

# Operation Bruin Smiles

Brian Lehigh, Tigon Abalos, Dr. Edmond Hewlett

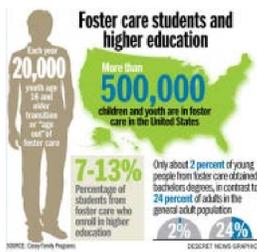


UCLA Healthy Campus Initiative:  
Envisioned and supported by  
Jane and Terry Semel

## Background

Operation Bruin Smiles is an innovative, student-run program for UCLA student veterans and former foster youth that is designed to provide eligible participants with subsidy funding to offset the dental insurance copayments for common dental procedures through UC-SHIP and Denti-Cal in the UCLA Predoctoral Dental Clinic. In addition, this program would engage in targeted outreach efforts to raise awareness in the field of dentistry and guide students from these populations to enter the dental school pipeline.

## Serving Those in Need



Dental Benefits for Veterans

Category	Requirements	Benefits
Outpatient Dental Program	Active duty service members and their families, including active duty spouses, are eligible for dental care through the Department of Defense (DoD) Dental Program. The program covers a wide range of dental services, including preventive care, restorative care, and oral surgery. The program is available to active duty service members and their families, including active duty spouses, at military dental clinics and through the DoD Dental Program. The program is available to active duty service members and their families, including active duty spouses, at military dental clinics and through the DoD Dental Program.	Comprehensive dental care, including preventive care, restorative care, and oral surgery.

Category	Requirements	Benefits
Other	Active duty service members and their families, including active duty spouses, are eligible for dental care through the Department of Defense (DoD) Dental Program. The program covers a wide range of dental services, including preventive care, restorative care, and oral surgery. The program is available to active duty service members and their families, including active duty spouses, at military dental clinics and through the DoD Dental Program. The program is available to active duty service members and their families, including active duty spouses, at military dental clinics and through the DoD Dental Program.	Comprehensive dental care, including preventive care, restorative care, and oral surgery.

There are approximately 400 total undergraduate and graduate UCLA student veterans and former foster youth who are eligible for the Operation Bruin Smiles Program. Veterans and foster youth populations typically face significant barriers to reliable health and dental care due to lack of awareness of resources, income disparities, and inefficiencies of bureaucratic government assistance programs. Operation Bruin Smiles will address these access-to-care issues by providing these two student groups with direct access to superior quality and affordable dental care.

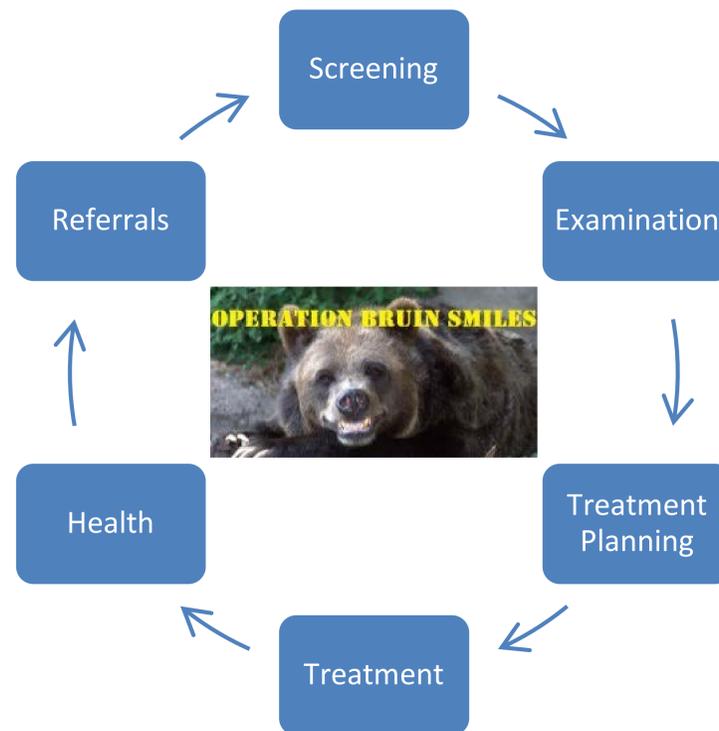


Inquiries can be directed to  
[OperationBruinSmiles@gmail.com](mailto:OperationBruinSmiles@gmail.com)



## Methods

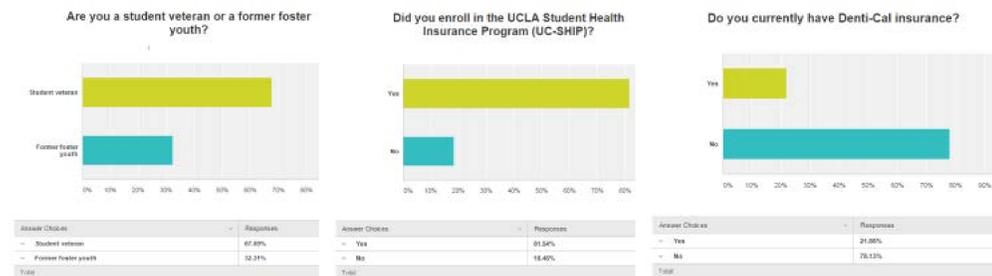
UCLA student veterans and former foster youth were asked to complete a survey and were subsequently scheduled for a screening appointment, x-rays, and exam. The first 20 respondents received a free electronic toothbrush. Eligible participants can receive up to \$500 in subsidy to cover common dental procedures such as: **cleanings, fillings, crowns, root canals, extractions, and dentures.**



## Results

A total of 63 UCLA student veterans and former foster youth responded to the surveys that were emailed by the Bruin Resource Center. Screenings were held on 2/17, 2/25, 3/3, and 4/14. As of 4/16/2015:

- 16 student veterans have been screened
- 2 former foster youth have been screened
- 7 patients have received FMX radiographs
- 2 patients have received a comprehensive exam



## Conclusions

The screenings initially proceeded slowly due to limited faculty coverage, but the screening process was streamlined in the spring quarter to allow for a greater volume of patients. A total of 18 patients were screened and are eligible to receive subsidized dental care through the Operation Bruin Smiles Subsidy Program.

## Acknowledgements

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