

## Region 1 Cares

### Greetings Region 1 –

We are very excited to announce that our 2018 Charity is Shriners Hospitals for Children in Springfield, Massachusetts.

Shriners Hospitals for Children — Springfield is unique in its ability to provide exceptional, specialized pediatric orthopaedic, rheumatology and cleft lip and palate care using the latest innovations in diagnosis and treatment regardless of the families' ability to pay. Their expanded services include fracture care, neurodevelopmental pediatrics, sports health and medicine, and pediatric urology. The comprehensive onsite services at the hospital include outpatient visits, inpatient surgery, outpatient surgery, orthotics and prosthetics, radiology (including EOS Imaging System), the motion analysis center (utilizing a 3D motion capture system), occupational therapy, physical therapy, child life, care coordination, family services and nutrition. We encourage you to learn more about our special charity through their website: <https://www.shrinershospitalsforchildren.org/springfield>



**How can NACADA Region 1 help?** Our goal is to support the hospital in two ways.

#### **Aluminum Can Tabs**

Start collecting now! Encourage your colleagues, across your institutions, to save their tabs. The hospital collects hundreds of thousands of can tabs each year, which they are able to sell to recycling entities. Prizes will be awarded for most tabs collected!

#### **Donations**

Please shop now and shop often! Let's work together to make this the most spectacular donation presentation ever!

The Springfield Shriners Hospital treats children from birth to age 18, regardless of the family's ability to pay. They need items that can help children deal with what they are undergoing, make sense of it, feel less along, or distract from the scariness of their situation/treatment/procedure. The hospital gives a toy to each patient, after each treatment. They also have toys that patients can use during longer procedures, or during hospital stays. They particularly appreciate items which may help children work through the myriad of emotions they naturally experience when going through medical procedures. The most important things to remember – NO GLITTER!

Here's a list of items that you might consider donating, and some information about how you can think about your donations:

- Sharpies and permanent markers can be used to decorate casts
- All the children can benefit from pretend medical play that emphasizes creativity
- College paraphernalia – banners, sweatshirts, etc. – give teenagers a future goal to focus on, instead of what they are experiencing now
- Your staff can work together to purchase a larger item – they would love an XBOX 360 or a PS4

Some specific items that they mentioned are:

- Movies/DVDs (up to PG13 rating)
- Headphones
- Handheld video games (no violence, no gore)
- Paint set, sketch pads
- Infant/Toddler toys - rattles, blocks, push-button toys (lights/music), noise toys, etc.
  - No plush items
- Sport-related items (especially MA and NY teams, including college teams)
- Nail kits/polish (latex-free)

They are unable to accept the following:

- Glitter on **anything** – please read toy and craft set packaging carefully!
- Craft sand
- Latex toys which include:
  - Nerf products
  - Rubber stamps activity sets
  - Foam activity sets
  - Foam toys
  - (If you are not sure, most toy labels include this information, or tag RED)
- Rubber or flexible foam (possible allergens)
- Food or anything perishable (no EZ-Bake ovens, for instance)
- Used items of any kind
- Anything pertaining to weapons, gore, or violence
- Used healthcare equipment – with the exception of gently used manual wheelchairs, walkers, and crutches in good condition

The hospital **can** accept monetary donations.

We hope you are as excited about this charity as we are. We look forward to creating a fabulous donation display, and to welcoming a Shriners Hospitals for Children spokesperson (and possible a patient!) to our brunch on Friday.

Please help us make this donation AMAZING!

Thank you,

Ana and Susan  
Conference Site Co-Chairs