

The Branch



APPLE TREE DENTAL
Access • Compassion • Excellence

Staff News & Announcements



Leadership Message

Chad Engstrom, HR Director

Thank you to everyone for attending the Continuing Education day on Thursday, September 15th. I greatly appreciate all the work done by Dr. Teresa and everyone else involved in making this day happen.

I just want to debrief on the Employee Engagement portion of the CE day. The labor market has been a driving force as the competition for jobs has increased. Recruitment and retention of employees remains a top priority for us. Leadership is focused on creating a culture of engagement and ownership throughout Apple Tree.

Listening to employees' feedback and input is critically important to making Apple Tree stronger as an organization. Again, I would like to thank everyone who took the employee survey this spring. Through our analysis of the questions and the over 400 open-ended responses, we are well on our way to making some positive improvements ahead. We have created our Employee Engagement Plan to help lead and guide our actions for those improvements. We will be asking for feedback in the months ahead to ensure we are moving in the right direction! I am so excited about the changes ahead and hope you all are too! Change can be difficult, but it is necessary for a stronger tomorrow. Thank you for your continued dedication in providing an exceptional experience for Apple Tree's patients, and we ask for your patience as we continue to work to improve!

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Bristles on a Stick



In July and August, Apple Tree staff collaborated with the University of Minnesota Driven to Discover "Tooth or Consequences" campaign, which involved going to multiple summer fairs. Check out the photos!

"The Faribault County Fair was a fantastic way to get into the community for screenings and education," said Dr. Jesse Grantz (pictured left, far right), "and a great initial collaboration with the University of Minnesota. Some of my own patients even stopped to say hello!"



Pictured (above, L to R): Deb Jacobi, Jodi Pouliot, Melissa Durbin, Dr. Jesse Grantz

Pictured (right, L to R): Casey Berge and Aimee Baumgartner



Big Things
Happening

Rochester is Rocking!

Our Rochester Center for Dental Health, which opened as a brick-and-mortar program in 2013, recently got a big upgrade! The Center's lower level got a much-needed remodel, allowing for more space for non-clinical support staff downstairs and leaving more room for patients in the waiting area.

Just as exciting is that Rochester has a full staff for the first time ever! Let's go, Rochester!





Professional Announcements

Promotions

- Tiyah Malveaux (MV)** - Licensed Dental Assistant
- Melanie Knies (CR)** - Office Manager
- Danielle Andrews (FA)** - LDA Supervisor
- Lisa Gamer (CR)** - Community Care Coordinator
- Eric Creager (CR)** - Accounts Receivable Specialist



Send us your news!
Let us know about exciting things going on in your life and you might see it in the Branch!

Employee Spotlight

Dr. Tori Brugger, Dentist, Rochester

We can't mention the Rochester Center without mentioning Dr. Tori Brugger! Since she started in 2019, she has demonstrated the "special care gene" and is passionate about geriatric and special needs patients. Dr. Brugger does a fantastic job with the Rochester mobile program, and she loves going to Hiawatha Homes and HCO in Winona. She's also working with Dr. Teresa Johnson to give a seminar to students at her alma mater, the University of Minnesota.

Dr. Brugger is from the Rochester area and lives with her spouse and young kiddo. Thank you, Dr. Brugger, for all you do!





Kavira Health



Primary Health for All Staff

Kavira is a no- to low-cost healthcare service available in the privacy of your own home, or via telehealth (depending on your location). Kavira will be available to all staff starting October 1st on the new benefits cycle.

We encourage you to take a look at the offerings and familiarize yourself with this important new benefit! You can also visit kavirahealth.com/services to learn more.

Telehealth + Home Visits

Locations include: Corporate, Coon Rapids, Mounds View

[Onboarding video](#)
[Brochures](#)



Telehealth Only

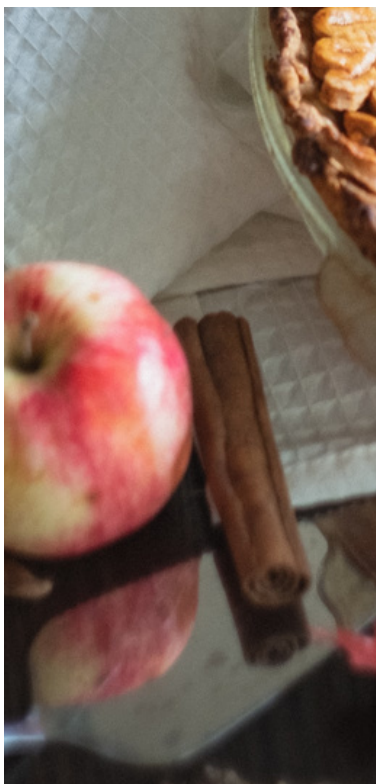
Locations include: Hawley, Madelia, Rochester, Fergus Falls, Little Falls, Fairmont

[Onboarding video](#)
[Brochures](#)

Amazon Smile for Nonprofits

Did you know that you can give back every time you buy something on Amazon? Just go to Smile.Amazon.com and add the nonprofit of your choice as the recipient of your generated funds. 0.5% of the cost of your eligible purchases goes directly to that nonprofit.

And by the way...Apple Tree Dental is one of the nonprofits you can choose!



Upcoming Events

Continuing Recognition Events at Centers!

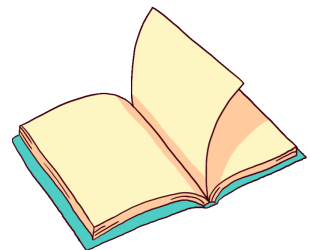
Notable This Month

[Hispanic Heritage Month](#)

National Library Card Sign Up Month

National Self-Care Awareness Month

[National Suicide Awareness Month](#)



Thanks for reading! Please send us any news, kudos, suggestions, or updates that you would like to see in the Branch.

- The Branch Committee (Deb Jacobi, Chad Engstrom, Mary Larkin, Emma Larson)