

Award: Elsie Field Health Care Provider Award

Recipient: Drs. Dankle, Brunson, and Lee

Presented By: Crissy Turino

I now have the privilege of presenting Drs. Dankle, Brunson, and Lee with the Elsie Field Health Care Provider Award, for their good work and commitment to providing discounted dental care to low-income consumers. The Elsie Field Health Care Provider of the Year Award is a special recognition awarded to a provider, or in this case, a group of providers, who have been selected by the CCHCC staff and board on the basis of outstanding service and dedication to providing Champaign County residents with the best possible health care services regardless of their ability to pay.

Today, we are honoring Drs. Dankle, Brunson, and Lee and their staff because of their partnership and participation with our Dental Referral Program. As I mentioned, this Program is our collaboration with area dentists who agree to provide dental care at a discounted, sliding-scale rate to low-income uninsured adults. The Dental Referral Program has an emphasis on preventative care and works to make it possible for our community members to find an affordable dental home.

Drs. Dankle, Brunson, and Lee have a practice that has been serving the Champaign-Urbana area for over 25 years and they joined the Dental Referral Program in 2011. They have since directly contributed to the increased success of the Program and upon their agreement to partner with us, more the doubled the number of new patient appointments that we could offer to our clients each month.

Since they joined the program, Drs. Dankle, Brunson, and Lee and their staff have been wonderful partners. They are flexible and understanding to the needs of their patients, and on several occasions, they went out of their way to ensure that their patients were able to find a low-cost oral surgeon. If you know how expensive and exclusive oral surgery services are, then you may understand just how pleased I was to find out that the doctors had referred several clients to an oral surgeon who would accept their designated Dental Referral Program discount at the dentists' request.

Recently, I received a call from a client who had a bad experience at a local dentist and was hoping for me to refer her elsewhere. I referred her to Dr. Brunson, and I felt comfortable in doing so, as he has been my dentist since I was a young girl. Several days later my client called back for the sole purpose of letting me know just how happy she was with the care that she received at Dr. Brunson's office. The tone and feeling in her voice had completely changed and I could tell just how relieved she was to be in the care of a dentist that she could trust.

Drs. Dankle, Brunson, and Lee and their staff are making a tremendous impact on our community by providing affordable quality dental care to our low-income community members. On behalf of the board and staff at Health Care Consumers, and the patients that they have served, I am proud to present this Award to Dr. Brunson, and to Julie Aceto, and Judy Einck, who are two of the staff

members at Dankle, Brunson, and Lee Ltd. Thank you for your partnership and for your commitment to providing affordable dental care for all!