A PLAYFUL PROJECT

Rally your social media networks and tackle a donation drive for toys that will bring joy to our patients - and support our child-life specialists in the process!

Child-life specialists are licensed professionals who provide psychosocial care and guide the patient and family through the surgical experience. In a nutshell, they facilitate therapeutic play and activities as well as act as the patient’s advocate. By donating toys that the child-life therapist will use, ultimately you’re helping to comfort our patients!

Here are the toys they need:

INFANT/TODDLER

• Rattles (handheld)
• Stacking cups/toys
• Baby/toddler textured blocks
• Soft foam balls/rubber balls

PRESCHOOL

• Toy Medical Kits (Fisher Price or similar)
• Baby dolls (of all skin tones)
• See-and-say toys

SCHOOL AGE

• Matchbox style cars and trucks
• Wall mount/inflatable basketball hoop
• Dolls (of all skin tones)
• Jewelry making bead/string kits

ARTS, CRAFTS & GENERAL USE

• Liquid Bubbles (2-4 oz. size)
• Coloring and activity books
• Kids ring toss game
• Building blocks set (medium size)
• Sidewalk chalk
• Blow-up balls
• Crayons (any size)
• Markers (any size)
• Construction paper
• Rolls of art/easel paper
• Stickers
• Masking tape or scotch tape
• Foam or carpet play mats
• Large sheets for floor play
• Sanitizing wipes to clean play space

SPECIAL NOTES: We cannot accept any toys with weapons or violent themes such as guns, knives, swords, or other projectiles (including Styrofoam), or any toys with religious symbols.

Also, we cannot ship toys with lithium batteries due to international shipping regulations.
Operation Smile medical professionals provide health care assessments to determine which children can safely undergo surgery. We bring everything we need to help with our screenings – from pens to staplers, and many other items that may be unavailable while at the medical mission site. These donated items will help us serve more children around the world.

Unless otherwise noted, we request new, unused items to ensure we are sending reliable supplies into the field.

We’re currently in need of the following high-priority items:

- Hole punch (2-hole – New or used)
- Staplers (25 sheet capacity – New or used)
- Staples (standard)
- Pencils (No. 2 or mechanical styles)
- Permanent markers, black
- Ink pens (blue and black)
- Sticky/Post-It Notes (3”x3” – any color)
- Legal pads
- Black foam ink pad or fingerprint pad

Additional needs:

- Letter size clipboards (new or used)
- Highlighters
- Markers (multi-color, 10-12 pack)
- Masking tape (1”)
- Pencil sharpeners (new or used)
- Rubber bands (large)
- Scissors (new or used)
- Staple removers (new or used)
- Tape dispensers (Scotch® Brand or similar)
- Invisible tape rolls
- White-out® correction fluid/pen/tape
- Rulers (new or used)
- Binder clips (medium – new or used)