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Bear Givers Programs

About Our Programs

Bear Givers is dedicated to bringing joy to the lives of children in need with a variety of programs. Through hospital visits and school programs, this innovative non profit touches the lives of children and their families across the country and around the world with a personal visit and the gift of a soft, cuddly teddy bear. Bear Givers also offers programs that enable these children to become givers and experience the thrill and pride of bringing happiness to others.

Empowerment Program

Enabling Specials Needs Kids to Enrich the Lives of Others

Because children with special needs are often in the position of receiving, Bear Givers Empowerment Program is designed so that these youngsters can become benefactors and experience the joy and pride of giving to others and contributing to their schools.

With the Empowerment Program, Bear Givers donates teddy bears to a school so that each student receives a bear to keep and another to give away. The children decide as a group where to donate the bears and always create cards and pictures to accompany the bears.

The teddy bears are personally delivered by the children or shipped depending on the destination which range from pediatric hospital wards and senior citizen centers, to orphanages, cancer patients, military personnel overseas, charitable foundations, and centers for abused children.

Bear Givers makes a grant to each school which is used to facilitate the Empowerment project and to finance other school programs. The children understand that their participation in the Empowerment Program is also enriching the school.

The Bear Givers Empowerment Program enables these children to make a meaningful contribution to both the community and the school. They know the excitement and happiness they feel at receiving a cuddly teddy bear is being shared by someone else thanks to their own efforts.

EmpowerArt Program

Enabling Youngsters to Give Back through Art

Because children with special needs or illness are constantly in the position of receiving, the EmpowerArt Program enables these youngsters to experience the joy and pride of creating art, seeing it showcased and sold at a special exhibit, and making a meaningful contribution since all proceeds are donated to the school or hospital.

The magic starts when children create their works of art in preparation for the exhibit. Bear Givers then works with the school or hospital to mount a special exhibit showing all the children's art pieces. The students, families, friends, and special guests are invited to the exhibit and reception.

The children are the stars of the opening reception. Their pride and excitement at seeing their artwork professionally framed, displayed, admired, and sold is overwhelming. Finally, knowing that their work is enriching their school or the hospital provides them with a one of a kind sense of accomplishment and confidence.

Bear Givers is expanding the EmpowerArt Program to reach children in a variety of settings. Currently, the program is being developed for the children of military personnel who live near or on bases in the U.S.

Hospital Visits

Spreading Cheer with a Teddy Bear

Hospitalized children and their families may be coping with the potential loneliness, isolation and anxiety caused by illness. Bear Givers Hospital Visits provide young patients and their families with the dual gift of a personal visit and a warm, cuddly bear. Bear Givers representatives travel to hospitals across the United States and around the world, visiting pediatric patients, and giving them the distinctive Bear Givers teddy bears.

Teddy Bear Clinics

Learning to Care with a Bear

Undergoing and understanding medical procedures and treatments can be both frightening and overwhelming for young patients. In order to alleviate the uncertainty, hospitals hold special Teddy Bear clinics during which the children are encouraged to both perform mock medical procedures on and comfort their furry friends. As a result, pediatric patients can feel more knowledgeable and relaxed about their own treatments.

Milestone Celebrations

Bear Givers Programs for Bar/Bat Mitzvah, Confirmation, and Sweet Sixteen Celebrations

Bear Givers Milestone Celebrations enable young people to perform charitable acts and give back as part of coming-of-age celebrations such as Bar and Bat Mitzvahs, Confirmations, and Sweet Sixteen parties.

The family of the young person makes a donation to Bear Givers and receives enough teddy bears to be donated to the selected organization and given as a party favors to all guests.

The young guest of honor chooses an organization to receive the teddy bears. Destinations often include pediatric hospital wards, schools for special needs children, senior citizen centers/residences, families of military personnel, or any organization of the young person's choice in the U.S. or abroad.

The teddy bears can wear the Bear Givers logo shirts or customized shirts featuring the guest of honor's name and celebration date. In addition, the teddy bears can wear blank shirts to be decorated by the guest of honor and friends during the special event. Guests fill out special note cards for each teddy bear recipient during the party.

After the big day, the guest of honor can personally deliver the teddy bears and personalized notes or ship them to the designated organization.