

## The Faculty of Dental Surgery within the community



The [Faculty of Dental Surgery](#) has been engaging in service-learning in dental education as part of their commitment to enhancing the students' educational experiences and improving their clinical skills and self-confidence while instilling social responsibility.

This is being achieved through the [Mobile Dental Clinic](#), which is a fully equipped dental clinic on wheels, inaugurated in 2015. This clinic serves as a base for outreach programmes in health promotion and visits take place once a week in all localities across Malta and Gozo.

Faculty academics in collaboration with students provide this community service through a multidisciplinary approach of a dental team which includes dentistry, dental hygiene, dental technology, dental therapy and dental assistance. The service aims to educate the community, provide dental screenings, and offer educational interventions such as dietary counselling and smoking cessation guidance.

Service-learning is embedded in community-based dental education that proved to be beneficial not only for the students' holistic meaningful learning experience but also for the academics' professional and research growth. Furthermore, it contributes to creating a more equitable oral health service in our Maltese community, while addressing several commitments of the '[Learning and Teaching](#)' and '[Societal Factors and Impact](#)' themes of the [University's Strategic Plan 2020-2025](#).

For further information please watch this [video](#) or read [Gainza Cirauqui et al., 2022](#).

*Do you have an example of good QA practice at your unit which you would like us to share?  
Get in touch with us at [gac@um.edu.mt](mailto:gac@um.edu.mt)*