

## GUIDELINES FOR HOLIDAY SHOPPING

We are very dependent upon donations and the generosity of donors in order to provide support for the comprehensive programming that is offered to patients and families. We ask your help to ensure that all donations are new, clean, age appropriate, and most importantly safe. Please observe the following donation guidelines for pediatric and adult inpatients and outpatients.

- Food items are only accepted for adult patients and need to be individually wrapped and commercially made.
- Due to the serious diagnoses and confidentiality of our patients, we are unable to permit donors to visit or distribute gifts directly to the patients. Personal visiting of patients is reserved for family and University of Michigan Health System volunteers.
- New, washable material (no wool) should be used when making handmade items such as quilts, baby clothes, clothing, and toys. When choosing fabric, consider appropriate weave, color, and design. Remember to use fiberfill for stuffing instead of shredded foam, beans, or pellets. Facial features may be embroidered, appliqued, or painted rather than using buttons that could be swallowed.
- With respect to all of our patients and diagnoses, we ask that religious references are not made or that messages not say "Get well soon!" Glitter, macaroni, and feathers are not safe media to use on greeting cards. For confidentiality of minors, a donor's last name or any traceable information should be omitted but an organization's name could be included.
- Gifts may be wrapped for the Holiday Sponsorship Program but all other gifts should be unwrapped since they need to be reviewed before distribution.
- Stuffed animals need to be newly purchased with store tags still attached.
- Some children and adults are sensitive to natural rubber latex and smoke. Avoid items known to contain natural rubber latex such as rubber latex balloons, etc. or items that have been exposed to cigarette or cigar smoke. Mylar balloons are permitted.
- Art and craft materials must have the non-toxic seal – AP, CP, or health label Non-Toxic.
- Safety and infection control are key elements to keep in mind when choosing toys to donate. Choose toys, games, and supplies that are new, clean, non-toxic, and sturdy. Avoid toys that have high noise levels, sharp edges, small parts, ability to produce friction or sparks, long cords, or are made of glass.
- Violent games, books, videos, video games, toy guns, and projectile toys are not acceptable.
- Handmade items need to be checked to make sure that all sharp items such as straight pins, etc. have been removed.
- Monetary donations and gift cards are welcomed in all areas and will be used for patient and family needs.

**Thank you for considering these gift opportunities and your interest  
in our Holiday Shopping Program!**