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Solid Bite's local charitable giving campaign tops \$200,000, dental practice offers patients special incentives

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Whether it's funding a local hospice or helping low—income people spay and neuter their pets, Solid Bite is committed to charitable giving as part of its business model. Now the reconstructive periodontal and dental practice has passed the \$200,000 mark in donations since launching its charitable giving campaign several years ago.

Dr. Lee Sheldon is the founder of Solid Bite, which has been operating for more than 30 years in Melbourne. The practice also includes Dr. Sheldon's son, Dr. Matthew Sheldon, and Dr. Michel Furtado. They are backed by a team of more than 20 support staff. The practice is located at 2223 Sarno Road.

"We're grateful to the people here, who have been so faithful to us, supporting our practice all these years and establishing us in the community," said Dr. Lee Sheldon. "One way we show our appreciation is to contribute regularly to the community's well—being through charitable causes. We're very happy to do so and this milestone means a lot to us."

Solid Bite didn't choose its list of charitable causes at random. All the organizations bear a special relationship in some way to the doctors and staff members at the practice. "It's very informed giving because of the personal connections we have to these charities," Dr. Lee Sheldon said.

One of the ways Solid Bite helps local charities is by encouraging patient donations. When a referred patient donates \$50 to one of the causes in the Solid Bite campaign, he or she receives a full dental examination, including all X–rays and a CT scans.

One of the causes that Solid Bite supports is PURRS, an organization that helps fund spaying and neutering services for pets of lower—income residents. "They have been the lifeblood of our organization, they are our bedrock," said Katherine McCoy, founder of PURRS. "We've used the money they've given us to spay and neuter, and provide medical care for the dogs, cats and pet rabbits of the most disadvantaged citizens of our county."

Other donation recipients in the campaign include:

- William Childs Hospice House
- \bullet Helping Seniors of Brevard County, senior care support
 - The American Red Cross
 - The M.O.R.G.A.N. Project, a special–needs school
- Space Coast Early Intervention Center, a specialneeds school
- MAZON, a charity that helps feed the hungry "The campaign has made a huge difference in our community," McCoy said. "They paint with a broad brush in an enormously generous way. We can depend on them when times are very difficult."
 - About Solid Bite

Solid Bite is one of only a few dental practices that combines specialty and general dental care under one roof. Their array of diagnostic and treatment—planning services make Solid Bite a logical choice for the periodontal and complex dental patient. The practice is well known for its periodontal non—surgical technology as well as dental implants and full dental rehabilitation.

For more information, visit www.solidbite.com.



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