



District of Columbia
DENTAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

January 2024, Vol. 70, No. 1



Dr. Cheryle Baptiste

Letter from incoming DC Dental Society President Cheryle Baptiste, DDS, FICD, FIAMDI

Happy New Year DCDS Family!

I look forward to fellowshipping with our membership on Tuesday, January 16, 2024 at our DCDS Annual Awards Meeting at Maggiano's Little Italy.

As we enter 2024 I have a vision of an uplifting year as we benefit from the contributions of our past and new officers and committees. DCDS's Executive Director, Mr.

Kurt Gallagher, and the administrative staff, Ms. Cheryl Michi and Ms. Maeceon Lewis are primed to propel us as we grow and support our membership.

Please read the December 2023 DCDS Newsletter which opens with a meaningful letter from Dr. Ioana "Anna" Bettios, DCDS President 2022-2024. New strategic areas for work have been identified and new strategic goals are under development to guide us purposely through this year.

DCDS was invited to serve on the DC Medical Care Advisory Committee (MCAC). The MCAC website states that it is "a forum for key participants and stakeholders in the Medicaid program, including consumers, advocates, providers and DC officials to review the program's operations and offer advice for improvements directly to the Department of Health Care Finance."

Congratulations to new DCDS member Dr. Dereje Bereded and DCDS Executive Director, Mr. Kurt Gallagher on your appointment to this committee. Since dentistry has not been included in the health strategies in DC, we appreciate your presence at the table and look forward to your reports.

I also have a goal to strengthen the relationship between DCDS and the Robert T. Freeman Dental Society. RTFDS was the founding chapter of and is the local chapter representing the National Dental Association. As the Immediate Past President of the RTFDS and President Elect of the NDA, I see the benefits

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Letter from the President

of close collaboration between our organizations for the benefit of all dentists in DC.

Please save the date for our next CE meeting, Tuesday, February 13, which will be a Joint Zoom presentation entitled "To Do or Not to Do: When, Why, and How to Treat the Oral Health Needs of Older Adults" presented by Dr. Piedad Suarez Durall and Dr. Roseann Mulligan. Members of the RTFDS are invited to attend as a step to foster a closer relationship between our two organizations.

The reason that organized dentistry is so important to me is because there is no other group that can offer support like my fellow dental colleagues. We understand what we went through to graduate, what investing in a dental practice costs-physically, emotionally, financially and the time commitments. We know how to encourage each other and we know how to empathize with our challenges. Organized dentistry is here to support us. We have to be present to help keep it strong. I have experienced days of staffing challenges, patients' unrealistic expectations, running behind schedule and wanting to retire that day, but the ability to describe my day with a dental friend and to be able to laugh after they describe a similar day is therapeutic and keeps me smiling. Sharing how we can solve dental issues gives us opportunities to offer options to benefit our patients.

I would like to thank all DCDS members who have served our society over the past year through involvement on a committee. Your participation is essential to conducting DCDS programs.

If you would like to get involved by joining a committee please sign up via the button below. In particular, there are opportunities on the Education Committee, Membership Committee and Public Policy Committee.

My father, the late Dr. Roy L. Baptiste, used to recite a quote from Eldridge Cleaver to me daily; "If you are not part of the solution, you are part of the problem." T. Siedner said "There is no more neutrality in the world. You either have to be part of the solution, or you're going to be part of the problem." No matter who said it first, it has stuck in my soul. Instead of complaining, my first instinct is to do what I can to contribute to a solution.

I am committed to a goal to thrive together in 2024!

Cheryle Baptiste, DDS, FICD, FIAMDI
President 2024-2025

[Join a Committee](#)

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Dr. Naghme "Nina" Latifi
Dr. Chris Loukaitis
Dr. Clare McGorry
Dr. Allen Robinson
Dr. Luke Schwartz

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Executive Director

Maeceon Lewis
Education and Community Programs Senior Coordinator

Cheryl Michi
Membership and Operations Senior Associate

DC Dental Society

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3rd Floor North
Washington, DC 20006
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Join Us for the DCDS Annual Awards Meeting

Installation of Officers and Board Members

Loukaitis, Selvaggio and Schwartz to be Honored

Tuesday, January 16th, 6 to 8 PM

All DCDS members are invited to attend the Annual Awards Meeting on Tuesday, January 16th from 6-8 PM. This event will be held at Maggiano's Little Italy, 5333 Wisconsin Avenue, NW. Complimentary dinner will be provided for attendees and space is limited, so please RSVP by Thursday, January 11 using the registration button below.

