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Public Health Info Update:

Dental Health + Donor Support

In February, Peterborough Public Health (PPH) tabled a report on the dental health status of county residents based on oral health programs at PPH.

The background on this file is that good oral health is essential to overall health and quality of life.

Oral pain, missing teeth or oral infections can influence the way a person speaks, eats and socializes. On-going oral health problems can reduce a person's quality of life by affecting their physical, mental and social well-being. PPH conducts oral health screening in every school in the Peterborough area.

On average 8% of children screened in schools were identified with an urgent dental need. The Dental Treatment Assistance Fund (DTAF) is the only local fund dedicated to providing funds for emergency dental treatment to people who have no access to dental insurance. It is funded exclusively through

donations, and from 2015 to 2018, DTAF assisted 702 individuals between 18 and 82 years of age. The average cost of emergency treatment from the fund was \$127 per person.

On the donation file, PPH received a total of \$30,044 in charitable donations for programs last year. Also in 2018, 76 employees made charitable donations through payroll deductions, with donations being directed to the public health programs and/or the United Way. 40% of that total was donated by PPH employees.



As it continues to develop its fund-raising strategy, PPH will continue to inform the public that **PPH is a charitable organization and welcomes donations**. Donors can submit funds directly via the PPH website or they can use www.canadahelps.org as a convenient way to make their donations.

For more information, please see Make a Donation on www.PeterboroughPublicHealth.ca