

Kimberly Harms, DDS

Major life events (such as death, divorce, and job loss) and even conflict can create feelings of shock, grief and leave us struggling to cope. These events have a significant effect on the dental team and our patients.

With 30-years in clinical dentistry and 21 years as a National Spokesperson for the American Dental Association, Kimberly Harms D.D.S. has seen the importance of positive communication, management of conflict and relationship building firsthand. Her goal is to help untangle problems and support those with grief issues by sharing that accumulated knowledge with seminar attendees.

Dr. Harms practiced dentistry as an enlisted officer in the U.S. Public Health Service, as a dental associate, and for most of her career as co-owner of a private practice in Farmington, MN. She developed a pilot project for the State of Minnesota to deliver care to developmentally disabled patients living in group homes which is still going strong 28 years later. Dr. Harms was honored to serve as a Clinical Assistant Professor in the areas of operative and hospital dentistry at Loyola University Medical Center and School of Dentistry.

Dr. Harms was the first woman president of the Minnesota Dental Association and served on the American Dental Association's Council on Governmental Affairs representing the 10th District. She was also Chair of the American Dental Association's Council on Communications. Dr. Harms has lectured internationally and has worked with dental schools in Mongolia and Rwanda and women's groups in Georgia and Armenia.

As National Spokesperson and Consumer Advisor for the American Dental Association, Dr Harms has appeared on their behalf on the Today Show, CNN, Fox News, National Public Radio and network affiliates such as CBS, NBC, and ABC. In addition, she has been quoted in The New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Washington Post, USA Today, Chicago Tribune, Consumer's Digest, Buzz Feed, Shape Magazine, Good Housekeeping, Cosmopolitan and numerous other print and internet publications. Her article *Keeping out of Harms' Way: Pearls, Pitfalls and Lurking Perils of a Life in Dentistry* received the International College of Dentists Leadership in Journalism Award for 2016.



Kimberly Harms, DDS

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30 Years of Dental, Grief, Conflict and Transition Management Experience

Dr. Harms is a former grief counselor and currently is a "Qualified Neutral" (Civil Mediator) in the state of Minnesota where she manages patient complaint intake for the MDA's Peer Review program.

PRESENTATIONS (Partial Listing)

Smilecon 2021: American Dental Association Annual Meeting	Nebraska Dental Association
Academy of General Dentistry National Meeting	Niagara Dental Association (Canada)
American Dental Association President's Forum	University of California Los Angeles
World Dental Federation International Women's Leadership Conference	University of Kentucky
ASDA National Leadership Conference	University of Rwanda Dental School
ASDA National Summit	University of Maryland Dental School (Dressel Lecture)
Chicago Midwinter Meeting	University of Minnesota Dental School (Seminars and Commencement Address)
Star of the North	Orange County Dental Hygiene Association
Hawaii Dental Seminars	AADOM Minnesota and New Jersey
Minnesota Dental Association	Dentaltown
South Dakota Dental Association	American Educational Institute
Michigan Dental Association	

PROFESSIONAL HONORS / LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Minnesota Dental Association; Past President
 American Dental Association's Council on Communications; Past Chair
 American Dental Association's Council on Government Affairs; 10th District Representative (2006 – 2009)
 American College of Dentists, Upper Midwest District; Fellow and Past President
 International College of Dentists; Fellow
 American Dental Association Access to Care Award
 American Student Dental Association Advocate of Excellence Award
 Books for Africa Kilimanjaro Society Award
 International College of Dentists Leadership in Journalism Award
 First Friend: University of Rwanda
 Minnesota Dental Association's Distinguished Service Award
 Mshale Newspaper's African Founders Award



COMMUNITY AND INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

Delegation for Friendship Among Women; President
 Farmington School Board; Past Chair (Elected Board Member 1986-2000)
 Union Gospel Mission Board; Past Vice-Chair
 Women of Tomorrow (Country of Georgia)
 Books for Africa; Ambassador and Container Captain
 Eric Harms Memorial Libraries (160,000 books to 34 libraries in Rwanda so far)



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