In Kansas, access to quality dental care is teetering on the verge of a crisis. Out of the 105 counties in the state, 96 are designated as “shortage areas” for dentistry and Kansas as a whole rates a D- for access to dental care based on the availability of oral health professionals.

To help fill this ever-widening gap, Wichita State has launched Kansas’ first-ever public dental education program. This unique, post-doctoral program serves as a professional residency for licensed dentists to gain additional experience in clinical dentistry while providing enhanced dental care for the community.

And training dentists in Kansas will lead to dentists staying in Kansas—a good thing for the overall health of everyone in the state.

Next spring we hope to break ground on the program’s permanent home, a 12,500 square-foot facility. But we need your help to make it happen. With a price tag of $6.4 million to build and equip, every dollar gets us closer to our goal and naming opportunities are available.

To find out how you can contribute, contact Lynette Murphy, director of development for the College of Health Professions, at (316) 978-3441 or e-mail lynette.murphy@wichita.edu.

For more information about this critical program, please visit www.wichita.edu/givetoaegd.