

## MEET EACH NEED WITH DIGNITY



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### Press Release

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### **MEND RECEIVES NEW DENTAL EQUIPMENT DONATION FROM RAY AMERICA INC.**

**Pacoima, CA** - [MEND – Meet Each Need with Dignity](#), the largest poverty relief agency in the San Fernando Valley is excited to announce the donation of a dental X-Ray machine by Ray America Inc., thanks to efforts led by long time MEND Dental Clinic volunteer, Dr. Sil Park. The in-kind gift includes the brand new machine, valued at \$117,000, and features 3-D software and a 2-D image viewer, and one acquisition computer for scanning and database purposes.

“Though MEND is a non-profit organization, I believe that patients deserve the right to be treated with state-of-the art technology as they would in other health clinics,” says Dr. Park. “This new dental equipment ensures that MEND delivers the highest quality care to our patients. We [dentists] will be able to capture bone images in real time which can be used for procedures such as implants, orthodontics, extractions and cancer screenings.”

With over 5,000 patient encounters in 2016, MEND’s Dental Clinic provides an invaluable service to those in need. The clinic offers services including but not limited to orthodontic procedures, cleanings, fillings, implants, fluoride treatments, and oral hygiene education. The clinic is powered by volunteer dental care professionals and serves as a training ground for students.

“Only through the support of volunteers like Dr. Park and companies like Ray America Inc. is MEND able to provide critical care to our clients,” says Janet Marinaccio, President and CEO, MEND. “Not only will our patients benefit from this donation but also dental care students who will gain job training skills with each use. We are deeply grateful to Dr. Park and Kevin Cho [Ray America’s President] and his team for making this contribution to improve the oral health and well-being for our clients. Dignity and respect are two words in our mission that we hold dear - and this new gift ensures that the patients receive care in accordance to our mission.”



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## ABOUT MEND

[MEND](#) serves an average of 37,000 poverty-level clients each month, while remarkably keeping operating costs to less than 10%. Born as a volunteer-powered organization four decades ago in a garage, today MEND continues to leverage the strength of over 5000 volunteers (and only 30 paid staffers) to implement its vast array of programs that provide food; medical, dental and vision care; adult literacy, education and job training classes; after school youth programs; clothing; services for the homeless; and a Holiday Basket Program for families in need. Last year, 187,252 volunteer hours were provided, the equivalent of 103 full-time employees. For more information, visit [www.mendpoverty.org](http://www.mendpoverty.org).