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# VINA NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2022



## VINA UPDATES

## BY THE NUMBERS

The Board of Directors at VINA has undergone numerous changes this past year. Dr. Carl Mueller, who served as Board President for nearly five years and as staff dentist at VINA has retired to spend more time with his family.

VINA's Board of Directors appointed Dr. Colleen Concepcion as the new Board President. She has served on the Board for a number of years and volunteers at VINA regularly. Her skills and leadership both in and out of the clinic are invaluable.

Dr. Fred Bonine, a longtime oral surgeon and co-founder of VINA continues to serve as the Vice President of the Board of Directors.

Patrick Armistead and Gigi Vaillencourt, members of First United Methodist Church serve as Board Treasurer & Board Secretary/BFUMC Liaison, respectively.

VINA staff, board members, volunteers, patients and donors are incredibly grateful for Dr. Mueller's dedicated service to those in need of dental care over the years. Thank you, Dr. Mueller!

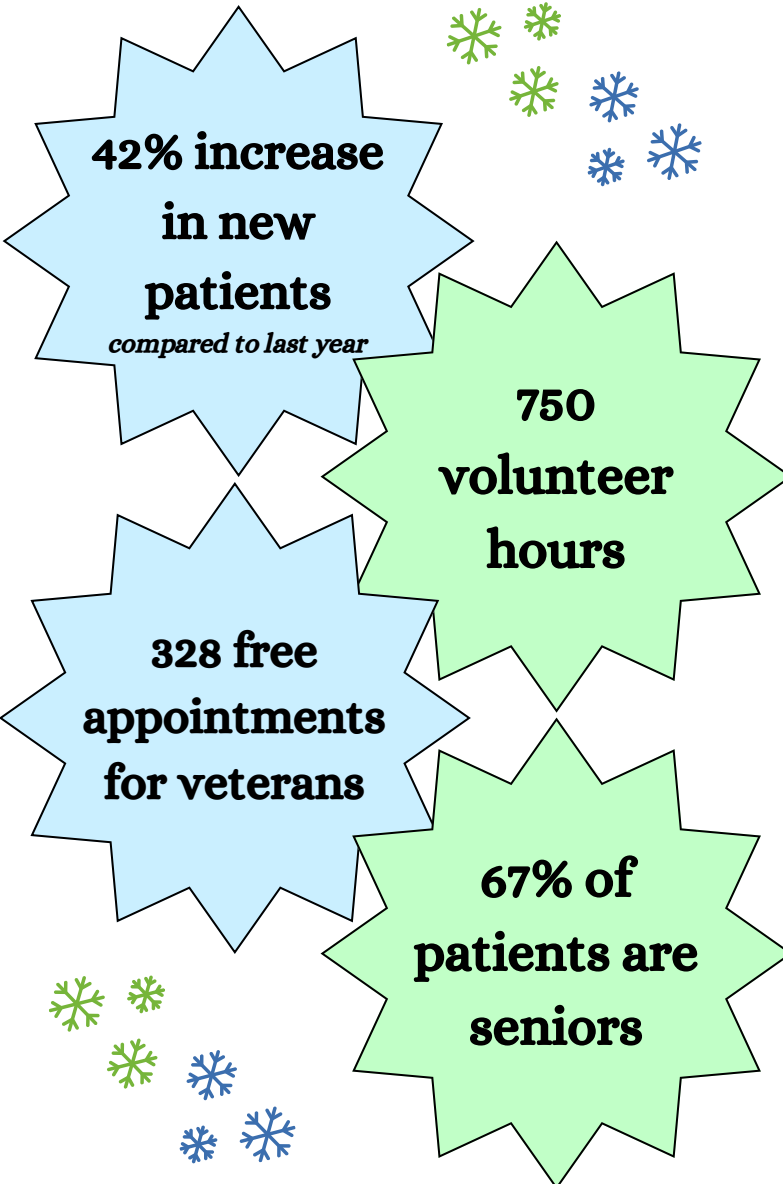
### VINA Board of Directors

- Dr. Colleen Concepcion\*
- Dr. Fred Bonine\*
- Patrick Armistead\*
- Gigi Vaillencourt\*
- Dr. Ronald Paler
- Robert Gardella
- Dr. Brian Petersburg

*Officers\**

- Jean Petersburg
- Richard Smith
- Scott Ward
- Barb Terry
- Lori Bauer
- Alex Eason\*\*
- John Robertson\*\*

*UMSD Student Liaisons\*\**



January - October 2022

## VINA PATIENT SPOTLIGHT

My income is Social Security, and I am considered low income. **If it wasn't for VINA Dental, there's no telling what condition my teeth and gums would be in right now.**

Since going to VINA, I have had two cleanings a year, a broken tooth fixed and recently scaling and root planning.

I so appreciate what you do. Everyone is welcoming, friendly and understanding. **They have been a saving grace for me.**  
**Thank you from the bottom of my heart.**



## VICTORS FOR VETERANS SPOTLIGHT

**Barry served in the Army for six years** and came into the Victors for Veterans program with gingivitis and some missing teeth. Having missing teeth meant Barry could only eat on one side. He would have to eat slowly to ensure he could chew all the food on that side and not irritate his gums with any sharp edges of food or silverware.

Through the Victors for Veterans program, **Barry got bridges to fill the gaps where he was missing teeth.**

**"Now I can eat when my food is still warm,"** he says is one of the many things he is happy about. Barry praised the staff and providers of the Victors for Veterans clinic, saying, **"Toni and everyone take good care of me."**

Barry is very **grateful and appreciative of all the people involved with the clinic and Victors for Veterans program.** He said the doctors and students are amazing and he had no discomfort throughout his treatment.

