

Feeling Crafty?



Comforting Crafts That Help Healing Kids...

Our office receives dozens and dozens of tiny, crocheted baby blankets, bonnets and booties for our NNICU and Special Care preemies each month. While we appreciate the generosity of the community members that create these beautiful, hand-crafted items for us, we've seen such an overwhelming outpouring of support that the supply is far out-weighting the demand. We currently have more than a year's worth of these preemie items on hand, and we're running out of room to keep storing them! After discussing this issue with both the nursing and child life staff, we have identified a few other hand-crafted items that are currently in high-demand. If you or anyone you know is feeling "crafty" this summer, here are some fun projects that we can put to good use at MUSC Children's Hospital!

FEATURED PROJECT: BLANK DOLLS

The Child Life Department has expressed an urgent need for homemade, blank therapy dolls. Our young patients, who may be apprehensive about what to expect during their hospital stay, are encouraged to decorate and personalize their dolls, which then become an important part of their treatment process. Not only can these dolls be used to help develop a friendly, open rapport between children and hospital staff through play and activities, but they are also useful tools in preparing children for their individual treatment processes. The dolls enable staff to assess a child's perceptions and feelings in a non-threatening manner, while also demonstrating clinical tasks, such as showing the child where injections or surgical incisions will occur. Anyone interested in creating blank therapy dolls for MUSC Children's Hospital's Child Life Department can pick up a pattern and instruction kit from the Office of Volunteer and Guest Services. For more information, please contact Emily Wallace via email at walla@musc.edu or by phone at (843) 792-8190.



Homemade Blankets

New, soft blankets for full-term babies, older children and even parents are always welcome. The dimensions for these should be between 30" x 36" and 44" x 60."



Pillow Cases & Hospital Gowns

Because no child wants their hospital room to feel like a hospital room, in the coming months we hope to begin offering our patients a selection of colorful homemade pillowcases with matching hospital gowns. In order to ensure a consistency in both comfort and usability, we are requesting that all items created for this project are completed according to a standard pattern that can be obtained through the Office of Volunteer & Guest Services. For more information, please contact Emily Wallace via email at walla@musc.edu or by phone at (843) 792-8190.