Pediatric Dentistry faculty, residents, and dental students served area children through several community events this year.

**Festival Latino**

In August, our residents participated in the annual Latino Festival in Columbus. The Latino Festival is a family-friendly free event, bringing national/international music acts, Ohio-based Latino dance and music, children’s activities and much more. Nationwide Children’s Hospital (NCH) dentistry is proud to continue to participate at the Latino Festival by offering free dental screening and application of fluoride varnish.

**Give Kids A Smile**

Residents, students, faculty, and staff once again hosted a successful Give Kids A Smile event with volunteers providing free dental exams, cleanings, extractions, fillings, and crowns to 96 children during the College of Dentistry’s semi-annual Give Kids A Smile Day on September 14. Children received over $36,000 worth of treatment.

AAPD meeting: May 24-27, 2019

2nd Annual Pediatric Dentistry Alumni & Friends CE Weekend October 25-26, 2019
Congratulations to our newest alumni from the Graduating Class of 2019.

Front Row: Drs. Katie Seymour, Mallary St. John, Kim Do, Macaire Thiel  
Back Row: Drs. Alexis Capeci, Preston Colvin, Andrew Carranco, Joe DePalo

Dr. Katie Seymour, class of 2019, is going to work with Dr. David Shapter, class of 1985. Like Dr. Seymour, Dr. Shapter received his DDS and MS from OSU. Dr. Shapter’s practice is called Pediatric Dentistry of Erie and is located in Erie, PA.

“My name is David Fishbaugh. I completed the OSU/Children’s residency in 1994 and I am in practice in South Bend, IN. I attribute a lot of my success in pedo to my time and experience in Columbus and I have since been a strong advocate for the residency program. This fall, Steve Spiritoso, class of 2017, will be joining our practice as well.”

Who’s in Academia  
Paul Casamassimo, DDS, MS

A hallmark of our program is that we can lay claim to graduates who have gone out to populate educational programs around the country. Most of the program’s graduates enter pediatric dentistry practice, while a few seek out academic positions. Additionally, we have many graduates, too many to list here, who teach part-time in various educational programs near their primary practice site.

We can almost count on one grad each year on average to enter full-time academia. Here is our growing list, from most recent going back just over the last 20 years:

Macaire Thiel, 2019  
Ehsan Azadani, 2019  
Heidi Steinkamp, 2019  
Priyanka Iyer, 2016  
Rosalyn Sulyanto, 2013  
Maria Cordero-Ricardo, 2012  
Elizabeth Gosnell, 2011  
Erin Gross, 2011  
Kim Hammersmith, 2011  
Kara Morris, 2008  
Martha Wells, 2008  
Janice Townsend, 2007  
Kavitha Viswanathan, 2007  
Jeff Karp, 2004  
Sarat Thikkurissy, 2003  
Ashok Kumar, 2003  
Jillian Easton Walden, 2002  
AnnMarie Matusak, 1997  
Milwaukee Children’s Hospital  
OSUCOD/Nationwide Children’s  
St. Louis University  
NYU Langone  
Boston Children’s/Harvard  
Temple University  
Cincinnati Children’s Medical Center  
OSUCOD/Nationwide Children’s  
OSUCOD/Nationwide Children’s  
University of Tennessee  
OSUCOD/Nationwide Children’s  
Baylor College of Dentistry  
University of Minnesota  
Cincinnati Children’s Medical Center  
OSUCOD/Nationwide Children’s  
University of Nebraska  
Cincinnati Children’s Medical Center
Daniel Claman, DDS
Dr. Daniel Claman has been appointed the Director of the Pediatric Fellow Program at The Ohio State University. He will be responsible for the recruiting, scheduling, and curriculum of the Pediatric Dental Fellows. He has already had great success in this role as his efforts at promoting the program resulted in unprecedented numbers of applicants and the acceptance of four highly qualified fellows.

Dr. Claman has agreed to serve as the Pediatric Dentistry Associate Program Director. In this role, he will support Dr. Kim Hammersmith with the administration of the residency program.

Kim Hammersmith, DDS, MPH, MS and Diego Solis, DDS
Drs. Hammersmith and Solis presented at Sealant Sharing Day 2019. Their presentations were well received and both scored excellent on the completed evaluations collected.

