



Medical and Dental Missions

PURPOSE

Partnering with an Arkansas Baptist church, the Medical and Dental Missions Team will provide a one-day Medical and Dental Clinic offering free medical and dental services to those in need while sharing the love of Christ through prayer and gospel conversations. We have a passion to serve people because of the love we have experienced through Jesus Christ (1 John 4:19).

CLINIC GOALS

- To share the love of Christ with each patient through gospel conversations, prayer, and Christlike behavior.
- To provide medical and dental services that are accessible to everyone's need.
- To improve the overall health of patients through education and free healthcare.
- To treat patients professionally, confidentially, and without discrimination.
- To assist local church leadership in mobilizing the church for missions in their community.

HOST CHURCH RESPONSIBILITIES

Communication between the ABSC Medical and Dental Missions Coordinator and the host church is a key factor for a successful Clinic. The following are responsibilities of the host church.

- Select an individual to serve as the Medical and Dental Clinic Coordinator for your church. This individual will assist the ABSC Medical and Dental Missions Coordinator in planning the Clinic. This individual can be the Pastor, a staff member, or a church member.
- Send pictures of rooms available for the Clinic, along with dimensions of the rooms, to the ABSC Medical and Dental Missions Coordinator (jjalbritton@absc.org).
- Recruit professional volunteers from the local medical community. Involve the church in this process by encouraging them to ask friends and family members from the medical community or their family dentist or medical doctor if they would be interested in volunteering. The ABSC Medical and Dental Missions Coordinator is available to answer any questions potential professional volunteers may have. Clinic needs include: 3-4 dentists, 4-5 dental assistants, 3 hygienists, and 4-6 nurses.
- Mobilize church members to serve during the Clinic. Encourage as many church members as possible to be involved in the Clinic. Host church volunteer needs include:
 - 2-4 volunteers to assist the Medical and Dental Missions Team in unloading the trailer on the Friday prior to the Clinic.
 - 1-2 volunteers to assist at the Registration Desk.

- 10 volunteers to serve as runners assisting patients from one station to the next.
- 4-6 volunteers to serve on the Evangelism Team sharing the gospel one-on-one or with a family and praying with patients.
- 1-2 volunteers at the Discharge Desk.
- 4-6 volunteers to serve on the Follow-Up Team. Although members of this team may serve on other teams during the Clinic, their primary responsibility will be to assist the Pastor in contacting those making decisions or indicating no local church affiliation during the Clinic.
- Other volunteers can serve by simply walking around and talking to patients. Taking the time to have conversations and build relationships shows individuals that the church cares for them. This also helps relieve the natural anxiety some have in seeing a dentist or the anxiety created by having to wait.
- Volunteers can also assist in making coffee, distributing water, preparing food, and distributing food.
- All volunteers need to arrive by 7:30am on the morning of the Clinic. This will allow for a brief orientation and prayer prior to the Clinic opening at 8:00am. Dentists, dental assistants, and hygienists need to arrive by 8:30am.
- Provide snacks or food and water for patients. It is not unusual for patients to be waiting to see the dentist for an extended period. A snack or a hot dog will help meet their physical needs during their wait. Combining a Block Party with the Clinic is a great way to meet this need. Please contact Clint Ritchie (critchie@absc.org) for assistance in scheduling a Block Party.
- Some churches provide a snack room and lunch for the volunteer team. Although not a requirement, this does help greatly. If a Block Party is scheduled, please include the number of volunteers for your food preparation.
- Advertise the Clinic in all ways possible (social media, local businesses, health department, backpack programs at the local school, community bulletin boards). The Medical and Dental Missions Coordinator will email an ABSC approved flyer for all advertisements. Please use only that flyer. Ask for permission from local businesses before posting the flyer on their building/property.
- Promote the Clinic as a ministry provided entirely through the Dixie Jackson Arkansas Missions Offering while recruiting church volunteers and during at least two Sunday worship services prior to the Clinic. Two videos are available here: <https://www.absc.org/ministries/medical-and-dental-missions>. Additional Dixie Jackson videos and resources are available here: <https://www.absc.org/resources/videos-dixie-jackson>.
- Provide 15-20 tables and 75-100 chairs.
- Prepare volunteers for a fast-paced day, as we serve God, meet needs, and share Christ.