"I feel dead. I want to be alive." These were Hilda's first words to the dental team of Good Shepherd Clinic. With only three teeth in her mouth, Hilda lived life in the shadows. Embarrassed by her looks and by her difficulty talking and eating, she did all she could to avoid being seen. At holidays, weddings, and birthdays, she would tell family and friends she was just too busy to attend. If she did venture out, she would carefully and quietly eat only small amounts, as her daughter stayed nearby to help her if she began to choke on the food she couldn't chew. Hilda even watered her yard at night so she wouldn't have to speak to her neighbors. It was a lonely life for a woman so full of life and light.

Several months ago, Hilda came to Good Shepherd and was seen by Dr. Jeanie Bath and our dental team. On July 30th, after at least 8 visits and many hours of work, the new Hilda was seen for the first time. Hilda looked into the mirror to see her new teeth and though she was still bloody and messy from the procedure, she and her daughter began to cry with joy. Hilda's daughter told her, "You have always been beautiful, but now you are even more beautiful than ever!"

Hilda shared the before and after pictures she took of herself. She FEELS beautiful. People at Hilda's job have always called her by name, but now they call out, "Hi Beautiful!" as she walks by. What a dramatic change.
Hilda's life has changed in so many ways. Her worst problem is learning to break the habit of covering her mouth each time she speaks!! Though she is still healing, she looks forward to eating crispy foods again, especially a tostada. She is now able to eat an ice cream cone with the dementia patients she serves at her job and to feel courageous enough to dance joyfully with them. Dating may even be in her future now that she feels so good. Hilda says, "Now I have to call my family and tell them that I really wasn't busy all the time!" **She feels alive for the first time in years.**

Hilda says, "Good Shepherd means blessing and hope. If you come here with no hope and no confidence, they help you to feel confident, even when you have no teeth! I feel good and I thank God!" Hilda's daughter was so impressed by the work done at Good Shepherd that she is now a volunteer with us and dreams of one day being a dentist at her own free clinic. Hilda tells us that her daughter has even chosen a name for her clinic. Hilda's new teeth have inspired Hilda, her daughter, and Hilda's patients and friends. **What a wonderful opportunity we have at Good Shepherd to impact so many lives for good!**

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**Health Is Priceless**

Are you looking for a way to give back and to know that your money is doing GOOD for people? Join our [Core of Care](#) today by becoming a monthly donor. Each gift helps us bring new life to people just like Hilda. Good Shepherd receives no funds from the government and our patients do not pay for services they receive. Our work is funded solely by grants and by faithful donors like you. Every gift makes a life-altering difference. Click [here](#) to begin giving today!

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**Eat Well, Feel Good**

[Image of a busy market scene]

It's time to relax, eat, and raise money for Good Shepherd

Join staff, friends, and supporters of Good Shepherd at Bleu Garten on September 20th at 5:30pm to celebrate and support Good Shepherd Clinic.
Tickets are $25 and all proceeds benefit Good Shepherd. Everyone is welcome, so invite new friends! Bleu Garten features a selection of food trucks, a cash bar, live music, and a great atmosphere. Bleu Garten is located at 301 NW 10th St in Oklahoma City.

The Work of Good Shepherd Clinic

Health Is Priceless

Good Shepherd Clinic exists to meet the medical and dental needs of Oklahoma City residents that are low income and uninsured. We provide care by recruiting medical and dental professionals to work in our clinic alongside a small staff. We also serve as a teaching clinic for many students from local medical and dental schools. Our patients receive consistent, quality care at no cost. Our work helps close the gap in health care in Oklahoma.

Teaching Future Providers

Emma Hernandez, our dental assistant, recently offered pre-dental students a class in how to make dental impressions. The class was a great opportunity to learn this essential skill firsthand. Student Minn Ton, pictured at right, even drove from Arkansas for this opportunity! Big thanks to McConaghie Dental Lab for letting Emma and the students use their facilities and materials. Hands on learning is a key part of what students receive when they volunteer at Good Shepherd Clinic.
A Big Thanks to the Butterfield Foundation

Butterfield Foundation recently awarded Good Shepherd a grant to fund an ultrasound machine. This gift allows us to offer even greater care to our patients. We can now provide more information to our providers about patient issues and needs. Thank you, Butterfield, for all you do for Good Shepherd!

Welcome Dr. Khanna!

We welcome Dr. Khanna to our clinic. Dr. Khanna is a nephrologist at Integris and he recently began volunteering at Good Shepherd. His goal in working with us is to treat diabetic patients who have no transportation or resources. He says, "It is easy to keep your kidneys healthy with preventative medicine. I want to help people who don't have resources prevent and slow down disease progression. The cost of kidney disease can be $80K per year. There is no reason for people to have this burden, so I want to practice preventive nephrology with them." Thank you, Dr. Khanna, for your heart to help under-resourced people with their basic health needs. We are grateful to you!

Telligen Community Initiative Awards

We are thankful for a grant from Telligen Community Initiative which supports our initiative to improve and expand access to behavioral health services for our clients. In this photo PA Student Kyndel Carter, Patient Carolina, and Nikki Brooks, PA-C talk together at Good Shepherd Clinic. Carolina is benefiting from a recent grant Telligen Community Initiative awarded to Good Shepherd to assist patients with behavioral health care. Living in poverty can produce high levels of stress and create a situation in which behavioral health needs are not adequately met. This grant will allow us to better serve clients, as well as train our student volunteers in the importance of treating behavioral issues for our patients' overall health.
and wellness.