

Laguna Niguel Rotary Club holds dental clinic

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LAGUNA NIGUEL – The Rotary Club of Laguna Niguel recently held a dental clinic for students at Hidden Hills Elementary. Club members decided there were too many children who are not getting dental exams because their parents can't afford treatment.

Working with Rotarian Stephanie Oddo, who coordinated the effort, which took almost two years, Hidden Hills Elementary Principal Aida Nunez and Gabrielle Bougarides, the school's bilingual community liaison, welcomed the chance to serve their students.

Notices were also sent to other Laguna Niguel elementary schools and the YMCA to see if other local families needed dental treatment. Hidden Hills was chosen because of its central location in Laguna Niguel and because most of the families live within walking distance of the school.

AYUDA International Dental Clinic, a nonprofit humanitarian dental, medical and educational organization, organized the dental plan. Six dental professionals along with 60 dental students helped about 100 children. The students received a bag of dental products from the participating dentists, including Alan Nguyen, Ryan Cook, Mark Montgomery, and Bill Nguyen. The dental gift bags were put together by Webelo Boy Scouts from St. Anne School, headed by Eddie Oddo and William Cadieux.

Located in Marina Hills Shopping Center, McDonalds provided free breakfast, Starbucks provided free coffee and Subway offered half-price lunches.