

Child Life Holiday Party a Huge Success for Kids and Staff



Another successful Holiday Party is in the books. On Wednesday December 11, 2013, the Ballreich Activity Mall was transformed into a festive winter wonderland. We had around 250 people attend this year's annual Patient Holiday Party here at SHC - Chicago. This year's event featured the usual festive arts-and-crafts projects, bozo buckets, the ever-popular BINGO, and, of course, a visit from Santa. A new highlight of this year's party was a photo booth provided by Sky Photo Booth! A buffet dinner was provided by Lucia's catering: No one went home hungry!

Generous donations from Zurich Insurance and the Little Elves of Love provided each kid attending with a gift or two to take home. There were many thanks expressed from parents and the kids themselves for some of the toys on their wish lists this year.

Our thanks go out to the 65 volunteers, who donated a few hours of their time to assist in all areas of the party, and to Zurich Insurance, which has been sponsoring the Holiday Party for over 10 years. The Little Elves of Love stocked Santa's Workshop with wonderful toys for all ages. In addition, we would like to recognize the staff in EVS, plant services, graphic arts, public relations, kitchen/dietary, and our own recreation therapy/child life staff. It really takes the cooperation of many to ensure the party is fully set-up and comfortable for all of our guests.



We would also like to recognize a \$500 donation from the Hobart Shrine Club, and George Alex, who assisted in funding many of the activities and the dinner enjoyed by families, patients, and friends at the party. The Holidays are always a time to coming together, of sharing with others—and this year's Patient Holiday Party was a fine example of what SHC – Chicago is all about. Without the assistance from everyone, the party would not be possible nor be as enjoyable for its attendees. Happy Holidays!

Creative Young Lady Brings Gifts and Holiday Spirit to Our Children



Her name is Nadia Howse, she's 15 years old, and she has a passion to help other children. She realized recently, when someone gave her a gift, that she really didn't need anything else. So she decided to take \$500 she had saved and give it to children who might need it more than she. She created a new organization, "Nadia's Howse of Hope," to be her philanthropic vehicle, and she



came bearing her first gift to our hospital. We are delighted and honored to welcome Nadia and her gift. In the photo left, she presents a check for \$500 to Yours Truly and Orak Noble George Alex. In the photo right, she plays her violin during her visit. A senior at Chicago Christian School, Nadia plans to study medicine when she enters college next year. We are delighted to welcome this beautiful young philanthropist to our hospital.