

# FUNDING APPLICATION

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Organization Information

<b>Legal Name:</b> The University of Texas Foundation for the benefit of The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio	<b>Federal Tax ID#:</b> 74-1587488	<b>Are you a 501(3)(c) charity?</b> Yes
<b>Address:</b> 9011 Mountain Ridge Dr., Suite 150	<b>City:</b> Austin	<b>State:</b> Texas
		<b>Zip Code:</b> 78759
<b>Website:</b> <a href="https://www.utxf.org/">https://www.utxf.org/</a>	<b>Fax:</b> (512) 473-8985	

### Head Of Organization

<b>Name:</b> Sheri DeSpain	<b>Title:</b> Executive Director
<b>E-Mail Address:</b> sdespain@utxf.org	<b>Phone:</b> (210) 567-0028

### Application Contact

<b>Name:</b> Peter M. Loomer, BSc, D.D.S., Ph.D., MRCD(C), FACD	<b>Title:</b> Professor and Dean of UT Health San Antonio School of Dentistry	<b>E-Mail Address:</b> bulle@uthscsa.edu	<b>Phone:</b> (210) 567-2028
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**Has the organization applied to the Gordon Hartman Family Foundation in the past and been declined?**

Yes  
Sep. 2019

<b>Grant Amount Requested \$:</b>	<b>Total Project Budget \$:</b>	<b>Organization's Annual budget \$:</b>
\$25,000	\$56,650	\$501,175

**Mission Statement:**

The University of Texas Foundation charitable organization accepts and manages gifts that support UT System institutions including The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio (UTHSA). UTHSA School of Dentistry has a mission to improve oral health through excellence in education, research, patient care and community engagement.

**PROJECT INFORMATION**

**Program / Project Title:**

Special Care Dentistry Clinic at UT Health San Antonio School of Dentistry

**PROJECT TIMELINE**

<b>Start Date</b>	<b>End Date</b>
01/01/2021	12/31/2021

**Program / Project Description:**

Barriers to Dental Health Care for Individuals with Special Needs:

Dental care is an important component of health maintenance and quality of life for all individuals. Yet, dental care is frequently forgotten within the overall health care strategy for people with special needs. Compared with other populations, people living with a disability experience poorer health across many indicators, including oral health. Patients also experience difficulty locating, traveling to, and paying for needed dental health care. Like other vulnerable populations, patients with disabilities face barriers to dental care including lack of health care insurance and other financial restrictions; poor access to providers and facilities; limited health care resources and transportation options; and communication barriers among patients, caretakers and health care providers. This population also faces obstacles derived from psychosocial issues (dental anxiety, limited capacity to follow directions, resistance to dental care in the cognitively impaired), sensory impairments, physical frailty, and restricted mobility.

Dental and medical support for people with physical or cognitive challenges and the aging population have an extreme maldistribution of economic and health care resources, especially in San Antonio. San Antonio has been identified as the most economically divided metropolitan region in the US (R. Florida, 2014). This economic divide exacerbates the already profound health care challenges for individuals with disabilities and the aging population, such that San Antonians living with a disability are a significantly underserved population whom struggle to find, access, and pay for fundamental oral health care.

In 2017, the National Council on Disabilities in collaboration with the American Dental Association updated its Code of Professional Conduct to state that "dentists shall not refuse to accept patients into their practice or deny dental service to patients because of the patients'...disability." Unfortunately, many private dental practices and clinics still decline to treat patients with disabilities. Economically, these dentists see a significant dis-incentive in providing treatment to patients with complex oral health needs because patients with physical, cognitive and communication limitations require considerable extra time, personnel and resources, which are not factored into reimbursement mechanisms. Lastly, the equipment in dental offices may not accommodate the physical or mobility limitations associated with many disabilities. Upgrading dental office equipment is costly. These barriers are exacerbated by a systemic lack of training in dentistry for the special needs population during dental school.

Dental school graduates entering the profession in 2021 and ensuing years, will encounter a rapidly growing aging patient population and cohort of individuals with cognitive, physical, developmental, and concurrent medical challenges that need dental care. Accordingly, a significant workforce goal for the dental profession is to instill capacity to function competently with patients living with disabilities as a core component of dental practice throughout the dental profession including dentists, dental hygienists, dental therapists and dental assistants.

