



OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY

College of Health Sciences



Friday, December 16, 2022

ODU School of Dental Hygiene and EVMS HOPES Clinica Esperanza Partner to Provide Free Services to ESL Children



Old Dominion University's Gene W. Hirschfeld School of Dental Hygiene recently partnered with Eastern Virginia Medical School's HOPES Clinica Esperanza to provide free services to children for whom English is a second language.

Youths ages 4 to 13, whose parents signed their children up for a referral from the HOPES Free Clinic, received dental assessments, X-rays, teeth cleanings, fluoride varnish applications and preventative sealants on Nov. 5 at ODU's David and Sofia Konikoff Dental Hygiene Care Facility, which is in the College of Health Sciences.

A total of 26 ODU dental hygiene students provided the treatment under the supervision of licensed dental hygiene faculty, which included Associate Professor and School Chair Ann Bruhn, Senior Lecturer/Dentist Lee Melvin, Assistant Professor Emily Ludwig, Lecturer Adaira Howell, Director of Clinical Affairs Lauren Eusner and adjunct faculty member Samantha Vest. Graduate teaching assistant Monica Puentes also participated.

ODU provided more than \$400 worth of donated services, Eusner said

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Featured Student: Nicole Parham



Time hasn't always been on Nicole Parham's side.

Her working life has been shaped by moves for her husband's service in the U.S. Coast Guard, pregnancies, a historic flood and a pandemic.

But at 46, Parham feels she has found the career she was meant to pursue. On Dec. 17, Parham will graduate from Old Dominion University with a bachelor's degree in medical laboratory science - completed in less than two years while working for Sentara Healthcare, serving as the program's class president and raising two daughters.

It's a surprising path for Parham, who swore she'd never pursue a career in health care based on her experiences growing up in the Navajo Nation in New Mexico.

"Every experience that I've had with Indian Health Services were about a lack of resources," she said. "If you had an appointment, you knew you'd be waiting all day."

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Featured Faculty: Shelly Beaver & Betsy Kennedy

The ODU College of Health Sciences looks forward to welcoming faculty members Betsy Kennedy, Ed.M., CTRS, and Shelly Beaver, MS, CTRS.

The college will welcome the Recreational Therapy program into the School of Rehabilitation Sciences, beginning with Fall 2023 classes.

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In the news

[Commonwealth Budget Update](#)

[ODU nursing students reforest Virginia Beach center to lessen health care's environmental impacts](#)

[ONE School of Public Health names inaugural dean](#)

["In This Together" - Janice Hawkins on *With Good Reason*](#)

Featured Upcoming Events

Commencement: December 17, 12:30 p.m.

Winter Break, ODU Closed: December 23-January 2

Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) Immersion Day: January 6-8, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Classes begin: January 7

Dental Hygiene Continuing Education Winter Weekend: February 24-26

Dental Hygiene Winter Weekend Exhibit Hall & Alumni Reception: February 25, 6-8 p.m.

Medical Laboratory Sciences Blood Drive: March 21

Nuclear Medicine Senior Colloquium: March 30

Call for stories

Share your stories about research, grants, teaching success, awards and honors, student success, alumni success, interdisciplinary collaboration, students getting experience in the field, community service, events, and anything else that shows how unique our programs are and how great it is to be a Monarch! If you are featured in the media, please share that as well ***Deadline to be featured in the next newsletter is January 31***, but the "call for stories" is constant. Please share your story ideas with Erica Howell at ehowell@odu.edu. To add an event to the calendar, contact Tammie Smith at tsmith@odu.edu.



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