



7615 WINDING OAKS DRIVE
COLORADO SPRINGS, CO 80919

July 19, 2021

Commissioner Debbie Bell
Commissioner Kevin Grantham
Commissioner Dwayne McFall
Fremont Board of County Commission
615 Macon Avenue, Room 105
Canon City, CO 81212

Dear Commissioners Bell, Grantham, and McFall ~

Enclosed please find a funding request for Fremont County. The request is from the Colorado Mission of Mercy (COMOM). A financial contribution of \$10,000 would assist COMOM to provide County residents with free dental services. In particular, the funding would help to purchase dental supplies not acquired through in-kind donations.

COMOM is a portable, dental clinic that is held annually in a Colorado community. On September 24 and 5, 2021, Canon City's Harrison School will be transformed into a large-scale dental clinic. Nearly 200 dentists from across the state, along with hundreds of dental hygienists, dental assistants, and an array of other volunteers, will provide 1,000 patients with \$1,000,000 in quality oral healthcare services.

COMOM Clinic Budget	Fremont County	Donated Dental Care
\$250,000	\$10,000	\$1,000,000+

COMOM is working in tandem with social service organizations in Fremont County to ensure individuals who are in dental need are aware of the program. Once at the clinic, dentists and dental hygienists will provide patients with cleanings, fillings, root canals, and extractions. Porcelain crowns, partial dentures, and full dentures will also be prepared.

In addition to the funding request, enclosed please find the clinic budget, the IRS nonprofit determination letter, and the final report from the 2015 COMOM that was held in Canon City.

I thank you for your consideration, and welcome the opportunity to meet with you personally to respond to any questions.

With much appreciation,

Pam Dinkfelt, PhD
Executive Director

Phone: 720.626.9778

Email: pamcomom@gmail.com

cc: Sunny Bryant, County Manager

FUNDING REQUEST – FREMONT COUNTY 2021 Canon City COMOM

ORGANIZATION INFORMATION

Nonprofit Tax ID
27-1586585

Address
7615 Winding Oaks Drive
Colorado Springs, CO 80919

Phone/Email
720.626.9778
pamcomom@gmail.com

Mission

The Colorado Mission of Mercy (COMOM) is a portable, large-scale dental clinic that is held annually in a Colorado community. The mission of COMOM is to provide quality dental services, at no cost, to individuals of all ages who cannot afford and access dental care; eliminating dental pain, promoting oral health, creating smiles, and providing oral health education.

History

At its inception in 2007, COMOM was a program of the Colorado Dental Association’s Charitable and Educational Fund. In 2010, the IRS identified COMOM as a separate, nonprofit, tax-exempt 501(c)3 organization.

Since 2007, COMOM has served 17,000 patients and provided nearly \$15,000,000 in donated dental care.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION – 2021 CANON CITY COMOM

The 14th annual COMOM dental clinic will be held in Canon City on Friday, September 24, and Saturday, September 25, 2021. Patient outreach will extend throughout Fremont County.

An outpouring of nearly 200 volunteer dentists from across the state – along with hundreds of dental hygienists, assistants, lab technicians, and a myriad of lay volunteers and other health professionals – will work in tandem with community groups and agencies to better the oral health of individuals who are need.

The Harrison School will be transformed into a large-scale dental clinic. Patients will undergo a health and dental evaluation, and then be provided with cleanings, fillings, root canals and extractions. COMOM dentists and dental lab techs will also prepare ceramic crowns, dentures, and flippers.

FUNDING REQUEST – \$10,000

COMOM is requesting a financial contribution of \$10,000 from Fremont County. The funding would assist COMOM to provide County residents with free dental services, and in particular, would help to purchase dental supplies not acquired through in-kind donations (note page 5).

As a nonprofit organization, COMOM is dependent on in-kind donations and financial contributions and is a steward of financial responsibility with its funds.

- During its annual clinic, patients are provided with more than \$1,000,000 in donated services.
- Clinic expenses total \$250,000.
- Based on these expenses, COMOM’s volunteer dentists and hygienists provide oral healthcare services at a ratio of 4:1.

