PATRICIA TAKACS DMD AND HER FAMILY CREATE AN INSPIRING "DENTAL DYNASTY"
VIA BEAUMONT FAMILY DENTISTRY

Now a Bestselling Author, Dr. Takacs' Lexington, KY High Tech Family Cosmetic Dentistry-Which Includes Specialties In Orthodontics and Sleep Apnea - Operates In Three Locations

A vital, innovative and highly appreciated part of the professional community of Lexington, KY, since she opened her first office in 1984, Dr. Patricia Takacs, DMD, has dedicated her career to changing people's lives through dentistry. Over the years, her practice, Beaumont Family Dentistry, has served thousands of patients of all ages with a focus on patient care, comfort and, as she wrote in a chapter she recently contributed to the bestselling anthology *A Cup of Coffee With My Dentist*, an experience "that exceeds their expectations in every area of contact.

"Every day," she says, "we must live the vision of our practice in order to keep it alive and well...Our vision is to create a workplace that is both fun and exciting, bringing each of us a sense of personal fulfillment, joy and pride in our work. We work to develop a positive, nurturing and safe environment so that our workday is comfortable and energized. We are committed to mutual respect, clear communication and teamwork."

With the opening of offices in the Leestown and Hamburg areas of Lexington in 2012 and 2013, the high tech family and cosmetic dentistry practice has grown to three thriving locations — testament to the trust Dr. Takacs and her team have fostered in their community and their belief that as new developments are built, their residents will make Beaumont Family Dentistry their first choice for dental services.

Dr. Takacs' impact on people extends beyond simply providing excellent cleanings and checkups, cosmetic dentistry, dental restoration, implants, crowns and bridges, dentures, gum disease treatment, orthodontics, sleep apnea treatment and all the other expert services they provide.

While she's excited about the practice that she and her team have built, she's most proud of the influence they have had on their young patients. While most kids dread going to the dentist, Dr. Takacs creates such a positive ongoing experience for them that she can count up to a dozen longtime patients who chose to pursue careers in dentistry. One of these, Dr. Jill Miller, started seeing Dr. Takacs when she was five. In high school, she worked in the office as a dental assistant. She joined Beaumont Family Dentistry after receiving her degree from the University of Kentucky College of Dentistry. Her husband, Kevin, also a dentist with his own practice, once worked with her at Beaumont, in the lab.

Dr. Takacs is also pleased with the role she played in the life of one of her dental hygienists who decided to go to dental school. "The environment we create for everyone who works here is very positive and encouraging," she says, "and they can see the passion and commitment we bring to our patients. They're inspired because they see that we're serious about our work but we can still have fun and enjoy what we do."

Even more inspiring for Dr. Takacs, a devoted mother and wife, is the fact that both of her children, her son Ryan and daughter Kyle, have become dentists and are now working for Beaumont Family Dentistry. Like his mom, Ryan received his DMD from the University of Kentucky. Kyle graduated University of Kentucky Dental School in June 2015. Ryan works at the Hamburg location most of the time, and Kyle is now working at the Beaumont location and is
being groomed to take over that office when Dr. Takacs retires. Both Ryan and Kyle work with her at the Beaumont location on Mondays. In addition, Dr. Takacs' mother works in the front office and is lovingly referred to as the "cookie lady."

"I feel my greatest accomplishment is that I have been able to instill the fact that I love what I do, in my children, and I remember always being very open about sharing aspects about my work with them," she says. "I wasn't trying to inspire them to follow in my footsteps, but clearly they saw my passion and it touched them, without me even knowing it at the time. Ryan had always talked about going to med school, and it was a wonderful surprise when he brought home study books for Dental Acceptance Testing. They knew I worked extended hours but I never missed their soccer games, and we enjoyed traveling and living a good life. They also rarely saw me come home upset about work. I think all those things contributed to their decision to become dentists."

In the Cup of Coffee With My Dentist chapter, Dr. Takacs makes note of the fact that "we essentially have a family practice." But this "dental dynasty" didn't start with her. Dentistry was an important part of her life since early childhood. Her maternal grandfather was a dentist in the small Northwest Indiana town of Munster, and Dr. Takacs - who was born in Texas - moved with her parents there in grade school. She has fond memories of her grandfather picking her up after school and on weekends and taking her to his 900 square foot office.

She also loved having grandpa clean her teeth, and she felt immediately at home in the environment. "I remember even liking the smells of the office, and he showed me this little table in the lab where he made teeth and allowed me to hang out with his cronies," she says. "So I'm six years old hanging out with these adults and this was normal and natural for me. We moved to West Virginia when I was in third grade, but we'd visit my grandpa and cousins in Munster every so often and he would clean my teeth. No pun intended, but all of this made a strong impression."

Dr. Takacs decided she wanted to go to dental school after her first year at West Virginia University. Her mother suggested she become a physical therapist instead, but after studying that for a year, she switched back- and never looked back. She met her husband to be in Lexington while enrolled at the University of Kentucky College of Dentistry.

