



Media Release

For immediate release

3 April 2006

Give a Smile™ keeps on giving – celebrating one year of smiles!

From Darwin to Mildura to Bowen and Fremantle Give a Smile™ is putting smiles on faces around Australia. Over 200 young Australians will have larger-than-life grins thanks to the generosity and expertise of participating Give a Smile™ orthodontists.

Around 2000 patients start their orthodontic treatment each year through Australia's public dental health services. Thanks to Give a Smile™, public waiting lists have been reduced by an extraordinary 10%.

That's a saving of more than \$1 million per year to taxpayers!

Instigated just one year ago by the Australian Society of Orthodontists (ASO) as a national philanthropic health initiative Give a Smile™ provides pro bono orthodontic treatment to any Australian currently on the public dental health waiting list. Each full course of treatment provided by the orthodontist takes approximately two years to complete and would typically cost around \$5-7,000 per patient. The orthodontist charges no fee for this treatment.

The Give a Smile™ program, conceptualised by Federal ASO President Dr. Ted Crawford has proven so successful that already 53% of the ASO's 395 full members have signed up to donate their time and services.

Dr Crawford said he was thrilled with the overwhelming support received for the program by his fellow orthodontists and is proud of what the program has already achieved.

"The goal of Give a Smile™ is simple and heartfelt; it's to 'give a smile' both figuratively and literally to people in our community who face financial difficulties as well as having significant orthodontic needs".

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Media Note: We are happy to arrange interviews with Give a Smile's local patients, comedian/actor Shane Bourne and Dr. Ted Crawford.



Released for: Give a Smile™ and the ASO

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