



In its commitment to sponsoring local charitable efforts in the community, the Women's Leadership Forum in D.C. has selected The Children's Inn at NIH to be the primary focus of their philanthropic contributions.

The Children's Inn at NIH is a private, non-profit, family-centered residence for pediatric outpatients at the National Institutes of Health and their families. Its purposes are to keep children together with their families during serious illness, reduce their stress, and facilitate their healing through mutual support.

The Children's Inn is a caring place to be - a place to relax with other families who are undergoing similar treatment. For the children receiving treatment at NIH, quality of life is very important. The Thoughtful Treasures project brings many moments of happiness to children and their siblings. During their stay at The Inn, each child is presented with a special mailbox treasure each day. These items can be many different things - each one lifting spirits, bringing smiles, laughter, and a wonderful surprise.

Thoughtful Treasures encourages groups or individuals to give 75 items for the children's mailboxes. The mailboxes (5 inches by 5 inches by 15 inches deep) are filled 365 days a year. Some ideas are: Craft projects

- Stickers
- Felt finger/hand puppets
- Bookmarks
- Beanie Babies
- Cards/letters
- Puzzle Books
- Soft toys
- Small stuffed animals

We ask that cards and items not refer to hospitals, sickness, get-well soon or have any religious connotation. Please keep in mind good safety practices. We cannot accept bottles with liquid.

If you would like to donate a Thoughtful Treasure, a collection box will be located at Katten, 1025 Thomas Jefferson Street, N.W., 7th Floor, East Lobby, Washington, DC 20007. We will be collecting the Thoughtful Treasures through Dec. 21st. Additionally, we will be supporting several efforts of the NIH throughout the coming year.