#### **A Special Care Dentistry Clinic for Care and Training:**

To address the limitations in dental health care serving patients with disabilities, UT Health San Antonio School of Dentistry (SOD) will be instituting direct dental care for patients living with physical or cognitive challenges in the San Antonio community by opening a Special Care Dentistry Clinic (SCDC) at the School's Center for Oral Health Care and Research (COHCR), scheduled to open in the fall of 2021. The core mission of the SCDC is to mitigate the inequalities in oral health care provision currently encountered by people living with special needs, and to increase workforce capacity by training dental students, dental hygienists and residents how to support this population.

The SCDC will provide dental care to patients with disabilities and ensure there are modifications of traditional treatment planning, methods for delivering care, and facility accommodations. The SCDC will support dental care patients with developmental, physical and cognitive impairments, as well as geriatric patients with complex medical needs. These patients will be provided dental therapies customized to their needs, in a dental clinic specifically designed to accommodate for their challenges.

In addition to providing an accessible dental care resource, the SCDC will serve as an educational center to develop a culturally competent workforce with treatment skills pertinent to the varying physical, mental and sensory constraints, and economic circumstances of this vulnerable population. All SOD dental and dental hygiene students, residents, will receive a didactic curriculum, hands-on training and supervised clinical experience in providing care for individuals with special healthcare needs in the SCDC. Additionally, a post-graduate training certificate program in Special Needs Dentistry will be part of the educational offerings. We anticipate enrolling three to five students for this certificate program annually. The clinic will be able to treat 120 patients per week.

Support from the Gordon Hartman Foundation would enable the SOD to acquire specialized equipment for the benefit of treating patients with disabilities at the SCDC. The compact wheelchair recliner is a fully mobile dental platform designed specifically for wheelchair patients. This piece of equipment allows the patient to remain in their own wheelchair while enabling the optimal angle for dental care treatment for both the patient and the clinical team. We estimate that 20% of clinic patients would utilize this chair. The Bariatric Treatment Chair enhances dental treatment options for patients with movement restrictions and allows for easy and safe access for all body types and needs. We estimate that 15% of clinic patients will utilize this chair.

These specialized dental chairs will be sustainable within the Special Needs Dentistry Clinic, as they will increase the number of patients the clinic will serve while also providing a learning opportunity for dental students and residents. The greater number of hours of supervised practice a student or resident will experience with these specialized chairs will directly impact their comfortability and confidence in using such equipment within their future practice.

#### **Evaluation Plan:**

There are two major goals for the UT Health San Antonio School of Dentistry (SOD) Special Care Dentistry Clinic (SCDC). The first goal of this project is to establish a clinical facility at the SOD that is dedicated to the provision of comprehensive oral health care services for children, adolescents, adults, and seniors whom require special care. We will establish a viable resource in the SCDC for those living with disabilities and/or are in the aging population in San Antonio. The SOD is dedicated to community outreach, and as such, the SCDC will represent a continuation and expansion of this historic commitment. We have learned that deconstructing the health care divide requires proactive collaboration with community health care organizations and civic leaders in the economically challenged areas of San Antonio. Accordingly, the SOD will continue to collaborate with community health organizations, LTCFs, rehabilitation centers, metropolitan public health officers, the city's mass transit system and civic leaders to develop viable transportation and other access-enhancing methods for the SCDC.

The second goal is to establish a Special Care Dentistry Educational Center within the SCDC, which has three aims: (1) develop and implement a core special care health curricula, via hands-on workshops and case-based seminars for dental and dental hygiene students, dental residents, faculty and clinical support staff; (2) coordinate clinical education experiences for students and residents, culminating in delivery of dental treatment for special needs patients; and (3) serve as a training site to enhance the clinical capacities of the SOD faculty in the area of special care. Curriculum design will be guided by lessons learned from outcomes of efforts to introduce special needs curricula into other dental schools. An end goal is to establish a post-graduate training certificate program in Special Care Dentistry.

Kirkpatrick's hierarchy of educational outcomes will be used for collecting, analyzing, and reporting SCDC outcomes. Kirkpatrick's model has five outcome levels: 1) participants' reaction to the educational/clinical experience (i.e., satisfaction); 2) indicators, including changes in attitudes and intentions; 3) learning, focusing on changes in knowledge and skills; 4) behavior, including changes in practice and demonstration of ability to use learned techniques in the workplace; and 5) results, including changes in organizational infrastructure, policies, or capacity.

