

**Q6**

Describe one member engagement and value event or chapter member benefit program aimed at increasing member engagement and value. (250 word limit. Responses longer than 250 words will be cut.)

Out of all the events Tufts ASDA hosted, the annual Vendor Fair was by far the one that brought the most community engagement and value. With the easing of COVID-19 restrictions, Tufts ASDA was excited to welcome back its in-person Vendor Fair on October 3rd. Our cabinet worked tremendously hard to host 14 different vendors from a variety of areas of the dental community. Jumbos from all year levels came to network with various companies and dental society representatives such as Ivoclar, MedPro Dental, Children's Choice, and many more. Anyone entering the fair received a card to be stamped each time they visited a booth, and they redeemed these stamps for raffle tickets that they can use for a chance to win a variety of prizes. It became a great opportunity for students to learn more about the dental field and engage with representatives that they may potentially work with in their future practices. Having this event in person again allowed members of our school to come together and form connections with people from across the dental profession. This became an incredibly monumental event for some students who learned about some of these companies and societies for the first time, while others built on the connections that they've already made with these companies. In total, we gathered 250+ members of the Tufts community together to network and gain valuable information about what is out there in the dental field.

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**Q7**

Describe one chapter community service event that creates connections with our communities. (250 word limit. Responses longer than 250 words will be cut.)

The Tufts ASDA Community Service Committee works closely with the New England Center for Homeless Veterans (NECHV), an organization dedicated to serving veterans at risk of homelessness. NECHV is in Downtown Boston and provides its services throughout the New England region. Over 250 veterans are housed in the NECHV facility each night with over 400 permanent homes provided each year. Over several years of dedicated and committed effort, Tufts ASDA has established a community partner in NECHV and is proud to contribute to the 100,000 meals NECHV provides each year. Veterans often suffer from poor mental health and physical limitations as well as unemployment and homelessness, and the limited government assistance available may leave veterans trapped and alienated. Programs such as NECHV serve a vital function in giving veterans safe havens and opportunities for transitional housing, mentorship, training, and the resources they may need to reclaim agency over their lives. As Tufts ASDA Community Service leader Arika Neal stated, "All the veterans come from various backgrounds, and each has a unique story. It's rewarding to see their smiles...[and] they are grateful for the time spent with those who care." In collaboration with NECHV, Tufts ASDA serves those who courageously served the United States, expresses its gratitude, and declares its support for underserved veterans.

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**Q8**

Describe one chapter advocacy event that educates and involves members in ASDA's advocacy and legislative priorities. (250 word limit. Responses longer than 250 words will be cut.)

One of the most important initiatives leading up to ASDA Advocacy Month was to "Vote Yes on 2!". This jumpstarted with a lunch event hosted on October 16th with guest speaker Brian Monteiro, director of government affairs and public relations at the Massachusetts Dental Society. During the November election, Massachusetts voters had a particular ballot question that would affect access to quality dental care and better benefits for all patients. Voting yes would mean that 83% of the premiums dental insurance companies collected would be spent on patient care rather than, potentially, profits or administrative costs. This lunch and learn provided a great opportunity for students to realize how important their vote matters for the future of the dental field. The Tufts ASDA Advocacy Committee had worked incredibly hard to spread awareness of this political issue and even brought in an expert on the field to speak on behalf of its significance. Students received informational packets, custom pins, and a presentation to learn more about certain topics that related to this vote such as what a medical loss ratio is and the importance of knowing how dental insurance carriers are spending patient premium dollars. The support for this cause extended to social media, with several Instagram stories, posts, and hashtags such as "#YESON200TH," initiated by MDS, and "VOTEWITHTUFTS." Tufts took this event even further by having volunteers phone bank voters to register and have one-on-one conversations to advocate for this vote to pass. Massachusetts voted yes on 2!

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**Q9**

Describe one chapter wellness event that educates members and involves members in ASDA's Five Dimensions of Wellness. (250 word limit. Responses longer than 250 words will be cut.)

Where do you see yourself in a month? In a year? How about 5, 10, or 20 years from now? These are the questions students asked themselves at the vision board event hosted by the Wellness Committee as part of Wellness Month. A vision board is a visual manifestation of a person's wishes and goals. Supplied with magazines, glitter, and printed photos, the participants, ranging from all four class years, decorated blank white posters with images expressing what they hope for in life. The completed vision boards had images of dentistry, healthy food, fitness, and destinations around the world. One student added words that are important to her: love, friendship, explore, and dentista. The inspiring event allowed students a moment to pause from the normal worries of school and daily life and instead let their minds wander and dream. It was an opportunity for students to consider the ways they could incorporate ASDA's Five Dimensions of Wellness into their lives. By the end of the event, all the students had uplifting posters adorned with their dreams.

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**Q10**

Describe one chapter communication (such as an enewsletter, the chapter website, or chapter social media campaign) that keeps members informed about ASDA. (250 word limit. Responses longer than 250 words will be cut.)

Advocacy is the heart of Tufts ASDA. Impressions, Tufts ASDA's newsletter, celebrates advocacy in its recent issue by highlighting the unique passion demonstrated by the Tufts chapter. "Letter from the Editor" sets the stage for the issue, addressing the role that we dental students have as advocates for both our patients and ourselves. In interviews with the Advocacy and Sustainability Committees, the members describe what drives their passion and what they aim to accomplish with ASDA. Featured in the issue is a discussion on dentistry and dental education with Tufts ASDA faculty advisor Dr. Falzone, who received the 2022 National ASDA Advocate Award. There is also an article diving into the significance of Question 2 on the Massachusetts ballot, preparing students for discussions they might have with patients about the vote. Advocacy initiatives beyond Tufts ASDA were featured as well, including a fundraiser supporting the LGBTQ+ community and an art project designed to reduce the stigma around substance use disorder. Rounding off the issue were photos from Tufts ASDA fall semester events and a list of upcoming events on the chapter, district, and national levels. By the end of the newsletter, readers are inspired to not only get involved with Tufts ASDA but also become advocates themselves.

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**Q11**

Describe one chapter event that develops professional and leadership skills of chapter members. (250 word limit. Responses longer than 250 words will be cut.)

Pre-dental day with Tufts ASDA is a day of excitement and wonder as prospective dental students take their first steps in pursuing a dental education. Some students may find pre-dental day to be the deciding factor on whether dentistry is the right career for them, and other students teem with excitement at the prospect of being closer to the field of their dreams. Being pre-dental means pouring hours of work into studying, volunteering, shadowing, and developing one's character to meet the required standard of professionalism. Tufts ASDA understands and respects the effort and motivation of pre-dental students and matches that energy by providing resources to help them succeed. Offered by Tufts ASDA are mock interviews, DAT preparation, gap-year advice, dental composite workshops, and an engaging, interactive view of a day in the life of a dental student. Pre-dental students confidently leave pre-dental day with a firm understanding of not only how to become a dental student but also what being a dental student would entail. Our passionate Pre-dental Committee and volunteers share in the excitement of pre-dental students. On pre-dental day, the air is electric, laughter sweeps the group, and students know their volunteers are as in love with dentistry as they are committed to creating a positive experience.

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