Ashok Kumar, BDS, MS
Effective May 30, 2019, Dr. Ashok Kumar was promoted to the rank of Clinical Professor.

Ehsan Azadani, DDS, MS
Dr. Azadani successfully completed the board of the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry requirements to be a Diplomate.

“Pain Control in Pediatric Dentistry: Fact or Fiction.”
University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Dentistry. Lincoln, NE. September 2019.

Dr. Holly Portwood Randone; Dr. Jillian Wallen, Dr. Janice Townsend, Dr. Brent Johnson

DOB: April 5, 2019
Weight: 8lbs 5oz
Her interests/hobbies include smiling, using her death grip, eating solid food and scoothing to get her brother’s cars and trucks. She is so loved. Della is the second child of Dr. Kim Hammersmith.

Congratulations,
Dr. Hammersmith, on the newest addition to your family: Della Clark Kaufman
Faculty Publications for Calendar Year 2019


Dr. Homa Amini

**MEDTAPP Grant 2018: $164,460**
Project MPATHI (Making Professionals Able Through Immersion) funded through the state’s Medicaid Technical Assistance and Policy Program, or MEDTAPP. The purpose of the project is to advance health equity for the Medicaid population by increasing Medicaid provider cultural competency and awareness of implicit bias through training composed of virtual reality and simulated patient experiences. In MPATHI, the user assumes the role of a parent obtaining dental care for a child in a Spanish-speaking country, thereby experiencing some of the challenges immigrant families face in obtaining healthcare in a foreign country, such as language and cultural barriers, and poor understanding of the healthcare system. The simulation is currently developed for Oculus Go VR headsets.

**MEDTAPP Grant 2019: $164,452**
We received funding for the second year to disseminate Project MPATHI to Medicaid providers in the State.

The Ohio State University Early Head Start (OSU-EHS) Partnership Program Grant

The NCH Dental Clinic is a proud partner of The Ohio State University Early Head Start (OSU-EHS) Partnership Program which was awarded a $18 million federal grant to provide high-quality early childhood education and services to Columbus families in low-income households through 2024. This is the second grant cycle awarded to the program. The EHS grant was awarded fall of 2018 for the 2018-2019 year.

The OSU-EHS Program has gained national attention for its unique model and was featured in January 2019 by the Bipartisan Policy Center in D.C. as one of the top twelve programs in the nation. Not only does the program serve 160 children in 11 child care centers and 8 family child care homes, but the families also receive comprehensive support through a network of 19 university and community agency partners including our NCH Dental Clinic and the NCH mobile care unit.

For the past 2+ years, we have seen over 400 young children for a dental check-up at their Early Head Start site. We have sustained this collaboration utilizing the Oral Health Access Supervision Program (OHASP) which allows dental hygienists with additional required education to practice under relaxed supervision in certain settings without a dentist present. Supervising dentists are actively involved in the patient care and assume full responsibility for all care delivered. Our EHS team members are Beth Noel, RDH, Dr. Kim Hammersmith, and Dr. Rosa Ortega. Early oral health prevention with these young children has proven successful as the decay rate over time has proven to be minimal.

One of the shining moments of our partnership with OSU has been the creation of a book to explain the importance of a dental home for the EHS parents and children. The book was beautifully illustrated by Carlo Corral and was authored by Beth Noel and other contributors. We received a grant from the Delta Dental Foundation to help fund the development and printing of this book, as well as the purchase of other oral health education materials. We hope this book and our OHASP model will encourage other EHS programs to provide early dental prevention services as well.
Jodee Coldren  BSDH, MS, has recently joined the department as the Clinical Research Coordinator in the Nationwide Children’s Hospital Division of Pediatric Dentistry. Jodee is a recent graduate of The Ohio State University (OSU) with a bachelor’s as a registered dental hygienist (RDH) with a specialization in Expanded Functions for the Dental Auxiliary (EFDA). Jodee also earned her Bachelor of Science degree in biology from the University of Dayton and continued her education to complete a Master of Science in health informatics from the University of Findlay. During her time at OSU, Jodee worked as a Clinical Research Data Coordinator for the department of biosciences within the OSU College of Dentistry. She completed a variety of research studies related to the oral microbiome in collaboration with a multidisciplinary team of faculty, residents, and professors. Jodee’s passion for research stemmed from her previous clinical experiences and academic coursework. Jodee is looking forward to contributing her passion for dentistry and research and join the dedicated and passionate team of researchers within her new position.

