Through the efforts of the medical, dental and public health communities in Kenya, an efficient network has been established to insure that residents in under-served areas have access to care and treatment through Outreach Camps. Through the support of generous donors like ICD, 25 volunteers carried 30 crates filled with medicine and medical and dental supplies for two such camps this summer.

The first was a Dental Camp organized by the staff of the Kikuyu Hospital Dental Clinic. On June 14th, the camp served over 200 residents of all ages who live in the Ruthimitu community—an informal settlement near the capital of Nairobi. Volunteers from the USA provided support in the form of registration, blood pressure reads, oral health education, and dispensing of medicine. While the setting was different than dental care in the U.S., plastic lawn chairs in the local church sanctuary were a substitute for dental chairs in pristine offices, —the skill, professionalism and care provided by the Kenyan team left a lasting impression on the volunteer visitors.

A second group of USA volunteers from North Dakota and...
Minnesota supported the Chogoria Hospital Medical Camp in Murambani on July 4. Again, the camp, which was held in a very remote, resource poor, area of Kenya, was possible because the critical supplies were donated by the ICD. The delivery of services to the more than 1,400 people who came to the camp all occurred through the planning, skill and compassion of the Kenyan people. The dental team, comprised of three Dental Community Oral Health Officers and two assistants. During their participation in the camp, they saw 250 people and performed over 200 extractions.

The staff of the Kikuyu Hospital Dental Clinic and the Chogoria Hospital Dental Clinic and the volunteers who served with them are very grateful to Henry Schein Cares (HSC) and the ICD Global Visionary Fund (GVF) collaboration. Henry Schein Cares has agreed to donate a total of $100,000 US worth of dental equipment, technology, software and other dental products and services to GVF humanitarian projects and programs over a three-year period. This generous support is making a significant impact on the delivery of dental services to the vulnerable and hard-to-reach people of Kenya.