

NEWS

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Jill Eckert (left) and Dr. Suzanne Maslo (right) with patient in Ladakh, India

Dynamic Dental Duo Provide Much Needed Dental Care For Children Across the Globe

Dr. Suzanne Maslo and Jill Eckert pack their bags for dental humanitarian adventure

DENVER - May 11, 2017 – Dr. Suzanne Maslo, DDS, and Jill Eckert are headed to Guatemala next month and to Nepal in October with Global Dental Relief (GDR) to participate in the organization’s work providing free dental care, for the first time, to 500 children in need. Volunteers like Maslo and Eckert make GDR’s mission possible. When asked what they most want to share with the world about their experience volunteering, Eckert said, “We want people to know that anyone can do this work; anyone can make a difference in the world.”

Maslo and Eckert have taken eight previous trips to provide comprehensive dental care to impoverished children in remote locations around the world, offering their willing hearts, welcoming smiles and skills that are desperately needed by the communities they serve. Three of their most recent dental adventures have been with GDR.

Maslo and Eckert first met on a their church’s dental mission trip to Ghana in 2007. Complete strangers at the time, they came together when Maslo requested her assistant be someone close to her own height. Ten years later, these women have become the best of friends, sharing many interests including being diehard Pittsburgh Steelers fans, gardening, and sharing their love and commitment to helping children in need.

When asked recently why they came on a dental humanitarian trip with GDR, Eckert responded, “We are called as fellow humans to provide love and care to children. I love being part of a team offering first time dental care to children who may not otherwise receive it.” Maslo’s response was simple and succinct, “to serve the underserved.”

ABOUT GLOBAL DENTAL RELIEF

Global Dental Relief (GDR) is a 501(c)3 charitable organization established in 2001 to provide free dental care and oral health education to impoverished children and families of Nepal, northern India, Cambodia, Kenya and Guatemala. GDR's commitment is to return to these same children every two years to provide continuous care. Dental camps generally include up to six dentists, three hygienists and six to twelve non-medical volunteers who collectively treat upwards of 150 children per day. GDR currently offers twenty clinics in five countries to volunteer combined with opportunities to explore local culture and participate in guided travel following the clinic. Since 2001, GDR has hosted more than 2,000 volunteers and treated more than 125,000 children. To learn more about Global Dental Relief, visit www.globaldentalrelief.org.

ABOUT SUZANNE MASLO, DMD, LT. COL USAFR

Dr. Suzanne Maslo has been a dentist for 16 years with a focus on public health. She served inner city children of Pittsburgh for 15 years and recently transferred to a rural clinic. She commutes three hours from her home staying in a local B&B during the week to serve the community of Emporium, PA. Dr. Maslo is the Director of Operations of the United States Air Force Reserves, 911th Aeromedical Staging Squadron. She is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh, School of Dental Medicine ('99) and has a Masters of Business Administration ('89) from Regent University in Virginia Beach, VA.

ABOUT JILL ECKERT, M.S CCC-SLP

Jill Eckert has been a speech/language pathologist for 35 years with licensure in West Virginia, Kentucky, Texas and Pennsylvania. She currently serves pre-school children at the Laughlin Children's Center in Sewickley, PA. Jill holds a B.S in Communication Disorders ('80) and a M.S. in Speech/Language Pathology ('81) from Bloomsberg University of Pennsylvania. She is actively involved in her local church's music team.

Additional Photos



Dr. Suzanne Maslo and Jill Eckert with children in Ladakh, India



Dr. Suzanne Maslo and Jill Eckert with patient in Kenya

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