



Yale Kids Day

On July 15, Guideposts Ministries teamed up with Yale-New Haven Children's Hospital in New Haven, CT and turned up the party! Facilitating our eighth Kids Appreciation Day, children, parents and staff enjoyed a few hours of fun, a "dinosaur" barbecue and great entertainment.

Kids spun the Sparkle wheel and played Plinko to win model airplanes, cars, finger puppets and animal-shaped sippy cups. Unique in every hospital, this Kids Appreciation Day included Carnival Trio, a Caribbean

steel drum group that performed music selections using different instruments from the Caribbean. Forgetting about what brought them into the hospital, children, parents and even staff joined in for a little calypso dancing as well as newer dances such as the Wobble.

We were blessed to be able to visit kids throughout the hospital who were too ill to attend the party. One mom hugged me with tears in her eyes and all she could say was "thank you." Of course, Sparkle was a big hit; youngsters ran to have their picture taken with him. Holding on tight, one child did not want to let go of Sparkle. We ended the day by giving out Comfort Kits and thanking families for allowing us to bring a little joy in tough times.

"It was a wonderfully generous event sponsored by Guideposts that nourished our bodies as well as our spirits," said Janice Baker, MA, CTRS, coordinator of Arts for Healing at the children's hospital.

"We are so grateful to Guideposts for both the Comfort Kits and Kid's Appreciation Day provided for the children and families of Yale-New Haven Hospital. Kids got to be kids, and maybe for just a little while, forgot about being sick," said Rev. Susan L. Asher, director of Spiritual Care at Yale New-Haven Hospital.

Kids Appreciation Day was a collaboration between Guideposts Ministries and the Spiritual Care department at Yale-New Haven Children's Department.