



METROPOLITAN DENVER
DENTAL SOCIETY
Connections For Our Profession

The Colorado Dental Association
The Metropolitan Denver Dental Society
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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

An education with a smile *Organized Dentistry invites community to learn more about careers in dentistry*

Denver, Colo. – As a child, Jennifer Garza, DDS, MS never imagined that she would become an orthodontist. She thought that maybe someday she could become a teacher. It was after she graduated from high school, with braces, that her interest in orthodontics developed. Her enthusiasm to learn more about career opportunities in dentistry landed her a job as an orthodontic assistant. Although she loved working in the capacity of the assistant, she was compelled to play a greater role in helping others achieve the confidence and increased self-esteem her orthodontics gave to her. She pursued higher education, graduated from the University of Iowa College of Dentistry in 2000 and then completed her specialist training in orthodontics at New York University in 2002.

Dr. Garza, who operates a practice in Castle Rock, is not only interested in educating people about orthodontic treatment, she is also interested in educating young adults about dentistry as a profession. She was recently appointed as the chairperson of the **Metro Denver Dental Society's** (MDDS) Dental Care Taskforce and advisor to the **Colorado Dental**

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Association-sponsored Careers in Dentistry Explorer Post program.

The Explorer program matches the career interests of students with adult expertise to show them what a career is really like and to help them make the right choices now to succeed later. Students from across the state, ages 14-20, with a career interest in dentistry are invited to take part in the program. Explorer meetings are held twice monthly on Monday evenings. All meetings include a short presentation on a dental topic, followed by an activity.

Schedule of Events:

- November 1, 2004 - Open House/Sign-up Event
- November 8, 2004- Periodontics/Oral Surgery
Activity: suture placement/injection technique on a pig jaw
- November 22, 2004 - Sports Dentistry
Activity: Make your own mouthguard
- December 6, 2004 - Dental Technology
Activity: Dental office tour / soft and hard tissue cutting with dental lasers
- January 10, 2005 - Forensic Dentistry / How to Plan for Your Career
Activity: Bite mark identification / Q&A with dental educational program representatives
- January 20-22, 2005 - Rocky Mountain Dental Convention

Dr. Garza is instrumental in allowing young people to gain practical experience in dentistry as a career. Her personal experiences as an assistant and as the doctor allow her a unique perspective in the wide spectrum of opportunities dental careers offer. **To find out more about the Careers in Dentistry Explorer Program for young adults, please call (303) 488-9700.**

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