

Aggie Iwaszczyszyn, DMD

## My Passion for Family Dentistry

My approach to managing my practice is grounded in a deep commitment to integrity and compassion. I take great pride in being transparent and honest, even when it may be difficult. The well-being of my patients is always at the forefront of my mind, often occupying my thoughts long after the workday ends. In our practice, we share moments of both joy and challenge, always remaining true to ourselves. I am deeply empathetic, and I believe this emotional connection enhances my ability to relate to and care for others. Every decision I make is guided by a genuine dedication to the care and support of those I serve. Every decision I make, I lead with my heart.

## A Note to Parents

Tooth decay is the most chronic disease in children. Therefore, my top dental recommendation for parents is to bring their children to the dentist as early as possible-ideally, when the first tooth appears or by six months of age, whichever comes first. This early visit allows infants to become familiar with the dental office environment and provides an opportunity for parents to ask any questions they may have. While many families wait until their child is three or four years old, waiting too long can lead to the development of harmful habits and potential dental issues, such as cavities. Treating cavities or performing procedures like fillings, crowns, or extractions on young children can be challenging without sedation, and often requires general anesthesia either in our office or at Lurie Children's hospital. While treatment is certainly possible, prevention is far easier, more effective, and more cost-efficient. Early dental care can help set the foundation for a lifetime of healthy habits and minimize the need for more complex procedures later.

## My Background

I was born in Krakow, Poland, and we moved to the United States when I was 8. I'm an only child. We moved here because my dad was promoted, and he moved us once he was more established. We were supposed to be here temporarily, but it became home.

Being Polish influences my practice. Several of our staff are Polish, as are many of our patients, but we are not an exclusively Polish office. We are happy to see everyone.

My dad is a software engineer and my mom, Dr. Iwona Iwaszczyszyn, is a dentist. I wanted to be an English teacher until, my freshman year in high school when I took AP Biology, and it changed my life—I wanted to do something in the sciences and medicine. I explored medicine through volunteering in the emergency room at LaGrange Memorial Hospital and the Hinsdale Gastroenterology Outpatient Office, as well as volunteering at a practice where my mom was an associate in Arlington Heights. But it was at the first-ever Dental Mission of Mercy clinic in Bloomington, in 2010, that I decided to go into dentistry. People started lining up at 4 a.m. to receive free dental care. People cried with gratitude and relief when their teeth were repaired. That same day, this life changing moment became the inspiration for my career. We can meet someone, build rapport, and often do surgery (tooth filling) in one visit. It's a unique job that I love, and I look forward to welcoming you and your family to Hart Dental.



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- "Dr. Aggie"