Support to purchase specialized dental equipment will assist the SCDC reach both goals: increased community outreach for patients with special needs and better preparedness for dental students and residents trained in Special Care Dentistry. The SCDC will evaluate the success of acquiring the specialized dental chairs by monitoring the increased number of patients with special needs served, as well as the increased number of dental students and residents using the chairs during their training. In the long-term, we will evaluate the graduates' confidence and willingness to treat patients with special needs in their dental practices; the ultimate purpose of enhancing the education and training of dental and dental hygiene students in special care dentistry.

**Plans to sustain project beyond the term of this request:**

The sustainability of the Special Care Dentistry Clinic (SCDC) will be largely attributed to the collaborative efforts of the SOD Community Advisory Council that will be comprised of external health care providers, patient advocates, patients living with special needs, representatives of health organizations and leaders in the special needs community of San Antonio. The SOD will work with this Community Advisory Council, which will be a valuable asset to the SCDC. The SOD Community Advisory Council will meet semi-annually as well as when needed by the SCDC. Members will be advocates for the SCDC and partners in fundraising as well as community engagement. Additionally, the SOD works with a number of funding agencies that will be critical in the sustainability of the SCDC. This will include support from state agencies and federal grants (including workforce granting opportunities) that are available for academic health science center purposes. Although some services may be billed to insurance plans, not all these services or time can be compensated. Therefore, the SOD will actively increase efforts for philanthropic support for the SCDC. This will include corporate and foundation engagement, as well as targeted fundraising activities. The SOD will also engage individuals - including alumni of the School of Dentistry, grateful patients, and community champions connected to this patient population. The SCDC, with its faculty and students, will create a learning environment that will develop future dentists who will have specialized training and skills needed for this patient population - throughout their careers.

Specifically, acquiring two specialized dental chairs will provide sustainability within the SCDC. A greater number of patients who require specialized care will be served, which will lead to a positive long-term impact for the patients and the community's health. Additionally, these chairs will provide critical training experience for dental students and residents, which will be extremely important to breaking barriers that patients with special care needs often encounter. Experience will lead students and residents to feel confident in utilizing specialized dental equipment and comfortable with treating all patients after graduation in their future practice.

#### **Line item Budget:**

<b>Line Item Description</b>	<b>Total Project Funds Allocation</b>	<b>Gordon Hartman Funds Allocation</b>
Compact Wheelchair Recliner	\$26,995	\$10,000
Bariatric treatment chair	\$29,655	\$15,000
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$56,650</b>	<b>\$25,000</b>

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

#### **LIST OF BOARD DIRECTORS**

<b>Name &amp; Office Held</b>	<b>Corporate Affiliation</b>
Mr. Thomas J. Perich, President	Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP Attorney
Mr. John W. Fainter, Jr., President Emeritus	Attorney
Mr. Rex G. Baker, III, President Elect	Attorney
Dr. James A. Prentice, Immediate Past President	Investments
Mrs. Sonia Perez, Vice President and Secretary	Corporate Executive
Mr. Alfred M. Meyerson, Vice President and Treasurer	Jackson & Walker L.L.P Attorney
Mr. R Gordon Appleman, Member	Attorney
Ms. Michelle Brock, Member	Investments
Mr. Michael L. Cook, Member	Cook, Brooks & Johnson Attorney
Mr. Hector DeLeon, Member	DeLeon & Washburn Attorney
Mr. Wofford Denius, Member	Attorney
Ms. Betsy Chadderdon Frantz, Member	Fund Raising / Retired

Mr. Charles W. Matthews, Jr., Member	Attorney
Mr. Brian T. McLaughlin, Member	Attorney
Mrs. Annie Holand Miller, Member	Attorney/Investments
Ms. Tracy LaQuey Parker, Member	Business Development / Investment Consultant
Mrs. Melinda Hill Perrin, Member	Civic Leader
Mr. Shannon H. Ratliff, Member	Attorney
Mr. John Stuart, III, Member	Investments
Mr. Tim Taylor, Member	Jackson & Walker, L.L.P Attorney
The Honorable Pamela P. Willeford, Member	Former Ambassador