Youssouf Fall (BSc CIS 2010, MBA 2014) has recently joined the department as a System Analyst in the Nationwide Children’s Hospital Division of Pediatric Dentistry. Youssouf completed his Bachelor of Computer Information System (CIS) at DeVry University in 2010. He also completed his MBA in Finance in 2014 at Keller Graduate School of Management. He is experienced in business analysis and computer programming supporting business applications, building reports and dashboards through Business Intelligence tools, and proficient in writing SQL queries to pull data from databases such as SQL Server and Oracle. His experience with SQL, report writing, and data management will allow him to help dental residents by pulling the data needed for research projects and build operation dashboards and reports. Youssouf will also act as a business analyst to help improve EPIC system in the long run.

Laura Kelley recently joined the department as an Administrative Assistant in the Nationwide Children’s Hospital Department of Pediatric Dentistry. Laura retired from the OSU College of Dentistry where she worked as a Program Coordinator in the Office of Graduate Studies for over 25 years. She began working at Nationwide Children’s Hospital in August of 2017 and as of May 2019 she became part of the Department of Pediatric Dentistry. Laura is married and has twin daughters. She looks forward to working with all the staff and faculty of the department.

Michael Welty has recently been assigned by NCH Quality Improvement Services to support the NCH Dental Clinic and Surgery Center in identifying, developing, and implementing QI projects that will seek to improve the outcomes of our patients. Mike has a Bachelor of Science degree in Economics from The Ohio State University and is a certified Lean Six Sigma Green Belt. Before joining Nationwide Children’s, Mike gained valuable experience leading many process and quality improvement initiatives for Nationwide Insurance. In addition to supporting Dental, he will also be helping the Pulmonary and Sports Medicine Service Lines with their QI programs. Mike has a strong passion for improvement and is excited to join the team and help with Dental’s journey towards better outcomes. Mike and his wife Stephanie live in Northwest Columbus with their two dogs, Sam and Toby. In his free time, Mike likes to read, play with his dogs, and plan vacations. He’s been known to binge watch an occasional Netflix or HBO show as well!
Meet Our New Residents

Maddie DiPaolo, DDS

1. **Hometown:** Reno, Nevada
2. **Undergrad School and Major:** Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo – Philosophy (Major) and Biological Sciences (Minor)
3. **Dental School:** University of Nevada, Las Vegas
4. **Hobbies:** Dancing, pilates, OrangeTheory, reading, listening to podcasts, going to concerts, and studying the songs and characters in kid’s TV shows.
5. **Favorite Columbus Local Spots:** Lucky’s Market, Cinnamon Indian Grill, the Dairy Queen on Indianola Ave
6. **What you love most about Pediatric Dentistry:** I love having the opportunity to educate families and make a small difference in kids’ lives. It’s rewarding to get out of my comfort zone, connect with patients from different walks of life, and be a little silly while doing it!
7. **Plans after Residency:** I’m passionate about life-long learning! After residency, I hope to join a practice, continue to grow my skill set through CE, become involved with organized dentistry and advocacy, give back to the community, teach at a residency program, and maybe find some free time to travel.

Stormi Okerman Winter, DDS

1. **Hometown:** Miles City, Montana
2. **Undergrad School and Major:** Montana State University, Bozeman, MT - Cell Biology and Neuroscience Major
3. **Dental School:** University of Colorado School of Dental Medicine
4. **Hobbies:** Scuba diving, skiing, hiking, Orange Theory, biking, trying new food, and traveling!
5. **Favorite Columbus Local Spots:** Buckeye Lake, Hocking Hills, Huntington Park for Clippers Games, Ohio State Football Games, North Market, Juniper, Wolf’s Ridge Brewing
6. **What you love most about Pediatric Dentistry:** I have been attracted to pediatric dentistry ever since my interest in dentistry began. I love being able to serve a vulnerable population and advocate for children that do not have the ability to advocate for themselves. I love making the dentistry fun, making children laugh, and most importantly helping improve children’s overall health and quality of life.
7. **Plans after Residency:** I plan to return to either Colorado or Montana to be closer to family. I hope to split my time between private practice and public health helping underserved children in rural areas that do not have access to specialists. I can’t wait to start a family with my husband and see where life takes us!
Libby Paulsen, DDS

