

St. Mary's Welcomes...

Dr. Heather Ufberg earned a Master's Degree in Education at Columbia University followed by a Doctoral Degree in Child Psychology at Yeshiva University. Dr. Ufberg worked at The Children's Institute for almost 12 years. She had many roles involving direct patient care, the ethics committee, clinical supervision and training, and departmental leadership and management. Dr. Ufberg is passionate about team work and helping children, adolescents, young adults and their families. She is absolutely thrilled and honored to be a part of St. Mary's.



Social Distancing Visits

With the current restrictions for Nursing Homes in NYS still in place we are not able to alter visitation within our facility but we would like to offer the opportunity for social distance observation visits. We would like to invite families to visit their child from the outside gate in our back playground or from the window in the lobby. **These visits will be offered to our patients that are able to be safely transported off the unit with medical clearance.** They will be scheduled for 15 minute periods, Monday – Friday from 10 AM – 6 PM. If you are interested in scheduling a visit, please contact our Patient Family Experience Coordinator, Roselyn Vasquez 48 hours prior to the date you would like to visit. She can be reached at **718-281-8826** or rvasquez@stmaryskids.org



Clothing Reminder - Summer Is Here!

As we move into summer, we ask that families exchange any winter clothing for clothing more appropriate for the warmer summer months. Please contact your child's unit Social Worker to make arrangements.



How to contact us...

Ombudsman 212.812.2911	Hospital Reception 718.281.8800
Nursery Unit Nurses Station: 718.281.8730 Cassandra Kumah, Social Worker: 718.281.8530	Toddlers Unit Nurses Station: 718.281.8740 Sheena Mathew, Social Worker: 718.281.8805
Children's Unit 3 Nurses Station: 718.281.5820 Kimberley Rodney, Social Worker: 718.281.3985	Children's Unit 4 Nurses Station: 718.281.5830 Katie Haas, Social Worker: 718.281.8921
Desiree Borre Director, Patient & Family Services Grievance Official 718.281.8886 dborre@stmaryskids.org	Roselyn Vasquez Coordinator, Patient & Family Experience 718.281.8826 rvasquez@stmaryskids.org
Maggie Sidarous Administrator, Administration 718.281.8764 msidarous@stmaryskids.org	Tiffany Damers Director, Rehabilitation Services 718.819.2854 tdamers@stmaryskids.org



St. Mary's Healthcare System For Children
29-01 216th Street | Bayside, NY 11360
www.stmaryskids.org



Summer 2020

To the families of St. Mary's –

I want to take this time to personally thank each and every one of you for your continued support and patience during this extremely difficult time. You are truly the superstars for partnering with our staff to continue to provide the best quality care for your children. During this time, we have implemented various methods of communication to keep that direct contact with them. It would not have been possible without your support and cooperation!

We recognize the difficult circumstances of not being able to see your child for this extended period of time, but please know that we are doing everything within our control to ensure you can see them soon. I thank you all for entrusting us with the care of your beautiful children, and I assure you our staff is going above and beyond to ensure that trust is being honored every single day.

For the parents that continue to shelter in place, your patience and sacrifice over the past few months has shown the inspirational resilience of our families. Your support to our staff has been both meaningful and fulfilling in the work we do every day. We cannot do this without you all, and I know we will continue to battle through this hand in hand!

On behalf of St. Mary's Leadership and the broader St. Mary's family, we thank you for getting through this together, and we will get through this!!

Sincerely,

Maggie Sidarous
Administrator
St. Mary's Hospital for Children



Thank you to our Recreation Department!

During the last few months, the Recreation team which includes staff from the Medical Day Care Program have gone above and beyond with keeping the residents connected to their school and their families. They adapted morning recreation programming to encompass PS 23's Distance Learning plan. On a daily basis, PS 23 staff communicate with Recreation and MDHC staff through google classroom and email, they provide lesson plans that the St. Mary's team follows to ensure the work gets completed. Each unit has adapted a unique way of delivering education to the residents during this unprecedented time. Weekly Zoom calls are conducted to allow for real time video lessons with their teachers. On Top of virtual learning, this team also connects the residents to their families through Face Time, skype and email. Most of the time the visits are pre scheduled but are also done as needed based on the resident and family need. They have been facilitating 45 – 50 calls a day. Staff encourage families to bond during the visits by reading, singing and looping in extended family members to the calls. Families have also emailed artwork from siblings and photos of their families which are printed and hung at bedside and if they are unable to connect with a family virtually, they will email pictures of the resident to the family.

