

# TeamSmile

IN THE NEWS



# *Dr. Tom Faerber Provides Major Oral Surgery on TeamSmile Children*

In October of 2017, oral surgeon Dr. Tom Faerber witnessed his first TeamSmile program with the Kansas City Chiefs. He was moved and inspired to help, so he contacted TeamSmile Executive Director, John McCarthy. Fast forward to 2018 Dr. Faerber offered to provide free oral surgery to children that showed a great need at the 2018 TeamSmile program with the Kansas City Chiefs program.

In order to make this happen, Dr. Faerber and John McCarthy worked with Robin Gathman from Planmeca to provide a panoramic machine for the TeamSmile Kansas City Chiefs program. Planmeca had it shipped to and from Arrowhead Stadium, and provide the panoramic machine at no cost to TeamSmile. Henry Schein representatives helped to set-up the machine and break it down at the conclusion of the program.

“We are very grateful to Planmeca and Henry Schein for their help with the panoramic machine,” said John McCarthy. “Without their help, this whole thing doesn’t happen.”

During the TeamSmile Kansas City Chiefs program on October 23, dentists identified several children that would be candidates for the extensive oral surgery that would be provided by Dr. Faerber. The children that were referred to Dr. Faerber, and along with their families, were brought into his office in Overland Park, Kansas for a consultation.

On Saturday morning, January 5, 2018, Dr. Faerber brought his whole staff arrived at the office at 7:00 a.m. to prepare for surgery. Eight staff members were on hand to perform two extensive oral surgeries one patient was a 5-year-old boy and the other was an 8-year-old girl. Each received life-changing oral surgery by Dr. Faerber. This entire operation was provided completely free to these families.

“I witnessed something extraordinary,” said John McCarthy. “I watched kindness in action. I watched a group of human beings using their time and talents to serve children that were in great need. What a wonderful morning! Clearly, Dr. Faerber is a special man. Additionally, I commend his entire staff for taking their Saturday morning to serve these children. The children needed the help, and they were all there to serve them.”

Said Dr. Tom Faerber: “It really is an honor getting an opportunity to help these children with the services my specialty provides. Children do not have control over their environment and home care so anytime you get the chance to help someone’s life it does nothing but put more positive karma into the world. My hope is that with the kindness and help they receive these children may be motivated to become a health care worker of some kind to help others when they grow up. TeamSmile does an amazing job of helping kids in a positive supportive setting that is really great to be a part of.”

While this was the first of its kind for TeamSmile, it is Dr. Faerber’s intent to continue to give, and spread kindness. He plans to identify children that qualify for extensive oral surgery from the TeamSmile programs with Sporting KC, the Royals and the Chiefs, in the Kansas City community. In time, it is his hope and intention to help identify other oral surgeons in other communities where TeamSmile conducts programs, thus growing this new follow up care for each program.

In time, what has started as one man’s way of giving back is likely to have a ripple effect....a ripple effect of kindness.

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