Choosing to build a life in Lexington, Dr. Takacs launched her career as an associate to an established dentist, a brief era where she learned important foundational elements of running a practice such as handling insurance and general care of patients. Her road towards setting new standards for dentistry and becoming an important part of her community began humbly with the opening of her first office (with one room and two employees) in the Clays Mill area. Within seven years, she upgraded to 2500 sq. ft. facility in Stonewall and in 1999, encouraged by a group of specialists (including an oral surgeon, pediatric dentist and orthodontist) to be part of a professional suite in a newly booming area of the city, she opened the Beaumont office.

"This took a tremendous leap of faith going from an $800 to $4000 dollar a month rent," Dr. Takacs says, "but as I told people when we opened the Leestown and Hamburg offices, it's all about understanding the growth of certain areas and neighborhoods. If new developments are popping up that will have good grade schools and high schools, that makes it a logical business decision. Those considerations played a part in my decision to open my first office as well near UK and IBM. The first move to Beaumont provided a strong learning curve, but we had a strong patient flow by then and I realized I didn't want anyone else to jump on this unique opportunity. I knew our office would be in a building with well established professionals as well."

In addition to the fact that Dr. Takacs is a well respected, comprehensive dentist able to provide care in all facets of dentistry with an emphasis on cosmetics, Beaumont Family Dentistry has long been driven by a simple procedure she picked up early on. Namely, that she and her associates must always give a painless injection. She has taught everyone from Ryan and Kyle (while they were still in dental school) to her hygienists the importance of ensuring that their
patients don't feel anything and are always comfortable and anxiety-free.

To that end, Beaumont Family Dentistry employs massage therapists who massage patients' hands and arms while they are in the hygiene or treatment room. Patients can also receive warm paraffin wax for their hands to ease anxiety. Nitrous oxide, headsets and blankets are also provided. The overall amenities at each of the three offices include a warm, comfortable living room atmosphere, a coffee bar and freshly made baked cookies. With the patient's comfort foremost on their mind, the teams at Beaumont do a number of things to change the usual aesthetic of the "dentist's office," and take away the stereotypical sterile feel.

"From the beginning," Dr. Takacs says, "what's set us apart is the fact that we've done things for our patients rather than thinking what would most benefit us. We even send flowers to patients when they refer a new patient to us. Those little things matter. We want people to come in and say, 'This doesn't look like a dental office' - or smell like one, either!"

Over the years, Dr. Takacs has developed personal passions for and expertise in two areas of dentistry - orthodontics and sleep apnea. Her decision to incorporate orthodontics into her practice early in her career ultimately led her to become an Elite Preferred Invisalign Provider; she is in the top 1% of all providers in North America, and is also a Lumineers-certified doctor.

Her vast knowledge and experience in treating the often-misdiagnosed disorder sleep apnea led her to write "Sleeping To Success," the powerful chapter she has contributed to the bestselling book *Power Principles for Success, Volume 2: America's PremierExperts® Share Their Biggest Success Secrets For a Life of Health, Wealth, Happiness and Prosperity*. She is donating royalties from her involvement in this project to the Entrepreneurs International Foundation, which helps create unique campaigns for charitable causes.

Her interest in sleep apnea was piqued at a 2007 meeting with other dental professionals discussing crowns and bridge work. One of the doctors suggested she look into it, and while resistant at first, she became so fascinated with it (and the personal and sometimes life threatening ramifications it has on people's lives) that she eventually made it part of Beaumont Family Dentistry 's lineup of services. In her chapter, which gives powerful case examples of misdiagnoses and real life cases where she was able to help patients overcome the disorder, she boldly writes, "One thing is certain, sleep is an integral part of the road to success."

Dr. Takacs has had extensive training for her specialization in sleep apnea, including 40-50 hours a year in continuing education courses. "This takes me from dentistry into the medical profession because everything I do treatment wise is influenced by medicine," she says. "It's not solved simply with a dental device. I work together with sleep doctors to establish the best mode of treatment. The standard of care is the CPAP mask people wear. The discomfort of wearing this at night makes compliance difficult for many patients so we often are called to step in as dentists to provide an oral appliance to help them open up their airways while they sleep, which is a more attractive option for many."

As Dr. Takacs prepares to slow down in dentistry, she plans and strives toward getting even further into sleep apnea and/or the dentist's role in it. She's already attended Tufts in Boston in a mini-residency in dental and medical sleep, and she will continue to pursue knowledge about this problem. With Ryan and Kyle taking on more work and responsibility in the offices of Beaumont Family Dentistry, she has more time to focus on strengthening the practice's business network among medical doctors and dentists.

"This is where the future of health care is going," she says, "towards more of a focus on care and maintenance of the whole body. The most rewarding part of what we do is receiving ongoing high levels of recognition from our wonderful community. I want people to see us as the place they want to go when they need superior dental care in a unique and warm environment. We take care of our patients as we would expect to be taken care of as patients. In addition to treating
everyone like the special people they are, we feel one of our biggest responsibilities is educating them. We make sure they understand the connection between the health of their mouths and the health of their bodies."