

Donor Spotlight: August 2015

Dr. Walters



Growing up on a farm and not having much as a child, Sacramento orthodontist Dr. Melvin Walters knows what hardships life can have on families. Throughout his career, giving back to his community has continuously been something close to his heart. He commented that, “At some point in life people just need a helping hand and just a little help could make a world of difference for them.” Through his collection, he hoped to make an impact on the lives of others. At age 78, Dr. Walters has never ceased to explore opportunities to assist those in needs in our community.

Last year, Dr. Walters nearly shut his doors after a bad hire resulted in poor financial management. Though he was struggling to recover, Dr. Walters continued to seek support for families navigating their way to financial independence. He observed that, “A child may feel better about themselves having nice warm

clothes for school; adults may be able to dress and feel confident when seeking employment; giving a family a little more to put on their (dining) table and could make the parents feel good inside.”

After hearing about the Better Business Bureau’s (BBB) “Donate Your Selfie” campaign, Dr. Walters contacted Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services to set up a donation drive at his office. He encouraged his staff and patients to donate baby, business attire, children’s school clothes and a large variety of non-perishable foods. Plus, he asked participants to post a photo to Instagram with the #DonateYourSelfie sign to contribute to the BBB fundraiser.

Dr. Walters is one of the few orthodontists accepting Medical, allowing a variety of patients who might not be able to obtain treatment otherwise have an opportunity to have a beautiful, healthy smile. He donates orthodontic treatment cases for fundraisers and to patients that exhibits extreme financial need. Dr. Walters also serves as a volunteer faculty member at University of the Pacific, passing along his education, helping to develop residents’ understanding of orthodontia and fostering future leaders. Dr. Walters truly cares from the heart about his family, his staff and the families that just need a little guidance and support on their journey to self-sufficiency.