During the event, the incoming DC Dental Society officers and board members will be installed. DCDS will also honor the 2023 recipients of the DCDS Sterling V. Mead Award, Special Recognition of a Member Award and Committee Member of the Year Award. Other honorees will include the recipients of the new DCDS Foundation scholarship. We hope you will join us for this festive evening as we start the New Year.

Incoming Officers



Dr. Cheryle Baptiste
President



Dr. Hillary Hochman
President-Elect



Dr. Kim Menhinick
Vice President



Dr. Sally Cram
Secretary



Dr. Eugene Giannini
Treasurer

2023 Award Recipients



Dr. Chris Loukaitis
Sterling V. Mead Award



Dr. Luke Schwartz
Committee Member
of the Year



Dr. Salvatore Selvaggio
Special Recognition
of a Member Award

Register for DCDS Annual Awards Meeting

Tuesday, February 13th Meeting (Virtual Only): “To Do or Not to Do: When, Why, and How to Treat the Oral Health Needs of Older Adults ”

Presented by Drs. Roseann Mulligan and Piedad Suarez-Durall

Business Meeting Begins at 5:45 PM

Education Program Begins at Approximately 6:00 PM

Lecture Format

CE Credits Offered: 2.0 CE Credits

Cost: Free to DCDS Members | Non-Members--\$75 | Dental Office Staff-\$45

Disclosures: None

Meeting Description:

Increasing worldwide percentages of older adults and their associated multiple chronic systemic diseases present many challenges to those providing oral health care. In this presentation, we will address issues such as the higher retention of teeth by older adults, the importance of assessing the patient's capabilities and functionality, the critical need for multiple ongoing prevention strategies, advanced periodontal care, early detection of root caries, appropriate selection of restorative materials, and tooth substitutes within the context of frequent findings seen with older adult patients.

Learning Objectives Session 1:

- Evaluating your patients through the assessment of their vitals, signs and symptoms, medications, and functionality to treat them safely.
- Recognizing the most common oral conditions in older adults and how to treat them.

Learning Objectives Session 2:

- Understanding treatment modifications and options for older adults.
- Recognizing the value of chemotherapeutics to prevent further oral disease.

Visit the [DCDS Registration Fees & Cancellation Policy page](#) for more details on registration and [read about the presenters here](#). The District of Columbia Dental Society is an ADA CERP Recognized Provider.



Dr. Roseann Mulligan



Dr. Piedad Suarez-Durall

[Register Here](#)

Continuing Education Disclaimer: The District of Columbia Dental Society is an ADA CERP Recognized Provider. ADA CERP is a service of the American Dental Association to assist dental professionals in identifying quality providers of continuing dental education. ADA CERP does not approve or endorse individual courses or instructors, nor does it imply acceptance of credit hours by boards of dentistry. It is the responsibility of each participant to verify the CE requirements of his or her licensing or regulatory agency and to contact them with any questions regarding licensing. The DC Dental Society designates the above presentations for the number of CE credits listed.

Concerns or complaints about a CE provider may be directed to the provider or to the **Commission for Continuing Education Provider Recognition** at [ADA.org/CERP](https://www.ada.org/CERP).

ADA CERP® Continuing Education Recognition Program

Upcoming 2024 Continuing Education Presentations

As a reminder all members of the DC Dental Society, including those in a residency program, can attend our monthly meetings at no cost. I hope you will join us in-person at the DCDS office to reconnect with your friends and colleagues in the dental community over dinner, while earning up to 2 hours of continuing education.

Monthly business meeting begins at 5:45 p.m. Educational session begins at approximately 6:00 p.m. [Visit the DCDS website](#) for course information, speaker bios, fees and cancellation policy.

