Mission Corner

Thanks to gifts to Children's Miracle Network Hospitals at Via Christi Health from Dairy Queen and Credit Union of America, a special waiting area and exam room with visuals and activities just for kids has been created in Via Christi's three Wichita ERs.

"Those dollars have been used for the equipment and training needed to create a more 'ouchless' ER for kids," said James Vayda, MD, assistant medical director for the Wichita ERs.

For example, the team uses a special needle-free syringe that inserts a numbing medication under the skin, making an IV start painless.

Before giving shots, they use a "Buzzy Bee," whose vibrating body distracts the child while its ice-cold wings numb the area where the shot will be given. "You then

We've Moved!
Children's Miracle Network Hospitals at Via Christi
move the Buzzy Bee up the arm and give the shot, and most children never even notice,” says Pam Albright, RN, nursing manager for the St. Francis ER.

Staff also are trained to use comfort holds so children don’t have to be physically restrained during exams or procedures. They use the “One Voice” method, designating one person — a family or staff member — to explain what’s happening, to keep children from becoming confused or overwhelmed.

In addition to serving as the hospital hub for pediatric care, St. Francis is staffed and equipped to care for patients of all ages who have injuries associated with the transfer of force, such as injuries from bicycle or car crashes.

To give to CMN Hospitals at Via Christi Health to help kids served in our emergency departments, click the donate now link below.

Caring for Kansas children for nearly 30 years

In 2015 alone, Via Christi Health had nearly 150,000 pediatric visits from patients across Kansas at our hospitals and clinics. Each of these children were impacted by our Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals program. CMN Hospitals at Via Christi Health provides equipment, education, and other services to pediatric patients seen in our facilities, in addition to direct medical assistance to cover needs not covered by insurance. This assistance is available to all children served by Via Christi regardless of their illness, injury or financial status. Examples of service include assisting with medical equipment, travel assistance, lodging, therapies and more.

Patients receiving care at Via Christi hospitals and outpatient clinics are eligible for individual assistance using Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals funds. You may direct any questions to Kara Warkentine by phone (316) 719-1466 or email by clicking here.

Via Christi Philanthropy
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