

Delta Dental of Arkansas is celebrating its 40th anniversary

1982

Opens First Office

under the direction of Earl Gladden, director of marketing for Blue Cross Blue Shield of Oklahoma, and his wife Grace.

Opens its first two-room office in downtown Little Rock

Receives its Certificate of Authority by the Arkansas

August 12, 1982

Insurance Commissioner. August 1983

Achieves its initial goal of signing 400 dentists as participating providers.

2000

1983

President and CEO.

Gladden Retires

First Client

Earl Gladden retires and Ed Choate succeeds him as

2004

After several office moves, constructs permanent headquarters building at 1513 Country Club Road in Sherwood.

Signs its first major, statewide client with 4,000 members.



of Governor's Family-Friendly

2005-2010

Employer/Governor's Work-Life Balance Award, presented by Arkansas Department of Human Services

5-time annual Bronze or Silver winner

2008

2007

Starts offering individual/family insurance in addition to group insurance plus vision coverage.

Individual/Family Insurance

Launches DDAR Foundation

Launches the Delta Dental of Arkansas Foundation to provide statewide support to communities and nonprofit organizations for oral health education, prevention and

Starts offering coverage for implants as one of the first dental insurance companies in the nation.

2011

treatment.

2008

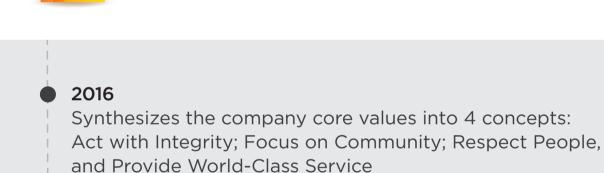
Community Fluoridation

\$7 million project results in the delivery of optimally

In response to Act 197 of the Arkansas Legislature, pledges

to fund the community fluoridation of all Arkansas water systems serving 5,000 or more residents. The 7-year,

fluoridated tap water to more than 90% of Arkansans, higher than the national average. 2014 Wins "Arkansas Business of the Year" Award, Category III, presented by the Arkansas Business Publishing Group.



Wins Contract

2014

Synthesizes the company core values into 4 concepts:

Arkansas Business of the Year Award,

Category III, presented by Arkansas

Business Publishing Group

Wins contract to become one of the two benefits providers of the Arkansas Medicaid dental program.

2017

Outstanding Foundation Award (Delta Dental of Arkansas Foundation),

Professionals, Arkansas Chapter



Implements first-ever Medicare Advantage product.

2017

COVID-19 Relief Provides more than \$27.4 million in direct COVID-19 relief funding to network dentists, business clients, members and

presented by the Association of Fundraising

2022

2021

New CEO

company's 40-year history.

community partners.

"Best Places to Work" Named one of the "Best Places to Work" in Arkansas for the

10th consecutive year in the annual survey conducted by Arkansas Business Publishing Group, making Delta Dental

Ed Choate retires. Kristin Merlo succeeds him as President

and CEO. She's only the third chief executive in the

one of only two Arkansas businesses with that distinction.

Today, Delta Dental of Arkansas has

211 employees and serves more than

4,000+ Arkansas-based employers

800,000+

Arkansans and 2.4 million

Americans nationwide

1,115 Premier | 625 PPO providers

703 Delta Dental Smiles

providers

1,115 Arkansas dentists

participate in one or more Delta Dental of Arkansas networks:

> 565 Medicare Advantage providers

For our next 40 years, we'll stay focused on improving the oral health of all Arkansans.

Thank you for being a valued **Delta Dental of Arkansas member!**