



ENDODONTISTS AND ACCESS TO CARE TALKING POINTS

- The AAE, the professional association that represents root canal specialists, is dedicated to the highest quality of patient care, especially for those members of the public who are underserved. Service is the first core value of the AAE in support of this mission.
- Root canal specialists are active in many volunteer efforts across the country. The AAE has a unique **Step Up! Program**, which encourages endodontists to volunteer in their local communities, and provides support for their efforts.
- **Since 2005, more than one third of root canal specialists nationwide have delivered complimentary endodontic services to underserved patients around the U.S. and worldwide.**
- Root canal specialists donate countless hours treating patients in need through their private practices, services which may go unrecognized, but are appreciated by those they reach.
- Endodontists also save teeth through participation in formal programs including Mercy of Mission, which delivers care to homeless shelters and free clinics, Donated Dental Services, which serves handicapped and low-income patients, and Give Kids a Smile, which saves teeth for children.
- Dr. William Powell, one of the AAE's prominent volunteer leaders, is on the Board of Directors of Donated Dental Services, and has been encouraging endodontic activism at the highest levels for many years. He is only one example of a committed root canal specialist who puts service in action.
- The AAE introduced two new Spirit of Service Awards last year, which recognize endodontists who have demonstrated a lifetime commitment to volunteerism or who are dedicated new practitioners. Dr. George Goodis (Grosse Pointe, M.I.) and Dr. Jessica Barr (Asheville, N.C.) were the first-time recipients of these awards.
- Endodontists are also committed to educating the public about the importance of saving teeth through the AAE's public awareness campaign, and has translated educational materials for non-English speaking patients to help people of every background gain accurate information and make the best possible choices for their dental health.