



Marisa Mannarino, Hamilton, Ontario

After a couple of years with a rough hygienist I was anxious about dental cleanings. At first, I thought that the bleeding gums and tooth and jaw pain were something I was just going to have to push through. But with two small boys, I didn't want that to become their experience. Then along came Marisa, with her calm demeanor and gentle voice and kind words. She won over not just my 5-year-old but my painfully shy and sensitive 3-year-old. She came to our home and took care of both my children's and my own teeth without any pain or anxiety. We called her back for a return visit when we were due, and even my husband with challenging teeth she did with ease and care! She goes out of her way to ease any fears, even when working with special needs children with sensory processing challenges. Her kindness goes beyond just her dental experience; she is always a kind, warm heart pushing to change the world. She gives back to her community just as far as her heart can take her! Marisa is a truly beautiful soul deserving of recognition for her persistence in caring for the needs of her patients all over the world! (That's right, she has even done missionary work!) In my eyes there is no one more deserving.

My son has social and general anxiety and going to see a hygienist is very stressful for him. Marisa comes to our home where he is comfortable. She brings everything with her including a portable dental chair! She is very friendly, and my son was able to have his teeth cleaned with very little stress. We love Marisa!

Marisa is an excellent and professional dental hygienist. She has many years of experience under her belt and is a joy to be around. She has a great smile to match her personality, and she makes you feel so at ease when working on your teeth. She takes her time and makes you feel at peace.

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Marisa is the best—an amazing hygienist and a great inspiration to everyone! She is caring, careful, and precise. She makes it so easy. She really cares about all of her patients as though they are her own family! She has the biggest heart! She comes to your house for dental work and works around your schedule!

When our church sponsored a refugee family, Marisa gave me her card and said, “I’d love to serve them.” The family did have dental problems and, due to language issues, I was not sure of the extent of their problems or what services they would need. I called Marisa. Marisa immediately sprang into action, taking her services right to their home where they would be most comfortable. After explaining what she could and could not do, Marisa started with the bolder of the two parents so that the child would be most comfortable. Her warm personality quickly won their confidence. I was thrilled with her cleaning, instruction, and follow-up with this family, donating her services and supplies and suggesting a dentist who was within walking distance of their home!

It’s a pleasure to see the high level of professionalism and kindness Marisa gives to others. I am a child and youth care practitioner and we work together to help close a service gap for hard-to-serve individuals, such as those with high anxiety, on the autism spectrum, with learning impaired difficulties, and much more.

Marisa has pursued a relationship with Cornerstones Special Needs Services, an organization that supports caregivers of children and adults in these areas. She has also created a mission of dental care with West Highland Baptist Church, supporting others who are less fortunate, and utilizing her mobile dental care services.

Marisa has been to Haiti and the Philippines on dental missions to provide care for the poor and less fortunate. She also spends time teaching dental hygiene students.

Marisa provides dental hygiene services with the upmost professionalism, patience, and consideration for others’ needs. Should you honour Marisa as the Dental Hygiene Superhero 2020, she most surely would use her rewards to pay it forward to the communities she continues to support.

DO YOU KNOW A DENTAL HYGIENE SUPERHERO?



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It's such a pleasure to see the high level of professionalism and kindness she gives to others.

Marisa Mannarino is the most remarkable dental hygienist I have ever had. She's no ordinary dental professional in so many ways. For starters, she's positive, helpful, skilled, and caring. Most hygienists I have had over the years have done a decent job but a lot of them don't really listen that well and it's clear they are doing a job and not pursuing their passion. Marisa loves people and loves helping them with their oral care. She started Dental Care in Motion to bring dental care to people who simply want a better experience and better care. She recently cleaned my teeth in a mobile chair in my dining room. She paid extra attention and spent as long as was needed. She also provided excellent aftercare information, helped me with my tender gums, and made my mouth sparkle. The fact that she comes to me and my family and brings her expertise into my home is just extraordinary. My 5-year-old son loves her. And the fact that she is now doing teeth for the most difficult and unique cases is amazing. She serves kids and adults on the spectrum, as well as special needs patients of all kinds and the elderly who have trouble visiting a dental office. She is the definition of a superhero.

Marisa goes above and beyond to make a difference for others. She cares, and her heart and smile are known by many in dental circles. She is continually learning and striving to be the best in her field. Marisa has taught in dental hygiene schools, designed curriculums, and supported her students immensely. They speak of how positively she has impacted their lives. I have known Marisa for decades, and she has served and volunteered in her community with those unable to afford traditional dental care. Marisa has worked in public health and continued her schooling to become a highly respected restorative dental hygienist. She has travelled on global missions to provide dental services for the needy in other countries. A true gem in the dental hygiene profession and a heart of giving that never stops. I am honoured to know Marisa both professionally and personally. For her to win would be wonderful recognition for a beautiful soul.



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