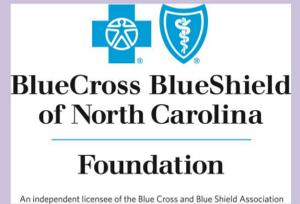


# Oral Health Awareness and Education on the oral manifestation of HIV/AIDS in Durham, NC

Zerita C. Buchanan

NC Albert Schweitzer Fellow 2013-2014  
University of North Carolina School of Dentistry  
CAARE Inc, Durham NC

THE ALBERT  
SCHWEITZER  
FELLOWSHIP



## PROJECT DESCRIPTION and GOALS

The objective of the Schweitzer project was to collaborate with The SNDA CAARE's Clinic in order to raise local awareness on oral health with a strong emphasis on the relationship between HIV/AIDS and the oral cavity. The Fellow aimed to assist HIV+ patients and their families avoid and/or lessen the impact of problematic oral lesions commonly seen secondary to HIV diagnosis and/or treatment.

## RESULTS

- Two appointments per week were dedicated to servicing HIV+ patients at the CAARE Clinic with free dental care and oral health education.
- \$844 of free dental care was provided to 13 HIV+ patients.
- 42 dental students signed a pledge that they would actively help eliminate stigmas in the dental community regarding patient's living with HIV/AIDS
- 2 referrals were made to UNC Hospital Dental Clinic

## SUSTAINABILITY

Dental student Tayla Cunningham, a 3rd year dental student at UNC and Vice President of SNDA, will sustain this project. Tayla worked with the Fellow during the fellowship year at the CAARE clinic and is very knowledgeable about HIV and its affect on the oral cavity. The Wake County regional director for HIV/AIDS relations has agreed to help identify HIV+ patients to be referred to the program. The Albert Schweitzer Fellowship provided sustainability funds for program supplies.



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## CLINIC SERVICES

Dental services offered:

- Extractions
- Cleanings
- Limited Exams
- Restorative
- Digital X-rays

Each HIV+ patient seen at our clinic received a detailed PowerPoint lecture on common oral lesions seen as a result of HIV. Proper oral hygiene instructions were given to all patients at the clinic regardless of their health status.



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704-895-6596