

KINGERY & KINGERY DDS, PLLC

Dentistry from the Heart

By Carolyn S. Peterson

Drs. William and Mary Kingery, brother and sister partners in their dental practice in Clemmons, NC, joined the growing number of dental offices nationwide and gave free dental care to those in need of it with Dentistry from the Heart. "Every year for the past 10 years, individual dentists and practices across the country have donated their time and resources to host Dentistry from the Heart events. Drs. Kingery & Kingery, as well as the staff, were excited to be involved this year in our event on April 8th and, although it was our first event like this, it won't be our last," said Celeste Lyon, Kingery & Kingery Team Leader.

Spreading Smiles Across the Country and Triad

Dentistry from the Heart is a national non-profit organization dedicated to partnering with dental practices to bring free dental care to those in need. Founded in 2001 by Dr. Monticciolo's Florida dental practice, the word and the passion to spread smiles across the country soon spread. This year alone the scheduled events are forecasted to serve over 30,000 patients and provide millions of dollars in free dental care. On a local level, Drs. Kingery & Kingery and their staff planned for this event for a long time. Without knowing how the day would unfold or of the response, they followed the guidelines laid out by the Dentistry from the Heart organization. "In order to give the best care possible, we were limited to seeing 100 patients, first come, first served, 8-5 pm, many of whom called in advance. We saw refugees from a country near Thailand who had never seen a dentist before. In their culture, they are taught if one has a tooth removed, they will go blind. Other than asking about the patients' health history, we did not inquire as to why they chose to come to the event. There were no prequalifications that the patients had to meet. Each patient chose one treatment to have, whether that was a cleaning, a filling or extraction. However, if Dr. Bill or Dr. Mary saw a more pressing issue once the patient was examined, that was the treatment that the patient received," Lyon commented.

Since this was the first year of involvement in Dentistry from the Heart for the Kingery & Kingery dental practice, they had no idea exactly what to expect from the day, but they do expect for the event to grow in the future. "We are in hopes in the years to come that this event will grow with more participation from other dental groups in the area. The local radio stations were great in helping spread the word about the event. A special thanks to Krispy Kreme, Henry Schein Dental



Products, Willow's Bistro and volunteers from Revo Church and our own hygienist and assistants who made this all possible. Being able to accommodate more patients and take care of their needs is our goal and joining with other practices is the best way to meet those needs," stated Lyon.

Love of Community Drives Practice's Involvement

Dr. William Kingery began his practice in the area in 1974, being joined in 1983 by his sister Dr. Mary Kingery. "We are a general dentistry practice but we have expanded into specialty dentistry, such as Six Month Smiles, Lumineers, Invisalign, Zoom Whitening, implants, cosmetic dentistry and laser dentistry. You name it, we probably have it! But along with giving our patients the best care in any area of their dental needs, we are always looking for ways to give back to a community that has given so much to us. We are involved with Operation Gratitude Candy Buy Back Program, Toys for Tots, food drives, the American Red Cross, and now, with Dentistry from the Heart. For us as a practice, giving back to the community and giving the best care to our patients is what we strive to do daily," Lyon said.

Kingery & Kingery is located at 2554 Lewisville-Clemmons Rd, Clemmons, NC. For more information, call 766-0511 or visit www.kingerysmiles.com.

