

Recognizing Yale New Haven Health During COVID-19

The staff at Yale New Haven Children's Hospital and the entire Yale New Haven Health system have worked tirelessly to keep our community healthy, and as we recognize their contributions this month, we want to highlight Jaspreet Loyal, MD, Pediatric Physician Team Lead and Kim Carter, RN, Pediatric Patient Services Manager and the entire pediatric staff who went above and beyond to make patients comfortable.

Fear of coming in contact with the coronavirus kept many patients with other care needs at home. This opened up patient care units at Yale New Haven Children's Hospital to care for ailing COVID-19 adult patients who were receiving "comfort-only" treatment and were unable to be visited by their family and friends.

This also created an opportunity for professionals who typically treat children to turn their distinctive skills and sensitivity to adult COVID-19 patients in desperate need of their care.

This effort also included child life specialists, who normally focus on caring for the "whole child" needs of young patients during their treatment at the hospital, to devote their compassion and attention to COVID-19 patients.

"Our child life specialists are trained to work with children and their families during treatment for all kinds of ailments with the deep belief in the power of human connection to help them get through very challenging times," said Sparer. "They joined their physician, nurse and support staff colleagues, creating memory boxes for those families who lost loved ones. They took time to listen and assist their nursing colleagues by making phone calls and facilitating Zoom calls for families to connect with their loved ones in the hospital."

From the bottom of our hearts, thank you Yale New Haven Health and especially, the pediatric "dream team" that helped make a difficult time a little better for so many.

