



## **NEWS RELEASE**

From: Piedmont Virginia Dental Health Foundation  
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### **Clinic Dentist Says Martinsville Feels Like Home**

Dr. Amanda Meade is in her third week in Martinsville, and already she says she feels at home.

Dr. Meade is the new full-time dentist at the Community Dental Clinic, operated by the Piedmont Virginia Dental Health Foundation. Now in its ninth year, the Clinic is on Fayette Street in Uptown.

The Clinic provides free or reduced fee dental services for the poor or uninsured. Demand has increased from 936 patient visits the first year to 4,169 last year.

“I am quite comfortable in Martinsville,” says Dr. Meade. “The staff at the Clinic is excellent. Our team is well informed, works smoothly together and is prepared for any situation.”

Patients are welcoming and supportive, she adds. “They are appreciative of the service we provide and tell us they could not afford to see a dentist otherwise, and they leave with a smile.”

Dr. Meade enjoys supervising the 4<sup>th</sup> year dentistry students from VCU who work at the Clinic. “I love teaching, and this situation enables me to share my experiences with students,” she remarks. Dr. Meade graduated from VCU Dental School three years ago.

She’s also enjoying Martinsville. “I live in Uptown and walk to work,” she says. “Restaurants and music are nearby, and the community is more than I expected.”

“Dr. Meade’s example indicates the importance of the Clinic to Martinsville and Henry County,” said Dr. Mark Crabtree, president of the Foundation. “Her experience as a dental student at the Clinic was a major factor in her decision to move here. Our community now has a new outstanding health care professional.”

Dr. Meade has met some of the dentists in the community who volunteer their time at the Clinic. “We are fortunate to have so many dentists in private practice who give their time to work with students and help those in need in our community.”

The Foundation has provided more than \$7.1 million of dental care to adults and children who can’t afford to pay for dental care. There have been more than 31,000 patient visits since the Clinic opened in 2006.

The Foundation depends on financial support from the community to operate the Clinic. “The Harvest Foundation has been our financial partner from the beginning, and we would not be open today without their support and the donations from individuals and businesses in the community.”

To learn more about the Foundation, visit [www.piedmontdental.org](http://www.piedmontdental.org).

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