



## Service Project Ideas

- **Create activity packets** - providing a couple of fun activities for patients and families to engage in during long appointments or hospital stays can be so helpful in passing the time and helping kids cope! Please use plastic Ziplock bags rather than paper ones, which are difficult to store and are prone to breaking.

Here are some ideas for what activity packets could contain:

- A few coloring pages and a small box of Crayola or Rose Art crayons
- A few "adult/teen" coloring pages with colored pencils
- A small canvas and a mini paint kit (small palette and brush)
- 2-3 mini tubs of Play Doh brand modeling clay with a few Play Doh tools
- Assorted plastic beads with lacing cord to make a necklace/bracelet or a keychain (please include printed instructions for keychain)
- A few guidelines for craft projects include:
  - **SAFETY is the most important consideration** when selecting craft items. Arts & craft materials must have the non-toxic seal (AP, CP, health label Non-Toxic)
  - Crayons must be Rose Art or Crayola brands
  - We cannot utilize or accept items which contain latex (i.e. rubber bands, rubber stamps, rubber balls, rubber erasers, elastic) because many children have latex allergies
  - Please refrain from donating projects that contain candy, food, chalk or religious materials
- **Create patient or parent/caregiver care packages**—providing a small bag of items which contain a variety of things to support patients or caregivers during hospitalization is another wonderful idea. Below you'll find the types of items which are appropriate for these care packages:
  - **Patient care packages:** small toys (infant rattle, deck of UNO cards, Hot Wheels car, etc), books, art supplies (mini art kit, coloring book with Crayola crayons/colored pencils), notebooks and pens, reusable water bottles, travel tissue packs, lip balms (non-petroleum based), headphones, slipper socks/fuzzy socks
  - **Parent/Caregiver care packages:** reusable water bottles, travel coffee mugs, travel tissue packs, travel toiletries (for men and women), lip balms, hair ties, slipper socks, travel blankets/pillows, crossword/word search books and pens/pencils, adult coloring books and colored pencils, decks of cards, headphones, book lights for nighttime reading, eye covers and ear plugs for sleeping
  - **Please note**—all items must be newly purchased, unused and in original packaging. Please ensure all items are latex free and culturally/politically neutral. Please do not include hand sanitizer or food items. Handmade items—blankets, socks, hats, etc.—cannot be included in care packages secondary to infection prevention regulations.



## Service Project Ideas

- **Host a drive** and collect items which are so useful to the patients and families at Children's Hospital of Michigan. The following ideas make excellent drives:
  - **Newly purchased and unused toys and games** - UNO cards, regular playing cards, infant-toddler toys/rattles, Lego kits, Play Doh, Crayons (MUST BE Crayola or Rose Art brand), colored pencils, markers and paint brushes are all great examples. We use and need these items in the hospital on a daily basis and never seem to have enough! We can also provide you with our toy wish list for even more ideas.
    - Please note that items with violent themes, toy guns/swords and projectile toys are not accepted
  - **Newly purchased and unused makeup** for McKenna's Beauty Bar
    - Items which we are regularly in need of include: Makeup bags, hair accessories (hair ties, bows, brushes, combs, headbands, etc.), hair gel, jewelry, hand held mirrors, makeup brushes, makeup remover wipes, eyelashes, foundation for all skin tones, highlighter, blush, nail polish, nail files, nail polish remover
    - All seals/packaging must be intact, all items must be non-expired
  - **Child friendly LATEX FREE character band aids.** It always makes "getting a poke" a little easier if it can be followed up with a colorful, fun band aid vs. a plain one! The box should state "Latex Free" or "Not made with natural rubber latex". Please note we cannot utilize bandages labeled as "antibacterial"
  - **New books** for children of all ages. There are several places throughout the hospital and clinic areas that use books as well as a family library in the hospital
  - **New socks, underwear or clothing** for people of all ages and sizes. The "Clothes Closet" at the Children's Hospital of Michigan that is always in need of these particular items for patients and families
  - **New trial size toiletries** for family members that come to the hospital unexpectedly and unprepared with basic necessities. Items like shampoo, conditioner, soap, deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, combs/brushes, slipper socks, small packages of tissue, hand lotion, lip balm, hair ties/bands, feminine hygiene products, ear plugs, eye covers for sleeping, etc. are all needed
  - **New warm gloves, mittens and hats for the winter.** Patients and families need all sizes, however, adult size hats and gloves for older children are usually in demand.

*Please note, donations made directly to the Children's Hospital of Michigan are no longer be tax deductible due to changes resulting from the sale of the Detroit Medical Center, and with it the Children's Hospital of Michigan, to investor owned Vanguard Health and now Tenet.*