

**The Central Arizona Dental Society (CADS) Foundation will host its fourth Mission of Mercy (MOM) event at the Arizona Fairgrounds in Phoenix, AZ, December 11 & 12, 2015 utilizing 100 portable dental units and 1500 volunteers. Approximately \$1,500,000 in free care is expected to be delivered to 2,000 patients. Both children and adults will be seen.** Basic dental care includes items such as: fillings, extractions and cleanings. Limited lab work (i.e., stainless-steel crowns for children, treatment partials) will be offered. The program is unable to treat patients with specific medically-compromising conditions (e.g., extremely high blood pressure, high blood sugar, severe disabilities).

## **PATIENT EDUCATION AT CADS MOM**

**An important element of the CADS MOM program is patient education. Education is the most cost-effective way to reduce oral disease among the low-income population, including AHCCCS patients.** A program to help patients understand the importance of good daily oral hygiene practices, healthy diet and routine preventative dental care is an essential part of Arizona Mission of Mercy.

In addition to receiving needed dental treatment, CADS MOM patients learn the importance of good daily oral hygiene practices, healthy diet and routine preventative dental care. It's a fact that such things prevent the progress of dental disease, and ultimately save money and time in the dentist office.

They learn about the negative effects of soda, sugary beverages and tobacco products, the link between dental health and overall health, oral cancer and more.