For Immediate Release
June 25, 2012

Contact: Steffin Schoeppel
Communications Manager
(405) 848-8873
sschoeppel@okda.org

Oklahoma Hero of Dentistry
Dr. Frank Miranda founder of Benevolent Dental Clinics

Photos Attached

Oklahoma City – Medical care can be a matter of life or death, even when it comes to dentistry. Historically, Oklahoma dentists have been the most charitable of health care providers within our state. From volunteering their time, resources and professional expertise, dentists across the state continue this legacy by giving back to their communities. Dr. Frank J. Miranda, D.D.S., M.Ed. is one of many Oklahoma heroes of dentistry.

Miranda first began pro-bono work his senior year of dental school by delivering dental care to people who were wheelchair bound, bed ridden, or otherwise unable to leave their homes. Miranda took impressions, poured models, did minor denture repairs and other dental related procedures. This experience set the foundation for his philanthropic career and is remembered fondly by him.

“Most of the dental work I provided was simple,” said Miranda. “But to these people we were like saviors. If they couldn’t tell us verbally, we could see it in their eyes. I still get a rush reliving that first exposure to volunteerism.”

Over 40 years later, Dr. Miranda maintains his benevolent beginnings. The Good Shepherd Mission and Community Service day, that have helped countless Oklahomans without dental insurance, are two events that Miranda helped establish. Miranda considers it a privilege to have been a part of founding these charitable organizations and loves seeing the positive impact the dental community has on the state of Oklahoma.

“No one can argue that dental care is needed by many more than just those who can afford it,” said Miranda. “Since we have skills and talents needed by so many, there is no reason not to use those skills in the service of the less fortunate whenever circumstances allow. Anyone who has donated their time, talent and energy in the service of others will agree with this observation. Volunteers always get more than they give.”

This is one in a series of press releases that spotlight charitable efforts of Oklahoma dentists. To set up an interview with Dr. Miranda or for more information please contact Steffin Schoeppel, ODA Communications Manager.

-More-
**Photo 0109_042612 Caption:** Dr. Frank Miranda, D.D.S., M.Ed. has proven himself as an Oklahoma hero of dentistry. With 40 plus years of pro-bono work, experience establishing two philanthropic dental clinics and a passion for giving back to his community, Miranda continues to impact the dental health of many Oklahomans.

**Photo 100_2160 Caption:** Dental students observe Dr. Frank Miranda (left) give medical assistant to a patient at the Oklahoma Mission of Mercy in 2011. Miranda participates annually in OkMOM, a free dental clinic coordinated by the Oklahoma Dental Association, by giving his time and services to help Oklahomans in need of dental care.

**About ODA:** Founded in 1907, the Oklahoma Dental Association has a proud membership of more than 1,500 dentist members and is headquartered in Oklahoma City. The Association was established to help foster an awareness of the obligations and responsibilities of the dental profession to society, to help advance the art and science of dentistry and to promote public health and health services in the State of Oklahoma.

###