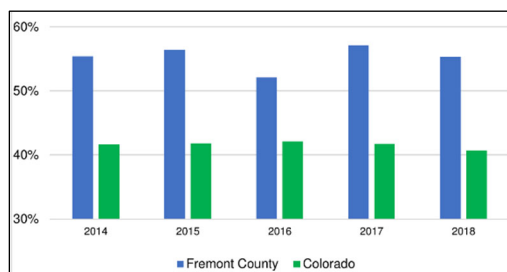
Dental Clinic Expenses	Donated Dental Services
\$250,000	More than \$1,000,000

FINANCIAL SELF-SUFFICIENCY

Oral health is inseparable from general health. Individuals with gum disease and poor oral health are at higher risk for heart disease, strokes and clots in the extremities. Oral disease affects the ability to eat and also how a person looks and communicates.

Financial Insecurity. Many individuals living in Fremont County are in financial jeopardy, and would be in need of no-cost dental services. Since 2014, students in prekindergarten through twelfth grade in the County have been consistently eligible for free or reduced lunches at higher rates than those across Colorado.

Percentage of Students Prekindergarten through 12th Grade eligible for Free or Reduced Lunches*



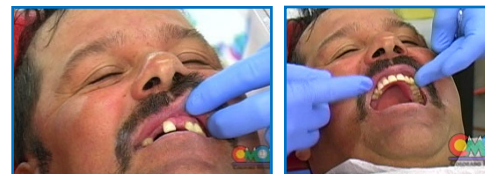
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Fremont County	55%	56%	52%	57%	55%
Colorado	42%	42%	42%	42%	41%

*Public school students qualify for free lunches if their family's income is less than 130 percent of the federal poverty level (FPL). Students qualify for reduced price lunches if their family's income is less than 185 percent of FPL. (CO Dept. of Education, 2019.)

Dental-related problems are widespread among individuals experiencing financial insecurity, and these oral health issues prevent individuals from seeking work opportunities and becoming more financially secure.

A person who has limited income often fears being judged by the way s/he looks, and a smile impacts how a person feels. COMOM strives to improve patients' dental appearance to help enhance potential employment prospects and to improve their self-esteem. For example, a volunteer dentist explained:

A patient had missing anterior teeth for several years. I inserted his new flipper. He grinned and said "I came in looking like a jack-o-lantern, and I'm leaving with a smile! Now I can look for a better job!"



Further, individuals who have limited income may be apprehensive of even seeing a dentist. The uneasiness can stem from pain, but patients in a dental office are in a situation in which they can hardly talk or respond. The fear can derive from the lack of control a patient may feel in the dentist's chair.



COMOM dentists provide patients with a positive experience serving as a conduit for future dental care. As two patients described: "I was always afraid of dentists, and now I am no longer afraid. I had no pain and now my whole body feels better" – and – "The dentist introduced himself and made me feel very comfortable before the procedure began. He talked softly and kept me informed on what was going to be done."

Self-Sufficiency. A COMOM focus is to provide patients, including those who have limited incomes or are homeless, with tools that encourage self-sufficiency.

In order to promote sustained oral health, and to mitigate future pain, patients are given one-on-one instruction on how to care for their teeth and the importance of balanced nutrition and preventive dental care. Patients are then given a toothbrush, toothpaste, and floss to take home.

Since regular dental visits allow a dentist to find early signs of decay/disease and to treat problems at a more manageable stage, each patient receives a list of low-cost dental care options for further treatment. This document is reviewed with the patient during the exit interview process.

EXPECTED RESULTS

The central goal of the COMOM initiative is to provide quality oral healthcare services to children, adults, and elderly who are in dental need and unable to afford dental care.

In 2015, COMOM held its clinic in Canon City. As shown in the table on page 4, dentists and dental hygienists saw 1,196 patients, performed nearly 7,000 dental procedures, providing \$1,151,113 in donated care.