About DCDS Speakers

Your DC Dental Society has developed a continuing education program that features leading experts in dental care whether they practice across the country or down the street. The inclusion of local presenters on the program for DCDS monthly meetings is intended to foster collegiality and support our local community. DCDS does not endorse one specialist over another, but celebrates D.C. talent.

| Meeting Date | Meeting Topic | Speaker |
|--------------------|---|--|
| February 13, 2024 | Geriatric Dentistry | Dr. Roseann Mulligan Dr. Piedad Suarez Durall |
| March 12, 2024 | Leasing Guidelines for Dental Offices | Mr. Lewis Gelmon |
| April 9, 2024 | Airways | Dr. Tracy Nguyen |
| May 14, 2024 | Implant Anterior Aesthetics | Dr. Jonathan Esquivel |
| September 10, 2024 | Breathing Disorders/ Myofunctional Therapy | Ms. Gillian Gladstone Teran |
| October 17, 2024 | Updates on Current Dental Materials | Dr. Nate Lawson |
| November 14, 2024 | Risk Management and Malpractice Avoidance | Dr. Marc Leffler |
| December 10, 2024 | Cybersecurity | Mr. Gary Salman |

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ADA CERP® | Continuing Education Recognition Program

Next DC Board of Dentistry Meeting

January 17, 2023

9:00 AM

The January meeting will be virtual only.

The public may attend virtually via the link below.

[Meeting Link](#)



Welcome

New Members

Dereje Bereded

Gabriella Quevedo

Justina Urena

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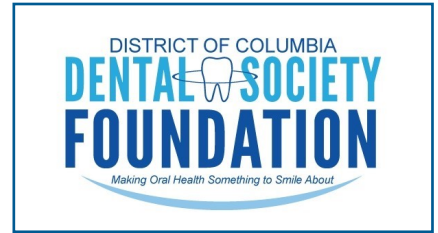


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DC DENTAL SOCIETY FOUNDATION

Feel the joy. Sign up for DC Dental Cares, the DC Dental Society Foundation's pro bono program.



This program is win-win-win: for our community, for the individuals who receive dental procedures that would not otherwise be possible due to costs, and for the DCDS volunteer who gains that warm feeling that comes from doing good.

Patients are fully vetted for need by our partner, the Catholic Charities Healthcare Network (CCHCN), and the treating dentist sets the level of care provided. You can treat one person a year or several a month, all while in the comfort of your own office.

DC Dental Cares Sign Up Form

A Joy to Serve
"It just brings a joy to the heart to serve and give expecting nothing in return and the gratefulness of the patients is infectious." Dr. Rodney Savoia

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MEMBER VALUE

DCDS is proud to introduce a new member benefit partner, Merchant Advocate!

If your practice accepts credit cards, Merchant Advocate can help save you money on processing fees without switching processors!

There are no upfront costs, and they are paid from savings they achieve for you. Plus, they check your accounts monthly for erroneous fees, overcharges, and other anomalies. Find out what they can do for you with a FREE, no-commitment analysis.



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Howard Goldstein ■ 206-387-0189
hgoldstein@merchantadvocate.com
www.merchantadvocate.com/dcds



MEMBER VALUE

Save hundreds with DCDS and ADA Programs and Discounts

DC Dental Society has partnered with the following companies to bring you discounted pricing on the supplies and services for your practice.

Dental Supplies



Insurance



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Educational Loans



Compliance Services



Reduced Credit Card Processing Fees



ADA Endorsed Programs

ADA endorsed companies bring you special member savings on products and services designed specifically to work for your practice: from professional liability insurance to business credit cards to office supplies and computers. There are also endorsements geared towards your home life, such as health insurance, appliances, and even automobiles.

Many members are able to recoup a great deal of their dues dollars through the savings they receive by simply participating in these programs. Take advantage of the benefits of membership.

For more information about these programs, visit the [DCDS website](#)



Address Confidentiality Program



About the Program

The District's **Address Confidentiality Program (ACP)**, administered by the Office of Victim Services and Justice Grants (OVSJG), helps people at risk of harm stay safe by shielding their street address from public records. ACP services are intended as one tool in an individual's broader safety plan.

This free program provides participants with:

- A legal substitute address to protect their **home, work, or school address**
- A confidential **mail-forwarding** service.



Who Is It For?

You may qualify for the ACP if you:

- (1) fear for your safety;
- (2) currently (or will soon) reside in the District of Columbia; AND
- (3)
 - Have experienced domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking;
 - Are employed by an organization whose primary purpose is serving victims who have experienced the above offenses; OR
 - Are employed by an organization that focuses on reproductive healthcare.



Applicants are also required to: have moved within the past 60 days, be planning to move within the next 30 days, or have taken adequate measures to ensure their current address is not easily accessible online or through public records. Both adults and children may qualify.



