

The Global Child Dental Fund and the Centre for International Child Oral Health, King's College London

September

Call for a Global Dental Health Taskforce

Forty senior dental advisors and chief dental officers from around the world convene at the European Union Presidency meeting in England. They call for the formation of a Global Dental Health Taskforce to raise the profile of the worldwide crisis of dental decay among disadvantaged children.



January

The Taskforce launches

In association with the Centre for International Child Oral Health at King's College, Professor Raman Bedi launches the GCDHT. The mission is funded by the UK government and endorsed by the World Health Organization.

February

Our First Patron



Archbishop Desmond Tutu accepts an invitation to serve as Patron of the Taskforce.

April

SDL-2: The Senior Dental Leaders programme expands

The Harvard School of Dental Medicine agrees to collaborate with King's College and the GCDHT in running the annual SDL programmes.



September

The Taskforce is incorporated as a charitable organisation

With sponsorship from Colgate-Palmolive, the Global Child Dental Fund (GCDFund) is established as a UK-based charity in order to drive forward the mission of the Taskforce.

November

Trustees AGM

The charity trustees are appointed: Professor Raman Bedi (Chair), Dr Marion Bergman, Mr Richard Price, Dr Tony Volpe.

July

The 'Smile Brazil' project reaches millions

Midway through 2009 the 'Smile Brazil' project, which was run by the Brazilian Ministry of Health and the Brazilian Taskforce, had provided preventive treatment and educational packs to over 3 million Brazilian children.



April

SDL-4

The fourth session of the leadership programme takes place at the Harvard School of Dental Medicine, Boston, USA.

HENRY SCHEIN®
Stanley M. Bergman, Chairman and CEO Henry Schein, Inc. addressing SDL delegates at the Henry Schein Gala Dinner.



Improving the dental health of the world's most disadvantaged children

February

Smiles & Hopes Tanzania

UK-based dental nurse Prue Preston launches Smiles & Hopes at the Forever Angels orphanage in Mwanza.



September

King's College Award

The Senior Dental Leaders programme is voted the best International Collaboration programme at King's College London. Professor Raman Bedi receives the award at a special ceremony.

Fighting dental decay in Cambodia

Over three years, the Seal Cambodia project will provide fissure sealant treatment to over 60,000 disadvantaged school children in Phnom-Penh.



September

New Global Caries Prevention Initiative

The Alliance for a Cavity Free Future launches at the FDI World Dental Congress in Mexico City.

2005

October

Laying the foundations

Professor Raman Bedi leads discussions with the UK government and King's College with a view to setting up the Global Child Dental Health Taskforce (GCDHT).

2006

April

Public Private Partnership with Colgate-Palmolive announced



Continuing its long-standing commitment to improving oral health, Colgate-Palmolive partners with the Taskforce to help eradicate dental cavities among children around the world through the establishment of national taskforces.

13 national taskforces are set up in 2006. Colgate announce that this project is their 200th anniversary gift to children worldwide and donate 30 million toothbrushes and toothpaste to the project.

2007

March

SDL-1: Building a global cadre of dental leaders

Seventeen chief dental officers, policy makers and academics develop their leadership skills at the inaugural Senior Dental Leaders programme, SDL-1, at King's College London.

Colgate-Palmolive and Henry Schein provide financial support for delegates.

2008

May

South Africa Taskforce Workshop

The Taskforce arranges and leads a dental capacity building workshop in order to develop strategic oral-health plans for the South African provinces.

"It was exciting to see civil servants, professors of dental public health and provincial oral health managers working together to help underserved children. We captured a synergy that will make a significant difference to the dental agenda of this country."

Dr Johan Smit, CDO, South Africa



2009

March

SDL-3

Professor Raman Bedi and Dr. Bruce Donoff (Dean, Harvard School of Dental Medicine) instructed the conference delegates as they developed their strategic leadership competencies.



December

'Smile China' Project

Over one million children had benefited from the activities of the China Taskforce; 35,000 of whom visited one of the seven Colgate 'Bright Smiles, Bright Futures' Centres.



2010

August

Smiles & Hopes for Cambodia's vulnerable and destitute children

In Cambodia the Smiles & Hopes programme sets out to meet the dental and medical needs of thousands of vulnerable and destitute orphans in Phnom-Penh. A new Beacon Centre is also established in Phnom Penh.



2011

April

SDL-5

Harvard School of Dental Medicine hosts SDL-5.

"Improving children's dental health has always been our core mission. Without equipped senior dental leaders we will fail to deliver any meaningful improvement."

Professor Raman Bedi

November

Smiles & Hopes Timor Leste

The Smiles and Hopes Timor Leste programme gets underway with the first GCDFund Timor Leste Oral Health Conference. At the conference, dental equipment donated by Hu-Friedy is distributed to all attendant dentists and therapists.

SDL shortlisted for the Times Higher Education Award

The Senior Dental Leaders programme is shortlisted for the prestigious Times Higher Education Awards 2011 in the category of 'Outstanding Contribution to Leadership Development'.