



# BEARS OF HOPE

Bears@bearsofhope.com

847-673-4098

www.bearsofhope.com

## June-September, 2010

*We hope you will be pleased with all we've done to comfort sick and needy children and adults.*

### MISSION

Provide children & adults recovering from an illness; suffering trauma; feeling depressed; or mourning the loss of a loved one, a special bear to give them hugs, comfort, and hope. We do this by making fabric bears we give to clergy and social service organizations to bring to those coping with a difficult life situation.

## BEARS BRING COMFORT to CHILDREN & ADULTS NEEDING TLC

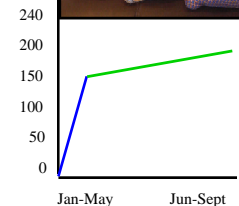
*A total of 64 bears were given to these organizations:*

Bethany Terrace Nursing Centre	Chai Lifeline
Children's Family Aid Society	Jewish Child & Family Services
Midwest Hospice & Palliative Care	Monarch Hospice & Palliative Care
Women's Shelter - Chicago Westside	Women's Shelter - Far North Suburbs

Monarch Hospice & Palliative Care is a newly added organization receiving bears.

Note: Social Service organizations and clergy are given bears, without charge, to bring to those in need they serve.

**2010 Goal:**  
Make 240 Bears of Hope



## SPECIAL EVENTS

### Children's Craft Program

#### **Sara's Bat Mitzvah Project Celebration**

Sara and her guests designed bears on unprinted fabric with special fabric paint markers. Bears Volunteers are now making bears from the designs. When the bears are completed, Sara's bears will be given to Midwest Hospice & Palliative Care.



Sara's guests designing bears

#### **Abby's Mitzvah Project**

Abby is designing bears on unprinted fabric and will also help stuff, iron-on face features, and tie bows around the necks of the bears. Abby wants to use the bears as centerpieces at her Bat Mitzvah celebration to be held in April, 2011. After the celebration, the bears will be laundered and given to Chai Lifeline.

The **Children's Craft Program** is a fun way for children to do something good for others. We've done this program for businesses as a community event and for children as a social service project or to celebrate a special occasion. For more information, contact Bears of Hope at bears@bearsofhope.com or 847-673-4098

## Bears of Hope June-September, 2010

### SPECIAL EVENTS (continued)

#### Cancer Survivor Kids Get Bears of Hope

An American Cancer Society's Relay for Life committee requested 22 bears for cancer survivor kids. We made each bear in a different purple print fabric making the bears unique and special. The color purple was chosen since it represents all types of cancer. The bears were given to children June 26th at a Relay for Life in Milwaukee, WI. Danielle Howard, Relay for Life committee member, said, *"The bears were such a big hit everybody wanted them so badly. I know that those bears you made helped to make our survivors feel extra special."*



Cancer survivor with her special bear

### TESTIMONIALS

Rabbi Andrea London, Beth Emet Free Synagogue wrote:

A girl came to talk with me about her cousins who were killed in a car accident. I gave her a Bears of Hope bear to hold. She squeezed that bear the whole time we talked. When we finished I asked her if she'd like to take the bear home to squeeze and talk to when she felt sad. Her face lit up, and she marched out of my office squeezing that bear. The bear was really a source of comfort and security for her. She was able to express her feelings with the bear in her arms.

### BEARS IN THE NEWS

**July 15: article appeared in the Daily Herald.** The article was about how a woman made remarkable recovery at Rainbow Hospice after her nurse gave her a Bears of Hope bear. Bears founder, Carolyn said, *"It's always nice to hear that our bears bring hugs and comfort to individuals dealing with difficult life crises. I was glad to hear the woman is back at her assistance living residency in Lincolnwood and doing well."*

**September 2: article appeared in the Chicago Tribune.** The article was about our founder, Carolyn Reiner, and Bears of Hope. As a result, numerous people have contacted us to volunteer or asked for more information about what we do. We gave a Girl Scout troop, located in Racine, WI, information on an activity the girls could do as a community project to earn their community service badge.

**September 16: article appeared in the Chicago Sun-Times.** The article was about people who found a way to comfort others. The story was part of the newspaper's "Scarf Therapy" contest. Bears volunteer, Joanne, submitted Carolyn's name and told what we do for sick and needy children and adults.

### COMING EVENTS

**October 13: Bears of Hope will hold a "Stuffing Party" with senior residents at Seasons at Glenview Place, Northbrook.** Amy Cardoza, Director of Lifestyle Programs, told us, *"Residents keep asking; when the bears are coming? I'm glad we have a date set. The seniors love stuffing the bears and being with the Bears volunteers."*

## Bears of Hope June-September, 2010

### COMING EVENTS (continued)

**November 11: McCormick & Schmicks, Skokie, and Bears of Hope will thank Veteran's from a VA Hospital for their service to our country.** The restaurant will provide the veterans with a special meal and we'll give each veteran a special patriotic bear made in their honor.

Pix of bears

Bears patriotic bears

**November 13: North Shore Community Bank, Skokie, is sponsoring our Children's Craft program as a community event from 10am to 12pm.** Children ages 7-15 will be invited to come to the bank and design a bear. These bears will be given to the Skokie Police Department. Officers give bears to children involved in a car accident, domestic disturbance or criminal incident.

### VOLUNTEERS

Bears of Hope welcomed 4 new volunteers: Robin, Susan & her Krafty Krappers Club ; Lidi, and Rosemary. They saw the Tribune article and wanted to help the Bears.

During the summer, teen-agers from Niles North & West High Schools volunteered and helped us make bears and get them ready for delivery. Our founder, Carolyn said, "*We appreciated the teens help. They are back at school and we hope they will help us again next summer.*"



Teens boxing bears for delivery



Teens putting on face features

### BEARS SUPPORTERS

#### Thank You Supporters

The resources **YOU** provide are invaluable and gratefully appreciated. They are the means which *Bears of Hope* can continue to make huggable, handcrafted bears to bring comfort to children and adults facing a difficult time in their life.

Duxler Complete Auto Care	Fairfield Processing Inc.	First American Bank
First Data	Hi-Tech Auto Body of Skokie	McCormick & Schmick's
North Shore Community Bank	Paul Plotnick, Attorney	President's Resource
Remodeling by the Tinman	Rothschild Insurance Group	Skokie Music Theatre
SkokieNet.org	Skokie Public Library	Street Level Newspaper
Triblocal.com	Westfield Old Orchard	Anonymous

#### Ways to Support the Bears of Hope:

\* **Financial gifts.** Any amount helps. Make your check out to Bears of Hope and send to:  
Bears of Hope, 8331 Kostner, Skokie, IL 60076.

\* **Order something from Amazon.com.** Use this web address:

[www.amazon.com?\\_encoding=UTF8&tag=bearsofhope-20](http://www.amazon.com?_encoding=UTF8&tag=bearsofhope-20)

Bears of Hope will receive a portion of your purchase from Amazon.

\*\*NOTE: All funds received are only used to purchase materials to make bears.

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE [www.bearsofhope.com](http://www.bearsofhope.com)**

Donations to Bears of Hope are not deductible as charitable contributions for tax purposes; they support materials to make bears to comfort sick and needy children and adults.