



Augusta Pediatric Dentistry
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February 7, 2022

*****IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT*****

DR. ASHLEY BLANCHFIELD TO JOIN AUGUSTA PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY

To All the Wonderful Patient Families of Augusta Pediatric Dentistry and The Dental Community:

We are excited to announce that Dr. Ashley Blanchfield will become the new Pediatric Dentist at Augusta Pediatric Dentistry on Tuesday, February 15, 2022! Dr. Blanchfield will be an amazing addition to the team. Dr. Blanchfield is a Board-Certified Pediatric Dentist, just like my brother, the late Dr. Jonathan Shenkin, and Dr. Stephen Mills (who has served as our resident pediatric dentist for these past five months). Dr. Blanchfield is exactly the type of person and professional that my brother would have chosen to carry on his legacy of providing excellent dental care to the children of Maine. Please know that Dr. Blanchfield is working closely with me on her purchase of the practice, which we are expecting to finalize by the end of February.

We will be forever grateful to Dr. Mills and his wife Loretta Mills for stepping out of retirement to help us for these past five months. During this extraordinarily difficult time, Dr. Mills provided excellent dental care and Loretta did an outstanding job as our office manager. Thank you for everything you've done to help Dr. Shenkin's legacy to live on. We couldn't have done it without you!

And a special thank you to our Staff. In the face of great uncertainty, you persevered and did an extraordinary job. You've all been wonderful and indispensable. We couldn't have done it without you either!

Finally, to our wonderful patient families – thank you for entrusting us with the dental care of your children and continuing to believe in us! I'm comforted to know that we're leaving you in great hands.

Immediately below, you'll find messages to you from Dr. Mills and Dr. Blanchfield.

Warm Regards,

Todd Shenkin

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It has been an honor and a real pleasure to fill in as the resident pediatric dentist for Augusta Pediatric Dentistry after the untimely passing of Dr Shenkin. The staff has been wonderful, the patients equally great and I have learned a lot. I have been a pediatric dentist for a very long time but there is always something new to experience and new ways to look at what we do. It has been a rewarding and stimulating five months and I am thankful I could help to keep Dr Shenkin's legacy going.

But now it is time for the future to become a reality and I am very excited that Dr. Ashley Blanchfield will become the new Pediatric Dentist at Augusta Pediatric Dentistry. She is knowledgeable, experienced and enthusiastic, as well as engaging and personable. After knowing her for just a very short time, it became quite clear that she will be an excellent addition to the world of children's oral health for this practice, for the immediate area of Augusta and in fact for the entire State of Maine. She is the right person for the job.

As I found out, it is challenging to try to fill some very large shoes. But, with the help of her wonderful staff that I have grown to love, and the community, I am certain that Dr. Blanchfield will become a very valued member of the Maine Dental Community. I cannot welcome her enthusiastically enough.

Sincerely,

Dr. Stephen Mills

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I wanted to introduce myself and tell you how excited I am to be joining the Augusta Pediatric Dentistry team.

My name is Ashley Blanchfield. I'm originally from New England, but my dental training has taken me across the country and back. After dental school, I lived in Juneau, Alaska where I completed additional training in general dentistry, including advanced oral and periodontal surgery as well as esthetic dentistry and prosthodontics. It was an adventure to be able to travel - usually by float plane or ferry - around Southeast Alaska, providing dental treatment to adults and children in remote villages with little access to dental care.

I completed my pediatric specialty training at Oregon Health and Sciences University in Portland, Oregon where I conducted a research project on effects of general anesthesia on pediatric patients with autism. My training had a special focus on treating special needs and medically compromised patients at Doernbecher Children's Hospital. I also enjoyed organizing oral health screenings and educational visits for local elementary schools.

I previously served on the board of Smile Oregon - a nonprofit organization devoted to increasing access to care for children with cleft lip and palate and craniofacial disorders - and enjoy devoting time to community outreach and engagement.

I'm passionate about providing quality dental treatment for infants to teens; promoting good oral health; and increasing access to dental care for all children. I believe in making each child's dental visit comfortable and fun! The best part of my day is seeing patients smile.

While I've traveled a lot, New England is my home and I've been practicing in Vermont and New Hampshire for the past five years. I couldn't be happier to be joining the Augusta community.

In my free time, I enjoy exploring the outdoors with my 16 month-old twin boys.

I feel very privileged to be joining such a wonderful and established team at Augusta Pediatric Dentistry. Thank you for trusting us with your child's dental care. I look forward to meeting you soon!

Sincerely,

Dr. Ashley Blanchfield