In our state, there are not enough dentists, distributed in the appropriate areas, to serve all Kansans. Out of the 105 counties in the state, 96 are designated as "shortage areas" for dentistry. Each year, despite new dentists setting up practices, we still lose about 15 dentists due to retirement.

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, WSU Foundation director of development for the College of Health Professions, at (316) 978-3441 or e-mail lynette.murphy@wichita.edu.

Wichita State University Foundation

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