Sonrisas high marks, wish for more capacity.
- DEIJ (Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice) training provided to employees and Board members.
- Team building events increased, reconnecting employees after the pandemic.
- Framework created to diversify funding streams and grow donor base.



In the 23-24 fiscal year, we look forward to advancing the Sonrisas strategic plan to empower our community, invest in our people, and expand our services.





# Natalia's New Sonrisa

This is the story of Natalia and her mom, Oneida. Natalia received care at Sonrisas after our screening at her school identified urgent dental needs. Sonrisas has been operating at full capacity since the pandemic, but our Care Coordination team was able to get Natalia in for treatment the following day after a spot became available due to a cancellation. After her cavities were filled, Sonrisas staff worked with Natalia and her family to develop a home hygiene routine, including regular brushing and flossing, to prevent future dental issues. We are proud to be a part of stories like Natalia's.



[If viewing online, click here](#)



Irma



Oneida



# Oral Care is a Core Equity Issue

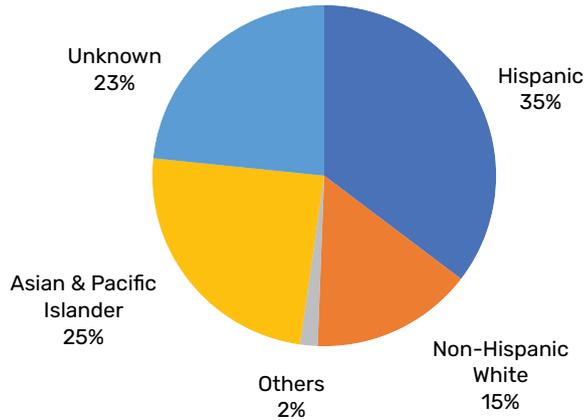
**Missing School** **30%** of children ages 6-12 miss school due to oral health issues.

**Economic Mobility** **1 in 4** sickness-related work absences are due to dental disease.

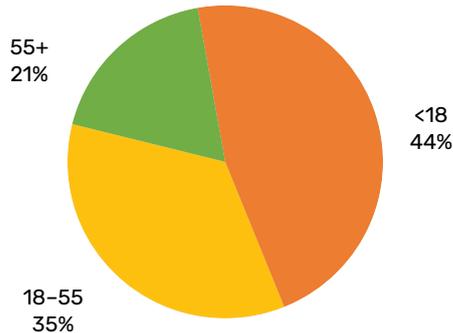
**Retiring with Dignity** **1 in 5** adults 65+ are missing all their teeth.

Under-resourced communities suffer from disparate impact access to oral health care. Poor oral health is clinically linked to increased risk of heart disease, stroke, and diabetes, ailments that also disproportionately affect disadvantaged communities.

FY 2023 Clinic Statistics: Race



FY 2023 Clinic Statistics: Age



**13,968** patient visits In FY23

**4,767** individuals cared for

**2,985** school screenings

**609** new-to-Sonrisas patients

**245** senior screenings and mobile visits

**16,750** patient visits planned

**74%** low-income households served

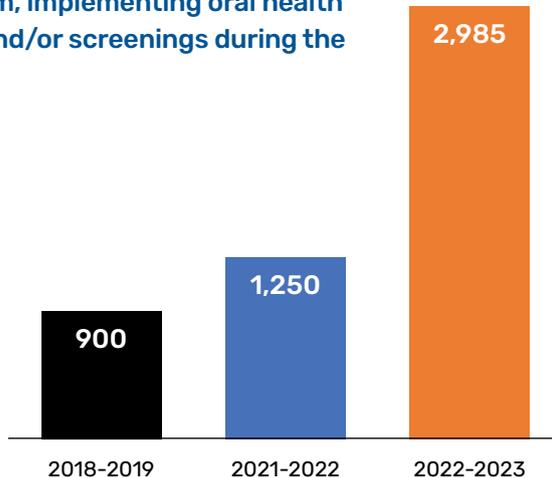
**2.9** visits per patient

## Outreach/Screenings

Dr. Bonnie Jue, DDS, Sonrisas' Director of Community Engagement, led our school-based Oral Health and Education Program which served 2,985 low-income students. In total, 52 schools and early learning programs were involved.

The outreach team had set out to screen 2,000 children during the fiscal year, a goal it overperformed by 50%.

