

NEWS RELEASE

LINCOLN FIRE DEPARTMENT
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LINCOLN FIRE DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES "FIREFIGHTER HOSPITAL HALLOWEEN"

Lincoln Fire Department will hold their third annual "Firefighter Hospital Halloween" program for children confined to hospital stay during Halloween. The program is coordinated by Firefighter Mark Heithoff.

- Objectives:**
1. Firefighters visit kids in the hospital who are unable to go trick-or-treating.
 2. Make sure hospitalized kids have similar opportunities as other kids on Halloween.
 3. Let kids know someone cares and is thinking about them.

Target: About 30 children in hospitals.

Time/Facility: Tuesday, October 31, 2000 (Halloween day)

Truck 8, Engine 8 to Lincoln General Hospital from 1700 - 1800 hours
Truck 7, Engine 7 to Bryan Memorial Hospital from 1900 - 2000 hours
Engine 9, District 3 to St. Elizabeth Hospital from 1800 - 1900 hours

Method: Firefighters visit with the kids and their families, and hand out bags of coloring books and colors, and stuffed toys to the kids.

Aids: "Sparky the Fire Dog" from the Lincoln Fire Department will also do short visits with kids at all hospitals.

Handouts: Crayons, coloring books, videos, stuffed toys and bags.

Along with the Lincoln Firefighter's Benefit Association donated funds to purchase crayons, and coloring books, they also donated funds to purchase a "Toy Story 2" video for each hospital's pediatric department for the children to view. No candy handouts are permitted per hospital rules.

Summary: Even though Firefighters will only be with the kids and their families for a short time, it will be something the kids will remember for a lifetime. The opportunity to make someone happy on Halloween should be a rewarding time for all.