

Free Community Dental Service

What's Salt all about?

Salt Advance is the community support arm of a church called Salt. Salt (formerly known as Christian Family Church) has been based in Palmerston North for over 80 years and is a church focused on being "life's essential ingredient". For many years Salt has been actively involved in community projects but has only recently been able to begin addressing the huge need for essential dental care, particularly for low income people.

We understand, we care and we want to help.

General health is a consistent predictor of quality of life and oral health is directly linked to general health. Influences of quality of life include socio economic standing, oral health behavior and oral health condition. For many adults, the most significant barrier regarding oral health care is cost.



Our aim is to provide FREE basic accessible dental care and dental education for low income people. We are enabled to do this:

1. By working with community aid agencies and networks already in place in specific 'need' areas.
2. Because of the provision of a fully equipped dental bus by Carpenters Dental and community funding grants.
3. Due to an awesome team of volunteer staff supporting this initiative including NZ Dental Association registered Dentists, Hygienists and Dental Assistants (all totally independent of Salt) along with Support / Liaison people.

Criteria for free dental care at Salt Dental:

- Those receiving treatment must hold a Community Services card
- All treatment done on a first come / first served basis
- Treatment consists of urgent or relief of pain treatment only (what can be done on the day) and does not include full dental examinations
- No appointment bookings before the day
- Can return for further treatment at a later date following the criteria



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