



**Mount
Sinai**

Mount Sinai Health System
One Gustave L. Levy Place, Box 1049
New York, NY 10029-6574

December 8, 2015

Ms. Mary Zitwer Millman
President
The Eugene Zitwer Foundation
50 Court Street, Suite 702
Brooklyn, NY 11201

RE: Status Report

Dear Ms. Millman:

On behalf of Mount Sinai Beth Israel, we thank you for The Eugene Zitwer Foundation's June 2015 grant of \$2,705 to our Pediatric Child Life Program in support of two projects – holiday staffing and the purchase of CD/Clock Radios for patient rooms.

The Foundation's vital support of holiday staffing in our Pediatric Intensive Care Unit's playroom during the second half of 2015 which enabled us to keep the Unit's playroom open over four holidays: on Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas 2015. This special staff coverage continues to make a real difference in the lives of our young patients by enabling the playroom to be open 365 days a year so that patients can leave their rooms and utilize the space.

The grant also enabled us to purchase new CD/Clock Radios for patient rooms. The Eugene Zitwer Foundation generously donated 10 CD/Clock Radios in 2013 to replace old and broken equipment, and this most recent grant enabled us to purchase an additional 12 to complete the update of equipment in our patient rooms.

Our Pediatric Unit remains committed to providing Child Life Services to over 2,000 children per year. Being hospitalized is stressful and difficult for people at any age. Children often have heightened anxiety while hospitalized, which can compromise optimal responses to treatment and care. The Child Life Program is designed to reduce psychological and physiological trauma often faced during hospitalization and utilize fun and therapeutic activities to promote the most ideal environment for healing for children. The program provides activities and resources—many personalized to meet patients' unique circumstances—to address our young patients' needs with the goal of optimizing their emotional and social experience and, consequently, their health outcomes. As you know, an important

element of the Child Life Program is the Playroom, which is stocked with toys and games for children of all ages and hosts a variety of social and recreational programs.

The Eugene Zitwer Foundation's support allows us to create spaces that allow our patients an escape from the hospital experience, relax and just be a "kid" – contributing to a more positive experience. We are pleased to enclose two recent photographs of children enjoying the playroom – one of children enjoying a magic show during our annual "Christmas in July" party, and another of a child playing with a dog as part of our Pet Therapy Program.

Our Child Life Program remains an invaluable resource for our pediatric patients and we thank you for your support.

Sincerely,



Edward E. Conway, Jr., MD
Chairman
Milton and Bernice Stern Dept. of Pediatrics



Marcia Graham, CCLS
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Attachment:
Photos



