



UVA Children's Hospital

What is Jeffrey's Gifts?

Jeffrey's Gifts delivers giant surprise bags of special toys to children fighting cancer at University of Virginia Children's Hospital. Each bag can turn tears into laughter, a pout into a smile, and despair into hope.

Jeffrey's Gifts is the brainchild of the Centini family of Charlottesville, Va. The name honors Jeffrey Centini, a 16-year-old who died of cancer. "Jeffrey always felt lucky to have received so much care from his friends and the entire community," says his mother, Janet Centini. "He wanted to give back to the kids who would come after him."

Each year, Janet Centini and her family prepare more than 100 Jeffrey's Gifts bags. Each bag is unique, but they all contain toys; comfort items

such as pillows, fleece blankets, teeshirts, and baseball caps; coupons for movies, pizza, and other treats; and one certificate for an extra-special gift. The special gift is an item of the individual child's choosing and may be a DVD player, digital

camera, video gaming console, MP3 player, or other longed-for treat. Past gifts have even included a bike and a Barbie computer.

"The best thing about Jeffrey's Gifts, besides all of the kids you make happy, is seeing the others who get involved and pass it on."
- Janet Centini

Bringing Joy to UVA Children's Hospital

Every year, UVA Children's Hospital counts some 100,000 patient visits. Many of these are made by children with cancer. Their families come to UVA from across Virginia and beyond to find doctors, nurses, and staff who are experienced in caring for children. Special touches, such as Jeffrey's Gifts, help lift these families' spirits, giving them strength and hope.



Janet Centini and daughter Jenna bring the joys of Jeffrey's Gifts to a young patient at UVA Children's Hospital.

How You Can Help

Filling Jeffrey's Gifts bags with comfort and joy depends upon private donations. Some products and gift certificates are donated by businesses and corporations, but it is contributions from individuals - from people like you - that help to make the bags truly special. Your support means more surprise bags, more personalized gifts, and more smiles on the faces of children.

Contributions to Jeffrey's Gifts are tax deductible. For more information, please call (800) 297-0102 or (434) 924-8432. Or, to make a gift, please send your check to:

UVA Health Foundation/**JEFFREY'S GIFTS**
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