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# N E W S R E L E A S E

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Romeoville Dentist, Elena Saha, DDS with Dental Assistant, Timea Sara Volunteer Their time at Illinois Mission of Mercy

ROMEOVILLE, IL – July 24, 2018



Recently, Valley View Dental associate dentist, Elena Saha DDS, donated her time and talent at the fifth ISDS Foundation Mission of Mercy which took place on July 20-21, 2018, at the Bank of Springfield Center.

In addition, she shared this effort with dental assistant, Timea Sara at Valley View Dental-Romeoville, IL location. “I wanted to make a difference and to learn. I am headed toward becoming a dentist myself one day and watching everything helped me a lot” –Time Sara.

Saha along with more than 1,000 volunteers (dentists, dental hygienists, oral surgeons, nurses and medical students) were there seeing over 725 patients in just one day with a limit of one procedure per visit.

“Whenever you volunteer, you are not paid in money but love. Seeing the smiles come from patients is the best gift of all. This time was well spent” said Dr. Saha.

This was the first time that Springfield hosted the Illinois Mission of Mercy, which has been held every other year since 2010. Since the inaugural event in Bloomington, thousands have gotten fillings, partial dentures, cleanings, extractions and other procedures at no cost.

No tax returns, proof of income or green cards are required. “I don’t think we even ask for a phone number,” says Sarah Jensen, program coordinator. Anyone with a pulse and bad teeth is welcome, and that could be most anyone.

“These often are folks who are living paycheck to paycheck,” Jensen says. “Many of them are service workers who may have health insurance; they just don’t have dental insurance.”

It’s always been first-come-first-served at previous events, but this year, 250 slots were reserved for veterans, who were screened prior to the clinic, to determine what they needed so that they could go straight to chairs. Everyone else was evaluated, then treated, as they arrived.

Dr. Saha is a proud member of the American Dental Association, Illinois Dental Society, Chicago Dental Society, Will County Dental Society and the Academy of General Dentistry.

Valley View Dental specializes in maintaining and creating healthy, beautiful smiles. We offer a full array of services including general, cosmetic and emergency dentistry, orthodontics, teeth whitening, dental implants, dentures, crowns, preventative care and periodontal exams. For more information visit <http://www.vvdental.com/>