1. **Hometown:** San Francisco, California
2. **Undergrad School and Major:** University of Washington, Seattle - Neurobiology Major
3. **Dental School:** University of Colorado School of Dental Medicine
4. **Hobbies:** Anything outdoors! Hiking, running, biking, and skiing to name a few. I also love to travel whenever I have the chance. So far I have been to 17 countries and counting. My last great adventure was hiking Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania prior to beginning residency.
5. **Favorite Columbus Local Spots:** Jeni’s ice cream, Brassica, the Olentangy Trail, and Antrim Lake.
6. **What you love most about Pediatric Dentistry:** Every day is a new adventure when it comes to working with kids!
7. **Plans after Residency:** Return to either Denver or Seattle with my fiancé and pup. I am excited to see what a career in pediatric dentistry has in store- either working for a private practice, public health facility, or continuing the education of future pediatric dentists teaching at a residency program.

Andrew Vo, DDS

1. **Hometown:** Huntington Beach, California
2. **Undergrad School and Major:** University of California, Irvine - Economics.
3. **Dental School:** University of Southern California
4. **Hobbies:** I love to eat, hanging out with my family, and sleep by 8:30pm! I also enjoy teaching indoor cycling classes, working out and traveling.
5. **Favorite Columbus Local Spots:** Crossfit Grandview, Costco, Trader Joes, ethnic restaurants and any cool coffee shops!
6. **What you love most about Pediatric Dentistry:** I love to be a big kid myself and I love being surrounded by children! They literally make my heart melt. I was always scared of the dentist when I was younger, so having the ability to make a positive experience and making it less “scary” for them is everything to me. I especially love playing games with them while in the dental chair and helping them realize that dentists are really cool! I also love learning more about pediatric dental care so I can follow my passion in creating annual mission trips to give back locally and globally.
7. **Plans after Residency:** I plan on opening a private practice and planning annual mission trips to help serve the underserved.
Misa Yoshioka, DMD

1. **Hometown:** Seattle, Washington
2. **Undergrad School and Major:** University of Washington, Seattle- Biology (Molecular, Cellular, Developmental)
3. **Dental School:** Western University of Health Sciences
4. **Hobbies:** Running, hiking, traveling, and eating non-dairy Jeni’s ice cream (rain or shine).
5. **Favorite Columbus Local Spots:** Jeni’s, Alchemy, North Market, Brassica, Brown Bag, One Line Coffee.
6. **What you love most about Pediatric Dentistry:** I love connecting with families, funny kid stories, and the chance to care for children with and without special health care needs. Plus, nothing makes me happier than watching an anxious kid’s confidence grow in the dental chair!
7. **Plans after Residency:** Moving home to Seattle to do a mix of private practice (with my pediatric dentist aunt), getting involved in advocacy, and teaching!

Mitchell Poole, DDS

1. **Hometown:** Cincinnati, Ohio
2. **Undergrad School and Major:** Miami University, Ohio - Zoology
3. **Dental School:** The Ohio State University College of Dentistry
4. **Hobbies:** Buckeye Football, Columbus Blue Jackets Hockey, Computer Building and Gaming, Trying new coffee shops, Smoothie bowls, Boating, Concerts with my fiancé, Playing with my dog, Roo, and cat, Moxie
5. **Favorite Columbus Local Spots:** Alchemy Juice Bar, Native Cold Pressed, One Line Coffee, Antrim Park, Highbanks Metro Park, Peking Wok
6. **What you love most about Pediatric Dentistry:** Children are the most vulnerable population in the world. They are subjected to their life circumstances and have no control over the influences around them or the opportunities available to them. The fact that I can use my passion and career to help improve the life a child is incredibly fulfilling! I love turning “appointments” into positive experiences and growth for a child.
7. **Plans After Residency:** Move back to Cincinnati closer to my fiancé and my families, start a family, practice as an associate or independent practitioner for several years and then return to teach at a residency program and train the next generation of pediatric dentists!
Kaitlin Laxer, DDS