2015 Canon City COMOM – Dental Procedures Performed and Donated Fees (N=1,196 Patients)

TREATMENT CATEGORIES	PROCEDURES	NUMBER OF PROCEDURES	DONATED FEES
Evaluation	Oral exams, oral cancer screening	1,731	\$ 151,290
Imaging	Intraoral-periapical, bitewing, panoramic films	1,325	71,650
Preventive	Prophylaxis, topical fluoride, sealants	1,132	71,920
Restorative	Fillings, crowns	1,243	399,417
Endodontic	Root canal therapies, pulp cap, pulpotomies,	85	66,970
Periodontic	Debridements, gingivectomy/gingivoplasty	134	26,685
Prosthodontic	Partial and full dentures, denture repair	176	110,031
Surgical	Extractions, alveoloplasties	1,077	249,274
Miscellaneous	Occlusion adjustments, odontoplasty	21	3,876
TOTALS		6,924	\$1,151,113

Addressing COVID-related concerns, the objectives for the 2021 return to Canon City, are to see 1,000 patients, and to again provide more than a \$1,000,000 in dental services.

Given the importance of oral health instruction for long-term impact, COMOM has as another objective to provide more than 90 percent of the patients with instruction.

PROGRAM-SPECIFIC BUDGET 2021 Canon City COMOM

Funding from Fremont County would assist COMOM to purchase DENTAL SUPPLIES not acquired through in-kind donations. The dental supplies to be purchased would include composite, bonding agents/etchants, and polishing materials, among other restorative, surgical, prosthodontic, and endodontic items. In addition, funds would assist in purchasing needed personal protective equipment (PPE).

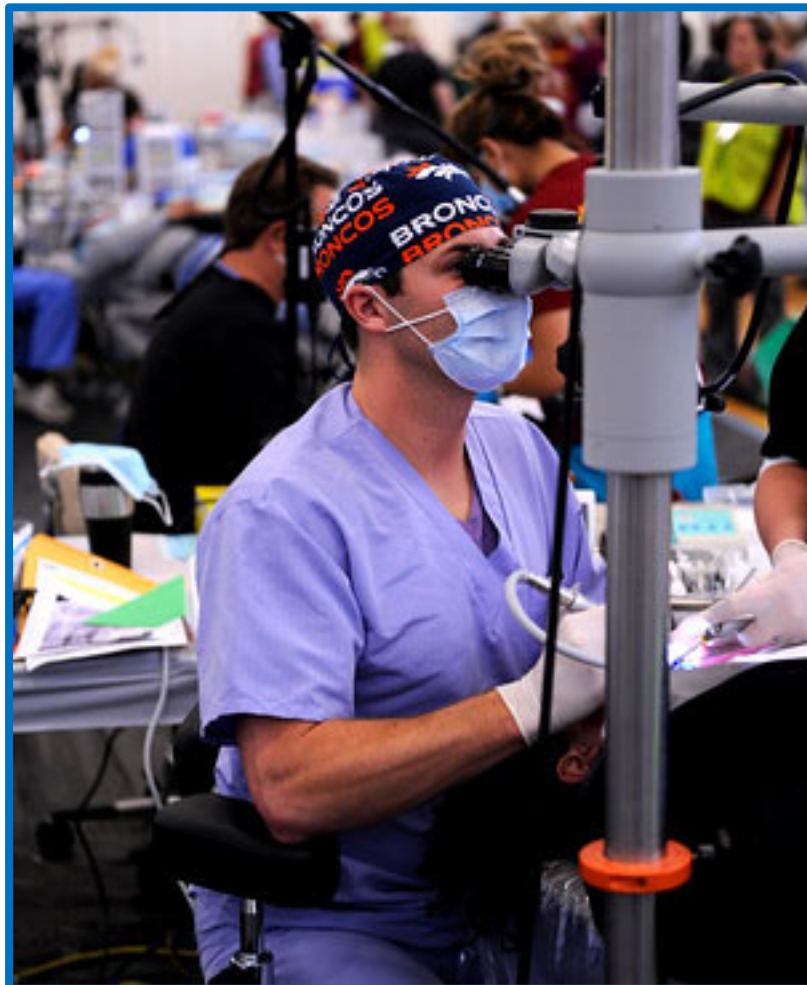
DENTAL CLINIC – EQUIPMENT	
• America’s Dentists Care Foundation – Dental equipment rental and staff support	42,000
• Dental equipment purchase and/or rental (e.g., panos, Nomads, sensors)	24,000
• Storage/transportation of COMOM-owned equipment and supplies	4,000
• Insurance (COMOM-owned)	2,000
TOTAL DENTAL CLINIC – EQUIPMENT	72,000
DENTAL CLINIC – OTHER	
• Facility / Staffing (Harrison School – Canon City School District)	5,000
• Licensed electrician/plumber fees and associated supplies	4,000
• Dental supplies	75,000
• Anesthetic / Take-home medicine	4,000
• Medical waste	1,000
• Computers/printers/copiers	3,000
• Nondental equipment rental (e.g., compressors, generators, pipe/drape)	5,000
• Nondental supplies	8,000
• Miscellaneous	1,000
TOTAL DENTAL CLINIC – OTHER	106,000
PATIENT / VOLUNTEER SUPPORT	
• Patient and volunteer food and beverages	12,000
• Volunteer t-shirts / name tags / certificates / check-in materials	8,500
• Event malpractice insurance for dentists and dental hygienists	1,500
• Miscellaneous	1,000
TOTAL PATIENT / VOLUNTEER SUPPORT	23,000
OUTREACH	
• Printing / Copies	3,500
• Postage	1,000
• Office supplies	2,000
• Travel	6,000
• Phone (COMOM, volunteer hotline, patient hotline)	2,500
• Website / email and registration programs	2,000
• Miscellaneous	1,000
TOTAL OUTREACH	18,000
ADMINISTRATIVE	
• Executive Director	30,000
• Miscellaneous	1,000
TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE	31,000
GRAND TOTAL	250,000