## PATIENT TESTIMONIALS

The department heads are extremely professional in their work including the dental and administration staff... I have been treated respectfully and friendly on every one of my 10 plus appointments. Thanks VINA and all the volunteers and financial contributors.

Everybody that I've met at VINA has been pleasant and helpful. Without VINA I would not have been able to save my teeth. Bless the people that give their time at VINA for people that otherwise would lose all their teeth. And thank you for all the kind people that donate.

# THE VINA GOLF CLASSIC

The VINA Charity Golf Classic was on a beautiful course for an amazing day of golf, camaraderie, fun and giving! We had a record-breaking number of golfers this year who got to play on the stunning and exclusive Lakelands Golf & Country Club course. As always, prizes for the longest drive, closest to the pin, closest to the floss and shortest drive were awarded at dinner. The Ultimate Putt Contest and Hole-in-One Contest both returned this year with prizes of going to The Masters Tournament or The U.S. Open.

## Thank You Sponsors

Mike Biber  
Bank of Ann Arbor  
TNT Orthodontics  
Advanced Wealth Strategies  
Michigan Video & Photography  
Dr. Brian & Jean Petersburg  
Hamburg Family Dental  
Susan Rafferty  
PEAK Transition LLC

Acorn Wealth Advisors  
Drs. Donald & Sandra LaTurno  
Dr. Ronald Paler  
Harmon Real Estate  
Jim & Peggy Anthony  
McMillan & Associates, CPA PC  
Sheriff Mike Murphy  
Edward Jones – Richard Smith  
Primary Eye & Vision Care

Scott & Sue Ward  
TDR Orthodontics  
Village Dental of Milford  
Ward Dental Lab  
Benco Dental – Threasa Liddell  
Meghan Reckling for County Commissioner  
Patterson Dental - Catherine Oglesbee



# THE VINA TAILGATE

The VINA Tailgate was a blast! We had two winning captains return this year, Bob Cernak for the Wolverines and George Moses for the Spartans. **This year, Michigan State won The Tailgate – GO GREEN!** It was a very close year, with just over \$1,000 separating the two teams. **THANK YOU** to everyone who attended, bought sponsorships, donated and volunteered to make The 14th VINA Tailgate a success!

Every year, local dental offices, businesses and churches display Michigan and Michigan State jars for people to donate to VINA and count toward that school's tally. **This year's top Step Up Give A Buck location was St. George Lutheran Church!**



**ST. GEORGE**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

## Thank You Sponsors

Anonymous Donor  
Charlick, Spingstead & Wilson Dental Associates  
Bank of Ann Arbor  
Mazur's Total Automotive of Pinckney  
Steve & Kate Lowry  
FMG Concrete Cutting  
TNT Orthodontics  
Carolyn Kokalis  
Planted Provisioning  
Larry & Pattie Courtney  
Dr. Brian & Jeanie Petersburg  
Patrick Financial Group  
Susan Rafferty  
Brighton Orthodontics

Snedicor's Cleaners  
Rich & Mary Ray  
Advanced Wealth Strategies  
Bob & Pauline Schaffer  
Hands On Health Chiropractic  
Keven Burchfield  
Tom Rafferty  
Dr. Colleen & J.D. Concepcion  
Village Dental of Milford  
Rob Juergens – Merrill Lynch  
Ida Bergsma  
Attarian Dentistry  
Dr. Ronald Paler  
Nurture Family Dental

Drs. Donald & Sandra LaTurno  
Kitschy Vintage  
Gilbert & Myrna Henderson  
Dr. Fred Bonine  
Ward Dental Lab  
Dan Minert  
William P Horal DDS  
Dr. Anne & Rick Bibik  
Sheriff Mike Murphy  
Robert & Lorna Durand  
Uniplas, Inc  
Cindy & Wes Armbruster  
Judge Dan Bain  
Leadership Transition Services  
Scott & Sue Ward

# WRAPPING UP VINA'S YEAR



Over the past four years, I've asked you, our donors, to respond and keep VINA Community Dental Center solvent, thriving and moving forward. Over the past four years, you have responded generously time and time again.

**As we go into 2023, we have accomplished so much that will strengthen VINA's mission to serve those in need of affordable dental care:**

- We are expanding our Victors for Veterans program to double the number of veterans receiving free dental care.
- We have enhanced our marketing efforts to increase the visibility of VINA to those that are eligible but haven't yet found us. (This aggressive marketing has led to a marked increase in new patients).
- We are partnering with more non-profits serving similar populations, leading to better collaboration and service for those in need.

VINA has undergone a number of changes this past year as you've seen throughout this newsletter. At the same time, our patients continue their testimonies to the changes VINA has made in their lives. Our Board of Directors, staff and partners are the strongest they've ever been.

However, we cannot be complacent with our giving. Every day we read about non-profits that are sinking because they cannot raise the funds to support their causes. These economic times have affected our fundraising. We saw all three of our fundraisers fall short of projections this year and individual donations are down as well.

In order to do the things we know need to be done, WE NEED YOU! More than 40% of our budget comes from your donations through individual giving and fundraisers. **We need you to survive and thrive...to fulfill the mission.**

Can we count on you this holiday season to remember those in need through your generous donation to VINA?

You can use a check, cash or credit card. Simply mail in the tear-off or go to the "DONATE" button at [vinadental.org](http://vinadental.org) to give.

**The staff, board and volunteers at VINA wish you and your families a happy, healthy and safe holiday season.**

Jim Gilmore

## 2023 FUNDRAISING EVENTS

**VINA Spring Gala**  
*March 11, 2023*

**VINA Charity  
Golf Classic**  
*July 17, 2023*

**The VINA Tailgate**  
*October, 19, 2023*

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To give online, please go to [www.vinadental.org](http://www.vinadental.org)