1. **Hometown:** Charlotte, North Carolina
2. **Undergrad School and Major:** University of South Carolina - French (Major), Chemistry (Minor)
3. **Dental School:** University of North Carolina
4. **Hobbies:** Trying new restaurants, spending time with my family, traveling, hiking, cooking, drinking iced coffee
5. **Favorite Columbus Local Spots:** Lincoln Social, Antrim Lake, Fox in the Snow, Marcella’s, The Guild House, Brown Bag Deli, Cycle 614 (and Shake Shack, obviously)
6. **What you love most about Pediatric Dentistry:** Absolutely everything. Knowing that we have the potential to make the dental experience for children a positive one, the unique and close-knit community, the opportunity to grow and learn every single day with every patient, formulating meaningful and lasting relationships, challenging myself in a clinical setting, and most importantly, sharing this profession with my mom!
7. **Plans After Residency:** Join my mom’s pediatric-orthodontic practice in Charlotte, North Carolina!

Joshua Evans, DDS

1. **Hometown:** Kokomo, Indiana
2. **Undergrad School and Major:** Butler University - Chemistry (Major), Computer Science (Minor)
3. **Dental School:** Indiana University
4. **Hobbies:** Playing with my son, gardening, traveling, attending festivals, cooking Korean Food, shopping on Facebook marketplace, and begrudgingly selling items on Let It Go.
5. **Favorite Columbus Local Spots:** Franklin Park Conservatory, Easton Mall, Yellow Brick Pizza, South High Drive-in Movie Theater, Gemut Biergarten, COSI.
6. **What you love most about Pediatric Dentistry:** Everyday I’m so excited to go to the clinic. I’m in my element of singing songs and using my funny voices to bring smiles to children. I feel very fortunate to be in a place where I can help make dentistry not so scary. Lastly, knowing that the care myself and my fellow residents are giving is life changing for our patients.
7. **Plans After Residency:** Return to the United States Navy and hopefully be stationed in Yokosuka, Japan to take care of Active Duty member’s children.
Class of 2021

Looking Forward to Our Next Class of Residents

We received a record-setting number of 253 applications for the 2020-2022 residency program. We will conduct the interviews on December 9 and 16, 2019.

Resident Awards

Andrew Carranco, DMD, MS
“Comparison of Spanish-speaking Parental Understanding Using Two Alternative Consent Pathways”
The Ohio State University/Nationwide Children’s Hospital, Columbus, Ohio

Joe DePalo, DMD, MS
Sunstar Award
Oral Presentation: “The effectiveness of silver diamine fluoride treatment on interproximal dental caries”
Congrats to Dr. Josh Evans (Class of 2021) who was selected among a record-breaking number of applicants to be one of six new first-year members of the AAPD Residents Committee. The Residents Committee is a part of the Council for Membership of the AAPD. This committee acts as a liaison between the national organization and post-doctoral members and is an excellent chance to experience involvement at a national level and shape how the organization can help residents. The goals of the committee are:

1. To provide a forum for residents’ issues and a communications mechanism to link residents across the country.
2. To facilitate opportunities for residents to contribute to AAPD activities and initiatives.
3. To assist residents’ education about the AAPD as well as current issues facing pediatric dentistry on a local, national, and global level.
4. To cultivate future pediatric dentistry leaders.

AAPD Poster Presentations:

Alexis Capeci, DDS:
“Healing Patterns in Traumatized Mature and Immature Permanent Incisors”

Andrew Carranco, DMD:
“Comparison of Spanish-speaking Parental Understanding Using Two Alternative Consent Pathways”

Preston Colven, DDS:
“A Pilot Study of Kovanaze Anesthetic in Children Age 6-8”

Joe DePalo, DMD:
“The effectiveness of silver diamine fluoride treatment on interproximal dental caries”

Kim Do, DDS:
“Oral Health in Physically Abused Children”

Katie Seymour, DDS:
“Guardian Preferences of Greetings by Dental Staff”