How to Apply

Application assistants are available in several agencies across the District to answer questions, verify eligibility, and accept applications. They also can provide advocacy services and help you develop a comprehensive safety plan based on your individual needs.

To learn more about the ACP or submit your application, reach out to an application assistant at any of the organizations listed at: ovsjg.dc.gov/acp.



Or contact the **Address Confidentiality Program** directly at ACP@dc.gov • (202) 788-2131

Office of Victim Services
and Justice Grants
441 4th St., NW, Ste 727N
Washington, DC 20001
(202) 727-0605



GOVERNMENT OF THE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR

WWW.OVSJG.DC.GOV



Address Confidentiality Program



How Does the ACP Work?

Substitute Address

Applicants who qualify receive an ACP **authorization card** with a substitute address. This card can be presented to any DC agency in place of your real home, work, or school address. Authorization cards are initially valid for 3 years.

With this legal substitute address you can interact with DC agencies without fear of your actual address appearing in public records. With a substitute address you can:

- Get a DC driver's license or ID card
- Enroll children in DC public/charter school
- Vote and sign petitions

While only District agencies are required to honor the substitute address, placing it on a DC driver's license or ID card will protect your actual address in many day-to-day situations.

Mail Forwarding

When first-class, certified, or registered mail is received at the substitute address, it is forwarded to your home address.

Limitations

A substitute address does not guarantee your actual address will not be required by other non-government agencies. Your real address will still be required for certain activities, including:

- Purchasing a home or property. (Note that the address may appear in related public listings.)
- Applying for a line of credit on your home.
- Setting up utilities for your home.

Additionally, the ACP does not forward junk mail, packages, or magazines; an advocate or application assistant can help you plan for safely receiving that mail. Other limitations may also apply.

Address Confidentiality Program

ACP@dc.gov • (202) 788-2131

Office of Victim Services
and Justice Grants
441 4th St., NW, Ste 727N
Washington, DC 20001
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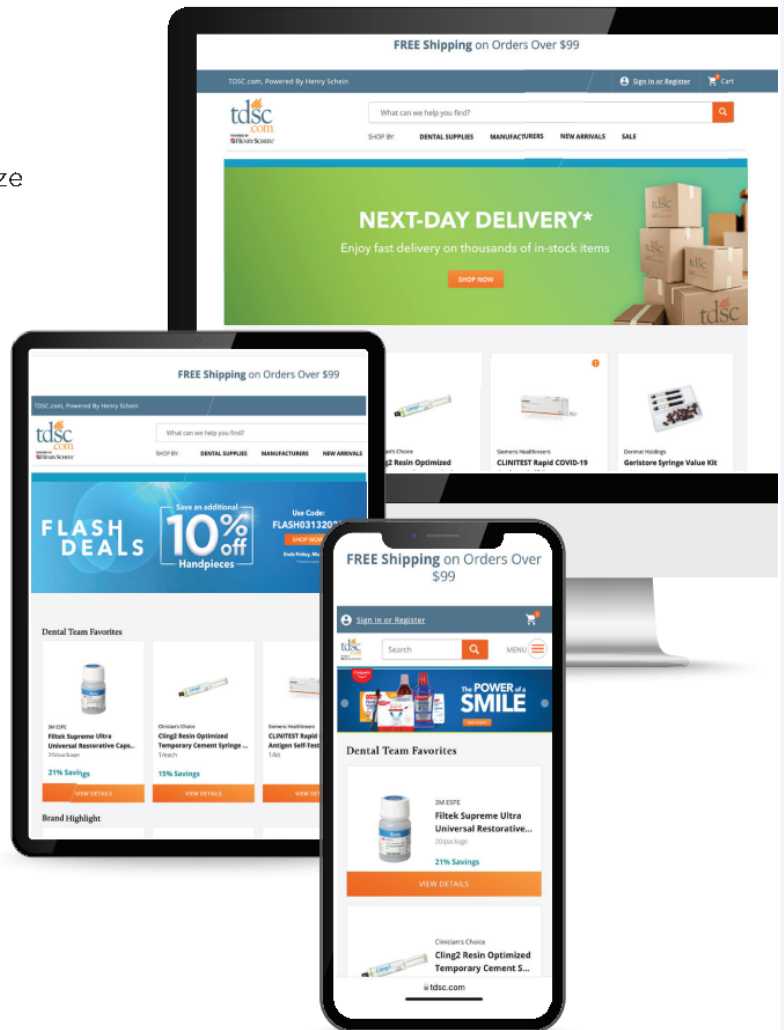
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JADA looks at dentists' opioid prescribing

ADA Morning Huddle, January 3, 2024

Although most dentists have decreased their opioid prescribing, a small percentage still consistently prescribes at higher rates. Oral and maxillofacial surgeons tend to be high prescribers, possibly reflecting the nature of the procedures they perform, which are more invasive and perceived to be associated with more severe pain.

