

*Nomination of*

***Dr. Robert D. Elliott, Cary Pediatric Dentistry***

*for the*

***Triangle Business Journal's "Top 40 (Under 40)"***

We are writing to nominate Robert D. Elliott, DMD, MS, owner of Cary Pediatric Dentistry, for the Triangle Business Journal's "Top 40 (Under 40)" honor. Dr. Elliott exemplifies the spirit and energy that all practitioners in Dentistry should strive to achieve as business owners. Dr. Elliott has proven to be a thoughtful, compassionate, caring, intelligent and influential force in the lives of all the children, parents, colleagues, employees and community members that he encounters. Dr. Elliott is full of energy and has channeled this energy to make numerous contributions to the field of Pediatric Dentistry through volunteer work and leadership positions. In May of 2008, he and his team opened a 6,000 square foot office with the latest technology that dentistry has to offer – it is truly a sight to be seen!

Dr. Elliott is from Louisville, Kentucky and graduated from the University of Louisville School of Dentistry in 1995. He completed three additional years of training in Pediatric Dentistry at the UNC School of Dentistry and UNC Memorial Hospital in Chapel Hill and obtained his Masters Degree in June of 1998. *He is Board Certified and a Diplomate with The American Board of Pediatric Dentistry as well as a Fellow with The American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry.*

Upon graduation, he took on the task of opening his own practice from scratch and hanging his own "single shingle." Dr. Elliott possesses incredible vision – he has transformed the average, sterile dental office design into a jungle-themed office completely with the children in mind. His first office had features such as a "little door" for children to enter the office and his new office has that feature along with many others, including flat-screen TV's over the dental chairs in order to make the children more comfortable during their visits. Dr. Elliott's office won *third place in the 2000 Nationwide Matsco Dental Office Design Competition* and his new office is sure to win awards in the near future.

Dr. Elliott is now pursuing dental consulting as an adjunct business and *has aided in the development of twenty pediatric dental offices across the country.* Dr. Elliott has been successful with building an ever-growing, profitable & sustainable pediatric dental practice due to his dedication to his patients, their parents, the community and his team members. Dr. Elliott hand-selected each team member and is now the proud leader of 14, including one Associate Dentist. His team will attest that it was no surprise when he was selected as *Boss of the Year in Wake County in 2003.*

During his time in practice, Dr. Elliott has become a leader in the community through volunteer work, teaching, leadership positions and the creation of fellowship funds for future pediatric dentists. Several times during the year, Dr. Elliott volunteers at Wake County Human Services for their Give Kids a Smile Program, where he delivers dental care to under-served children with comprehensive dental needs. He and his team have volunteered at the Salvation Army in Raleigh, he has distributed Food Lion gift cards at Thanksgiving for needy families in the area along with collecting a significant amount of toys for Toys for Tots campaign at Christmas. He also delivers care for special needs patients in his office in Cary. His compassion and patience with these children and their caretakers makes a world of difference to their quality of life and their ability to thrive despite such adverse health challenges. Dr. Elliott is the current advisor for the North Carolina Dental Assistants Association. He is also an Adjunct Associate Professor at the University of Louisville and The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Dr. Elliott is one of the most generous people we've ever known. While only in practice for eleven years, he has established three scholarship / fellowship funds to support future dental assistants and pediatric dentists.

Thank you very much for considering Dr. Elliott for your "40 Under 40" award. He is one of the most well-liked, respected & influential forces in Pediatric Dentistry in the country today. We are fortunate to have him serving our children right here in the Triangle!