**Sonrisas also served 245 seniors at seven different senior care facilities under a pilot program, implementing oral health education and/or screenings during the fiscal year.**



Dr. Bonnie Jue, DDS

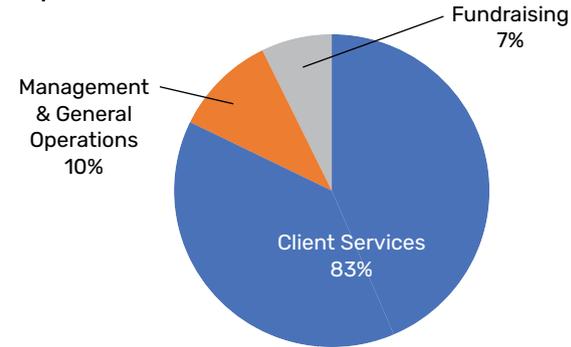


# Fiscal Year 2022-2023

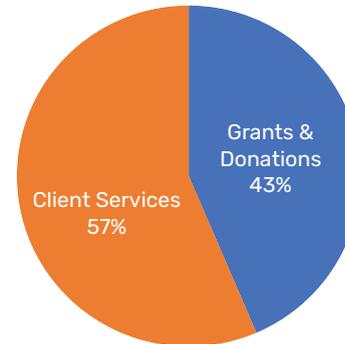
**Operating Budget: \$5,049,246**

Financial reimbursements from most public dental insurance sources cover half of the cost of providing high-quality care to neighbors in need, many of whom have high and urgent care needs due to lack of prior care. In FY22, Sonrisas fundraised more than \$2.2 million to bridge the gap.

Expenditures



Funding Sources



## Vision

Every adult and child in San Mateo County has a dental home, including those with physical, developmental, or economic challenges.

## Mission

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.



## Board Members

Nigel Taverner, Board President

Henry Sanchez, MD, Board Vice President

Clyde Hinshelwood, Board Secretary

Lawrence Cappel, PHD

Larrisa Cutler

Dennis Kneoppel, RN, BSN, MPA

Rick Navarro, MD

Steve Stielstra

Sheryl Young

## Leadership Team

Tracey Carrillo Fecher , Chief Executive Officer

Torrey Rothstein, DDS, Dental Director

Bonnie Jue, DDS, Community Engagement Director

Spandan Chakrabarti, Community Resources Director

# Truck Donation to Samaritan House

Sonrisas donated a truck to Samaritan House in Spring 2023 to help Samaritan House deliver fresh groceries and prepared meals to the community members in need.

“Sonrisas Dental Health has had a partnership with Samaritan House for many years. As safety net healthcare providers, equity is key to our shared mission in San Mateo County.”

Tracey Carrillo Fecher, CEO, Sonrisas Dental Health

“Due to supply chain issues during the pandemic, Samaritan House had a new panel truck on order for over a year. Sonrisas offered to donate their panel truck to us. It was the perfect solution! Sonrisas and Samaritan House’s shared mission to serve those most in need in our community makes our partnership even more meaningful.”

Laura Bent, CEO, Samaritan House San Mateo



From Left to Right: Sonrisas CEO Tracey Carrillo Fecher, Samaritan House San Mateo CEO Laura Bent, and Sonrisas Dental Director Torrey Rothstein, DDS.

# Sonrisas' Partnership with Puente de la Costa Sur

The partnership between Puente de la Costa Sur and Sonrisas has helped farmworkers who live in San Mateo County's South Coast have access to dental care at a mobile clinic. This wouldn't be possible without the partnership between our two organizations. The mobile clinic is hosted by Puente, which has deep connection and trust among the farmworker community, something Sonrisas' culturally competent, excellent care complements.

Sonrisas CEO Tracey Carrillo Fecher (left),  
Puente de la Costa Sur Executive Director Rita Mancera (right).





Cooking for a Cause Event



It was an honor to celebrate Cheryl Fama, retired CEO of the Peninsula Health Care District, and a champion of equitable dental health care in San Mateo County.



# Visions of Valencia





The event raised \$150,000 thanks to Sonrisas' generous donors and sponsors!



# Meet Shruti Singh, DDS

Shruti Singh, DDS, graduated Cumme Laude from University at Buffalo (SUNY) School of Dentistry, New York. She was inducted into the Omicron Kappa Upsilon (OKU) Dental Honor Society. Prior to that, she pursued dental education in India and graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Dental Surgery.

Dr. Singh chose dentistry as a career because of her love for patients and thoroughly enjoys building a doctor-patient relationship, making her patients feel at-home and providing the highest standard of dental care. Dr. Singh loves to work closely with her patients and believes that communication and clear understanding are the most important keys in achieving the best outcomes.



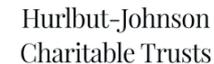
**“We provide care to the most vulnerable population of San Mateo County; our patients tend to be most affected by taking time off work. Saturday access to our dental clinic improves their ability to take care of their oral health, even with busy weekday schedules. This reduces stress and inconvenience to those families.”**

**Shruti Singh, DDS**



## Funding Partners

Our funding partners make it possible for us to directly impact and improve the health and quality of life of our neighbors. In addition to the institutional partners below, Sonrisas is deeply grateful for financial contributions of individual community members who have made our mission their own.



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



thank you



Sonrisas  
Dental Health

smiles

**Sonrisas Dental Health**  
430 N. El Camino Real  
San Mateo, CA 94401  
Tel (650) 727-3480

**Sonrisas Dental Health**  
210 San Mateo Rd, Suite 104  
Half Moon Bay, CA 94019  
Tel (650) 726-2144

[sonrisadental.org](http://sonrisadental.org)