[Full Story: Changes in Opioid Prescribing by Dentists](#)

Artificial intelligence & dentistry

ADA Morning Huddle, December 28, 2023

A white paper by the ADA Standards Committee on Dental Informatics provides an overview of the uses of artificial intelligence and augmented intelligence in dental practice, primarily in the analysis of dental images to aid clinicians in making diagnoses

[Full Story: Artificial Intelligence and Dentistry](#)

ADA reaffirms policy opposing direct-to-consumer dentistry

ADA Morning Huddle, December 28, 2023

Following news reports about the liquidation of a manufacturer and marketer of teeth aligners sold directly to consumers, the ADA has reaffirmed its policy stating its opposition to direct-to-consumer dentistry.

[Full Story: ADA reaffirms policy opposing direct-to-consumer dentistry](#)

Study evaluates success of clear alignment treatment

ADA Morning Huddle, January 2, 2024

Researchers looked at the short-term stability of anterior open bite treatment for adults receiving clear alignment treatment. A retrospective cohort study published in the American Journal of Orthodontics & Dentofacial Orthopedics evaluated 52 adult patients who were at least one year post-treatment.

[Full Story: Success of Clear Alignment Treatment Study](#)

New ADA standard supports capture of high-quality digital radiographs

ADA Finance & Operations Huddle, December 23, 2023

Most U.S. dental practices use digital radiography, showcasing the need for an updated quality assurance protocol for digital panoramic and cephalometric radiographic imaging systems. A new ADA standard provides a step-by-step process to help ensure dentists produce high-quality digital radiographs.

[Full Story: Standards Support Capture of High-Quality Digital Radiographs](#)

Financial programs available for small businesses

ADA Finance & Operations Huddle, December 23, 2023

Those looking to open or grow a small business have many loans, grants and other financial opportunities available to them. A good place to start is Grants.gov, which offers a comprehensive database of grants from the federal government.

[Full Story: Grants, Loans, Programs to Benefit Small Businesses](#)

The top dental industry trends for 2024

ADA Morning Huddle, January 2, 2024



We don't have a crystal ball to see the future, but we've got the next best thing: data. [On the newest episode of Dental Sound Bites](#), we're digging into research from the ADA's Health Policy Institute to uncover what we can expect in the dental industry this year.

Listen now wherever you get your podcasts or in the ADA Member App. Tip: if you listen in the app, you get access to exclusive bonus content.

Dentistry rises on best jobs list

ADA Morning Huddle, December 28, 2023

Dentistry jumped back into the top 10 of U.S. News and World Report's 2023 Best Jobs list after ranking No. 47 in the news publication's 2022 report.

[Full Story: Dentistry Rises to Top 10 in Best Jobs List](#)

What You Eat Affects Your Teeth

ADA Morning Huddle, January 3, 2024



A diet overhaul is one of the most common New Year's resolutions made every year, and you may hear that some of your patients are looking to make 2024 a healthier year. Help them realize that making smart food choices can benefit more than just their waists. [Share these food tips that highlight the intersection between diet and dental health.](#) Find more free patient resources at [MouthHealthy.org](#).



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Classifieds

Share Retail Space Downtown DC

Description: I have 3 Retail locations: 2075 L St NW, 703 D St NW and 955 L'Enfant Plaza PR #325 SW, in which we are only open a few days a month. I am looking for someone who would like to sublet, move their practice or merge, depending on location.

Contact: Dr. John Tsaknis | 240-994-2171 | jtsaknis@citydentaldc.com

DCDS Member Ads

FREE Employment Ad for DCDS Members. DCDS members who are seeking employment or who have open staff positions can place a classified ad at no charge. Click on the link below to get started.

Advertise with DCDS

Classified ads in the DCDS Newsletter are easy. Simply submit your ad through [the DCDS online form](#). We will then send you a payment link. Payment must be received prior to publication.