

2010 Judson Smart Living Awards

Douglas Leavitt, DDS, Healthcare



A dedicated, five-year member of the volunteer staff at The Free Medical Clinic of Greater Cleveland, Dr. Douglas Leavitt has committed hundreds of hours serving Cleveland's uninsured and underinsured residents. He did so in honor of his late father, and has been with The Free Clinic ever since.

"My Dad volunteered his time with another colleague," Dr. Leavitt recalls. "I had always intended to volunteer with him. We practiced together for 26 years and I took over his practice in the legacy dentist tradition. When he passed, I felt compelled to follow in his Free Clinic footsteps in tribute to him."

When he's not maintaining his practice or guiding third- and fourth-year dental students from Case Western Reserve University's School of Dental Medicine, Dr. Leavitt donates quality dental care a couple evenings every month as part of The Free Clinic's volunteer corps. He has also recruited many volunteer dentists — all of whom conducted nearly 2,000 extractions last year.

"When you're in dental practice, you deal with pain and suffering. People hate going to the dentist, but the appreciation I receive on a monthly basis at The Free Clinic is quite special."

To hear Dr. Leavitt tell it, connecting to the community as he does is a natural extension of his chosen field, and a reward in itself. "Being chosen for this award is most certainly humbling," he offers.

Congratulations, Dr. Leavitt! Thanks for your service!

To learn more about The Free Clinic's volunteer program, visit the **Volunteers Needed** section of our website, www.thefreeclinic.org.