COMOM IMAGES

COMOM Video - 3.50 minutes

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GA50G0Ns0HY>









COMOM IRS 501(c)3 NONPROFIT DETERMINATION LETTER



CINCINNATI OH 45999-0038

In reply refer to: 0248206070
Dec. 11, 2019 LTR 4168C 0
27-1586585 000000 00

00014192
BODC: TE

COLORADO MISSION OF MERCY INC
COMOM
% NELLY BARRETO
7615 WINDING OAK DR
COLORADO SPRINGS CO 80919

014874

Employer ID number: 27-1586585
Form 990 required: Yes

Dear Taxpayer:

We're responding to your request dated Dec. 02, 2019, about your tax-exempt status.

We issued you a determination letter in November 2010, recognizing you as tax-exempt under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 501(c) (3).

We also show you're not a private foundation as defined under IRC Section 509(a) because you're described in IRC Sections 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi).

Donors can deduct contributions they make to you as provided in IRC Section 170. You're also qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, legacies, devises, transfers, or gifts under IRC Sections 2055, 2106, and 2522.

In the heading of this letter, we indicated whether you must file an annual information return. If you're required to file a return, you must file one of the following by the 15th day of the 5th month after the end of your annual accounting period:

- Form 990, Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax
- Form 990EZ, Short Form Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax
- Form 990-N, Electronic Notice (e-Postcard) for Tax-Exempt Organizations Not Required to File Form 990 or Form 990-EZ
- Form 990-PF, Return of Private Foundation or Section 4947(a)(1) Trust Treated as Private Foundation

According to IRC Section 6033(j), if you don't file a required annual information return or notice for 3 consecutive years, we'll revoke your tax-exempt status on the due date of the 3rd required return or notice.

You can get IRS forms or publications you need from our website at www.irs.gov/forms-pubs or by calling 800-TAX-FORM (800-829-3676).

If you have questions, call 877-829-5500 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.,

0248206070
Dec. 11, 2019 LTR 4168C 0
27-1586585 000000 00
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COLORADO MISSION OF MERCY INC
COMOM
% NELLY BARRETO
7615 WINDING OAK DR
COLORADO SPRINGS CO 80919

local time, Monday through Friday (Alaska and Hawaii follow Pacific time).

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely yours,



Kim A. Billups, Operations Manager
Accounts Management Operations 1