



## Hospitals Can Be a Scary Place for Kids

Albuquerque, N.M. (July 14, 2010) – It’s hard enough for some adults to go to the hospital, but for a sick child it can be a very frightening experience. That’s why **Guideposts Outreach** has created the **Guideposts for Kids Comfort Kit**.

Wings Ministry has partnered with **Guideposts Outreach** and will be bringing this “small box with a huge impact” to sick children entering

Albuquerque hospitals. Distributed to children by the hospital chaplain or a Wings volunteer, the **Comfort Kit** is filled with special items to turn a child’s hospital stay into a meaningful time, and to fill it, to whatever extent possible, with joy and comfort.

On July 14, The Rev. Dr. Pablo Diaz, V.P. of Guideposts Outreach Ministries, from Pawling, N.Y., along with the Executive Director and Founder of Wings Ministry, Ann Edenfield Sweet, will introduce the “**Guideposts for Kids Comfort Kits**” at The Children’s Center at Presbyterian Hospital.

Jennifer Landman, Presbyterian Hospital Director of Nursing, and Rebecca Armstrong, Director of the Child-life Dept., are both excited about the prospect of handing these free kits to young patients. Sandy Mann, Executive Director, and Sharon Nolen, Director of Operations from the local Ronald McDonald House, will also be giving these kits to parents to take to their children.

Each kit contains *Sparkle*, a warm friendly star-shaped pillow for comfort, a personal name tag, an “I’m Special” bracelet, a stand-up sparkle prayer card, stickers, stress ball, parent feedback card, crayons, classical music CD and a journal that not only tracks a child’s hospital stay, but also invites a child to express their hopes, wishes and concerns.

Parents of hospitalized children, struggling to balance home, work and the needs of a beloved sick or injured child, need all the spiritual support they can get and **Guideposts for Kids Comfort Kits Ministry** is doing just that.

With the help from Presbyterian employees and many Wings volunteers a “Star-rific” kick-off is planned in Rachel’s Courtyard at Presbyterian Hospital on July 14 starting at 10 a.m. Over 38,000 children have received **Comfort Kits** in 100 hospitals across the nation. Presbyterian is the first hospital in New Mexico which will offer this free kit to New Mexico children.