Mallary St. John, DDS:
“Understanding adolescents’ beliefs about sugar-sweetened beverages using the TPB”

Macaire Thiel, DDS:
“Teledentistry-Feasibility, Acceptability, Sustainability Within a Children’s Hospital System”
Uzma Adnan, BDS, DDS, MS

1. **Where you are from:** Dallas, Texas
2. **Undergraduate Education:** Riphah International University, Pakistan
3. **Dental School:** University at Buffalo School of Dental Medicine
4. **Hobbies/Interests:** Traveling, cooking and reading books
5. **Interesting Facts:** I love exploring new things and places
6. **Favorite Columbus Gems:** My favorite discovery is that of having so many nice hiking trails within and around Columbus
7. **What you've enjoyed about the Fellowship so far:** I am currently gaining relevant pediatric dentistry experience while working as a Fellow at The Ohio State University. I believe this experience has prepared me for the next steps in specializing in pediatric dentistry with a deeper knowledge of clinical care for children with a variety of needs and backgrounds. My duties include treating patients at several locations: Nationwide Children's Hospital, FQHCs at Primary One Health Center, and many rural locations; to instruct and supervise dental students while they perform pediatric dental procedures on the Dental H.O.M.E. Coach; and different outreach activities. I enjoy the fact that this program provides me the opportunity to treat a wide range of pediatric patients with diverse dental needs, and also the opportunity to serve them in so many different dental settings.

Pallavi V. Dhingra, DDS

1. **Hometown:** Richmond, Virginia
2. **Undergraduate Education:** Virginia Commonwealth University - Anthropology
3. **Dental School:** Virginia Commonwealth University School of Dentistry
4. **Hobbies/Interests:** Hiking and Running (I have run a few 10K and 5K races)
5. **Interesting Facts:** I love to travel and learn about different cultures. I was named Outstanding Anthropology Student of the Year in 2009 at VCU. I continued my interest in anthropology by working with a physical anthropologist, Dr. Murray Marks, at the University of Tennessee Medical Center during my GPR residency. During my residency program, I participated in forensic dentistry and made positive identifications in deceased individuals using the applied science.
6. **Favorite Columbus Gems:** I love going to the Book Loft at German Village and exploring its many floors of books. After selecting a book from the Loft, I usually make my way to a local coffee shop such as Stauf's or Winan's.
7. **What you've enjoyed about the Fellowship so far:** I love learning more about behavior guidance techniques and how to create positive experiences for my pediatric patients. I enjoy working with D4s and seeing them grow throughout their rotation on Ohio State's Dental H.O.M.E. Coach.
Meet the Fellows

**Division of Prosthetic and Restorative Dentistry**

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**Huong Phan, DMD**

1. **Hometown:** Tampa, Florida
2. **Undergraduate Education:** University of South Florida
3. **Dental School:** Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine - Bradenton, Florida
4. **Hobbies/Interests:** I love to travel and explore different cultures.
5. **Interesting Facts:**
   a. I played the violin since I was eight years old and once played in a state-wide orchestra.
   b. I live in the rural parts of Tampa, Florida. We have all sorts of native critters. I can deal with gators, snakes, and flying cockroaches; however, my biggest phobia is FROGS! I have had pretty “traumatic” experiences with frogs that to this day I cannot even look at pictures of one.
   c. Growing up, I was a complete tomboy and I was very big into WWE. Somehow, I can still recall a majority of the wrestlers’ names and signature moves.
6. **Favorite Columbus Gems:** Lalibela Ethiopian Restaurant and Bar. May I suggest the Mahbehroch?

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**Ahmed Nagy, DMD**

1. **Where you are from:** Born in Delaware, Grow up in Egypt
2. **Undergraduate Education:** Tanta, Egypt
3. **Dental School:** Rutgers School of Dental Medicine
4. **Hobbies/Interests:** Cooking, soccer, and hiking. Love traveling, been to 15 countries and planning to visit a new country every year!
5. **Your favorite Columbus discoveries/gems:** Jeni’s Ice cream!
6. **What you’ve enjoyed about the Fellowship so far:** Great experience, everyone is very nice and helpful. A lot of resources available, and being able to work in different settings helped improve my skills a lot.