

Celebrating Achievements

The LSU Health School of Dentistry celebrates the achievements of faculty, staff and students through many awards and honors. Organizations and people within LSUSD are being recognized for their excellence.

Outstanding patient care and service is always important at LSUSD.

This month, **Angela Jones**, patient accounts supervisor, was named a "**Luminary of Leadership**". Suzanne Farrar, RDH, MSHCM and Director of Clinical Staff and patient services presented the certificate to Ms. Jones. The honor recognizes an LSUSD employee who demonstrates outstanding leadership qualities and contribution to their professions.



During the Student Professional and Ethics Association (SPEA) annual session, the **LSU Health School of Dentistry SPEA Chapter** was the recipient of the organization's "**Momentum Award**". The national award recognizes the student chapter that has worked hard to host successful events and to establish a strong presence at their school. LSU's SPEA chapter was founded in 2019 and holds regular events for the student body such as an annual Residents' Panel, Lunch 'N Learns and creative fundraisers.

Partnering to Help Children

The LSU Health School of Dentistry is a partner with The Health Enrichment Network, a non-profit that helps educators and parents understand the importance of good oral health for children. EatMoveGrow operates in 23 parishes and is working with 40 schools. In addition to dental screenings, they offer a wide variety of services like healthy lifestyle curriculum, painted play spaces and assistance to help the school cafeteria with healthy food options. From 2017-2020, the organization was able to offer dental services to almost 1,500 children across 16 schools with an estimated value of \$127,903. Lisa Staples, MPH, CHES, the LSUSD Oral Health Lead for EMG, helps coordinate the dental initiative. "Access to care is a major issue in rural areas. From 2019-2020, 15% of the children who were seen in school dental clinics required urgent care," she says. EMG cited that 23% of children seen from 2017-2020 had decayed molars. In that time, almost 3,200 sealants with an estimated value of \$80,000 were placed on children's teeth. Due to COVID restrictions, EMG sponsored in-person dental screenings have come to a halt, but there are some virtual tools that schools can use to keep children healthy. For more information head over to eatmovegrow.us.



Faculty Achievements

Dr. Amir Nejat is a finalist for the Stanley D. Tylmann Research Award from the American Academy of Fixed Prosthodontics. He is also one of 6 finalists for the John J. Sharry competition of the American College of Prosthodontics. In July, Dr. Nejat joined LSUSD as an Assistant Professor.

Dr. Fay Mascarenhas completed her American Board of Prosthodontics and is now a Fellow in the American Board of Prosthodontics. Dr. Mascarenhas is an Assistant Professor in the department of Prosthodontics at LSUSD.

Mr. Edwin Kee, BS, MCDT has been nominated for the National Association of Dental Laboratories Technician of the Year Award. Mr. Kee is an Associate Professor in the department of Prosthodontics.