



CARE-A-VAN FOR KIDS

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The primary goal of Care-A-Van for Kids is to make life-saving health care accessible to low-income families who lack reliable means of transportation. Many sick children's medical conditions require frequent or regular visits to the hospital. Through Care-A-Van for Kids, a team of dedicated volunteers, including many fire fighters, drive low-income patients/families to the hospital from Alameda, Monterey, San Benito, Santa Clara and San Mateo counties. There are many stresses associated with caring for a critically-ill child, and the financial impact can be devastating, especially to families with limited resources. Care-A-Van for Kids ensures that financially-disadvantaged families are able to get their seriously-ill children to and from their appointments safely and affordably, for the duration of their treatment course.

Care-A-Van for Kids is supported entirely by philanthropy. Local corporations and foundations, such as Hewlett Packard, Agilent Technologies, Mary Stuart Rogers, Harden and the Fiorina Family Trust, contribute vans and operational support. More than 30 volunteer drivers round out the picture. To understand the tremendous impact that the Care-A-Van for Kids Program is having on low-income children's lives, is to know that last year alone, 207 gravely ill children received 711 rides to the hospital. Each of the 711 rides was made possible by the generosity of LPCH's broad network of community partners, who have continued to support Care-A-Van for Kids since the program began as a pilot in 1998.

The Care-A-Van for Kids office is open Monday-Friday from 9:00 am to 5:30pm. Care-A-Van for Kids bilingual English/Spanish staff can be reached by calling 650-736-2108.