Dr. Elizabeth Nava, DDS, PA and John Yanaros fell in love with Alpine and far west Texas on their 2014 Labor Day weekend trip and discovered a need for more dentists in the region. While on that vacation, they immediately pursued a path to move to Alpine. Dr. Nava has three decades of patient-focused “full service high quality dentistry” to English- and Spanish-speaking patients of all ages and incomes, with maximum affordability & flexibility in payments and insurance, with a special focus on handicapped patients and employees. Her education, certification and high level of training derives from both the U.S. and Mexico. Her practice includes a much diversified set of services. Mr. Yanaros, the practice’s Director, is a retired US Air Force NATO Fighter Pilot and Pentagon Analyst, who specializes in research and development, operations and business development with government, universities and businesses.

“SBDC is an invaluable partner for new business.”

Bella Dental West Texas, PLLC was immediately created and the first steps were to approach the Chamber of Commerce and the Big Bend Region SBDC in September 2014. For the next eight months, SBDC Advisor Loretta Garcia worked with the couple refining and detailing their business plan and preparing SBA loan applications. Through collaborated efforts, the PLLC was able to secure leasehold improvement and equipment loans with Stearns Bank. As a result of the collective effort, the practice hopes to open in fall of 2015 and plans to employ between 7 and 10 full time/part time employees.