

The Foundation for Dental Laboratory Technology's Race for the Future 5.0 took place on August 25-26, 2018 once again in conjunction with the Transamerica Chicago Triathlon in Chicago, IL. The 73 degree, humidity free weather may not have been with us this year, but the passion amongst the approximately 45 racers and spectators sweltering in the heat for the future of dental laboratory technology was there and stronger than ever!

Almost the entire Foundation Board of Trustees was in attendance, including Chair Gary Iocco, Vice Chair Sean Siegel, and Trustee Steve Killian, CDT, who each participated on a relay team; Trustees Martha Martin and Jeff Stronk cheered racers alongside the gorgeous Lake Michigan; and Fiscal Officer Shawn Nowak was one of 153 athletes to compete in three events during the weekend, known as the Triple Challenge, which totaled 59 miles – 1.63 miles of swimming, 46.3 miles of biking, and 10.85 miles of running. Staff race participants included Lindsey Rowan and Bennett Napier. And, WSDLA's very own Megan Nakanishi also participated on a relay team.



NADL Treasurer, Barbara Warner Wojdan, CDT, AAACD, completed the full Sprint triathlon and finished 5th in her age group, and Megan Nakanishi, NADL Board candidate, participated on a relay team. NADL and NBC Board onsite spectators were NADL Laboratory Representative, Elvis Dahl; NADL Director at Large, Renata Budny, CDT, TE; and NBC Vice Chair, Morris Fucarino, CDT.



Outside from the support of the NADL, NBC, and the FDLT Boards were those doubling as sponsor representatives and participating athletes, including approximately 15 employees from Aspen Dental; Marlin Gohn, CDT, TE and Kelley Reinfelds from Argen Corporation; Stuart Steinbock and Bryon Almeida from Carbon; Andy and Drew Herr from Dental Prosthetics, Inc.; Nick Azzara from DNS Consulting, Inc.; and Valerie Berger from Inside Dental Technology. Also in attendance were several members of the Dental Laboratory Owners' Business Association as well as Jim Rapp with D & S Dental Laboratory, Inc., CDL, DAMAS. Just as important are the friends and family members of athletes, waiting impatiently to watch the indescribable moment of crossing the finish line.

It is these people – the sponsors, spectators, advocates, and friends and families of those who fully support the passion of their loved ones, that made the Race for the Future 5.0 the most successful to date. This year's event brought in nearly **\$97,000.00**! The first race in 2014 brought in over \$35,000.00. There are no words strong enough to explain the gratitude for the immense support and continuous growth of this fundraiser. To put into perspective, the Race for the Future has raised over \$363,000.00 since its launch in 2014. These funds raised have

allowed the Foundation to more than double the grant and scholarship opportunities in the last five years, to invest in an online education platform and enhance its online educational offerings, to help fund the creation of an online comprehensive educational program on the fundamentals of dental laboratory technology, and to build up its reserves to ensure continuity of programming.

The Foundation's mission is to advance the profession of dental laboratory technology by developing educational curriculum and programs that will be relevant and accessible to dental technicians and other members of the dental team, and that's exactly where every dollar raised goes.

For more photos of the Race for the Future 5.0, visit www.facebook.com/FoundationDLT.

