

# FDA Trustee Application

**Name**

Karen Glerum DDS

**Email**

drglerum@smilesbyglerum.com

**Please upload a photo of yourself. A professional headshot is preferred.**



**Please list your qualifications for this position. (Leadership roles, experience, etc.)**

Delegate or Alternate Delegate, 17th Delegation to the ADA, 2015-present,  
FDAF BOT Liaison, 2018  
ADA National Meeting, Ref Comm D member, 2018  
ADA National Meeting, Ref Comm A member, 2023  
President, ACDDA, and all Ladder positions 2016  
ACDDA Delegate 2010-14  
ACDDA Budget Committee 2013-14  
ACDDA Bylaws Committee, 2023-present  
President SPBCDA, and all Ladder positions, 1992-2014  
ADA, SFC Member of Public/Profession Group, 2023-present  
ICD Fellow, 2015-present  
Florida Board of Dentistry Expert Reviewer, 2018-22  
Alternate Trustee to FDA, 2015-18  
Trustee to FDA, 2018- present

**Please list any boards, committees or other groups you currently or previously have served on (dental or non-dental) along with years of service.**

Chair, Florida Mission of Mercy in West Palm Beach, 2022-23  
Volunteer, Florida Mission of Mercy, 2021-present

**Please share any accomplishments while serving in other leadership positions.**

Organized local dentists to serve as Mission of Mercy committee chairs for WPB event in 2023.  
Recruited local vendors as volunteers and donors for Mission of Mercy events.  
Chaired local ACDDA meetings as needed when officers could not be present.

**Have you participated in continuing education or training programs in leadership? If yes, please share your experience.**

Esthetic Advantage Group, Clinical Faculty, 2001-03  
Dawson Center For Dental Excellence, completed curriculums, 2003-06  
Pankey Institute, completed curriculum, 2007-10  
Molis Coaching member, 2023-present (Advanced training for Invisalign)

**Do you think there is value in the tripartite membership structure (ADA/FDA/Component)? Why or why not?**

The Tripartite membership structure is extremely important and valuable. Each layer of membership is symbiotically related to the other tiers.  
At the local level, new and existing members are encouraged to join and participate. At the state level, connections with dentists all over Florida are maintained and expanded. At the ADA national level, we have the opportunity to interact and forge friendships with dentist all over the country. We have the chance to hear other viewpoints and expand our knowledge of issues and concerns we may not have otherwise heard. These in person interactions give all members a voice and a feeling that they are indeed not alone in our profession.  
We all need each other!

**The mission of the FDA is to "Help Members Succeed". Do you feel that the association is fully utilizing its resources to fulfill this mission? If yes, share why. If no, what additional actions would you propose?**

The FDA is very successful in its mission to "Help Members Succeed". Leadership, staff and members all have the opportunity to utilize the FDA's resources and outreach. I have personally recommended that several local members reach out to FDA when they had issues concerning peer review or insurance reimbursements. I hope they took my advice!  
We can always do better. More outreach to potential and future members is needed, and I know membership is always top of mind at FDA. Getting communications to non-members is a challenge too. These are ongoing discussions, and we need to try many different avenues and methods to increase our market share and membership. It is too important NOT to do so!

**What are the biggest challenges you see for the FDA as an organization in the coming years and what are ways you suggest the FDA can meet those challenges?**

As I said above, membership is always the biggest hurdle. How can we reach young dentists who may not see value in membership? How do we reach dentists who are employees and have many benefits "given" to them by their employer corporations? Many ideas have been explored and will continue to be tried. Also, the FDA should give the perception that they run "lean and mean". Utilize members dues dollars and non-dues revenue wisely, and with the members concerns in mind. We should be proud to say our expenditures are FOR our members in many ways. Broadcast how all members benefit from the programs that FDA offers, and how their dues dollars are helping them.

**Please provide any additional information you would like to share.**

I serve organized dentistry because it benefits all of us in our professional lives. The time and energy commitment are not insignificant, but my mission is to make my profession better by my involvement and by speaking out about issues impacting all dentists. I'm happy to serve!