

# Marquette University: Statement on Joint Committee on Finance support of the Marquette University School of Dentistry

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Marquette University expresses its gratitude to the Wisconsin Joint Committee on Finance and Wisconsin legislative leaders for supporting the Marquette University School of Dentistry (MUSOD), Wisconsin's longstanding dental education partner and provider of oral health care services throughout the state, in the state budget. This joint investment by the State of Wisconsin and Marquette University will allow MUSOD to upgrade its clinical facilities and establish a dedicated special needs clinic that initially will treat up to 500 special needs patients, representing a more than a more than 65% increase in the number of special needs patients being treated at MUSOD.

As Wisconsin's only dental school, MUSOD and its clinics throughout the State of Wisconsin serve nearly 30,000 patients with more than 110,000 patient visits from 66 of Wisconsin's 72 counties annually and is one of the state's largest dental Medicaid providers.

MUSOD receives approximately \$2.4 million annually from the Department of Health and Family Services to provide clinical care for underserved populations and in return, provides over \$16 million in oral health care services in our Milwaukee clinics alone — this is a nearly sevenfold return on investment and demonstrates MUSOD's history of successfully stewarding state funds. Further, Marquette will seek private donations and other non-state resources to fund the majority (62%) of the \$28 million capital investment to improve oral health care delivery in Wisconsin.