

# People and Places you need to Know in El Paso when your child has cancer

## Creative Kids AIM Program

[www.creativekidsart.com](http://www.creativekidsart.com)

For a hospitalized child, the absence of routine, the school environment and a disrupted home life can be overwhelming. Enter Creative Kids who offer Project AIM (Arts in Motion) to pediatric oncology patients at Providence Children's Hospital. Through this program, the patients are engaged in a visual arts curriculum ranging from painting on canvas, printmaking and water media to graphic design classes on iMac G-5 computers on which they learn to navigate Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator. An important component of the program is showcasing the artwork created by these children in various galleries throughout the community. The exhibitions serve two great purposes: to make the public aware of the depth of thought, inspiration and creativity that these children have to offer, and to provide opportunities that allow the children to feel a sense of fulfillment and accomplishment in the face of great adversity.

## The Children's Hospital at Providence

[www.sphncom](http://www.sphncom)

The billboard for the Children's Hospital at Providence boasts having served a gazillion children in its service to the El Paso community! The staff of the Children's hospital receives specialized training in the treatment of children. Many members of the nursing staff have received PALS (Pediatric Advanced Life Support) certification. Additionally, the hospital hosts Children's Specialty Clinics which teach children and their families how to manage and live with a chronic illness while also addressing those with multiple health problems.

## El Paso Children's Hospital

[www.elpasochildrens.org](http://www.elpasochildrens.org)

At EPCH, the belief that patient- and family-centered care is an essential part of each family's experience is paramount. Family-centered care is an approach to health care where patients, families and health-care professionals work together to best meet the needs of the child and the entire family. In response to the unique needs of pediatric oncology patients, the department of Hematology and Oncology at the El Paso Children's Hospital has private patient rooms, Outpatient Infusion Center, Kid and Teen Play Rooms, Family Lounge Areas and 24/7 attendees who specialize in Pediatric Hematology and Pediatric Oncology.

The J. Leighton Green, Jr., Cancer Resource Center

## The Green House

[www.rgcf.org](http://www.rgcf.org)

The J. Leighton Green, Jr. Cancer Resource Center is affectionately named for the El Paso attorney whose journey with Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML) ended in 1998. While the name of the library "The Green House" was intended in tribute to Leighton Green, Jr., the name itself evokes light, hope, help and healing.

The Green House is a collection of comprehensive information on cancer, health and wellness information and related topics for patients, caregivers and medical professionals.

From offerings ranging from Alternative Therapies and Cookbooks, to Biographies and Coping - The Rio Grande Cancer Foundation is pleased to offer this vital service through a unique partnership with the El Paso Public Library system. Click here to view the extensive bibliography and reserve your copy of the latest releases.

## Ronald McDonald House

[www.rmhcelpaso.org](http://www.rmhcelpaso.org)

The cornerstone program of RMHC of El Paso, the Ronald McDonald House offers families whose children are being treated at local medical facilities a "home away from home". Located minutes from the Medical District, the state-of-the-art House creates an environment of love and concern for families with seriously ill children. The 10-suite home offers cozy private rooms, plush living/visiting areas, a spacious industrial kitchen, as well as the support of a warm, caring staff. The first Ronald McDonald House was located at 1017 Montana, known to passersby by the waving Ronald McDonald outside the gorgeous, Victorian home. As time passed and the need grew to accommodate more families, the Board of Directors, with the help and generosity of the border community, opened the doors of the new home, located at 300 E. California Avenue, in 2002.

## Locks of Love

[www.locksoflove.org](http://www.locksoflove.org)

Operating under the mission to return a sense of self, confidence and normalcy to children suffering from hair loss, Locks of Love is a public non-profit organization that provides hairpieces to financially disadvantaged children in the United States and Canada under age 21 suffering from long-term medical hair loss from any diagnosis. By utilizing donated ponytails to provide the highest quality hair prosthetics to financially disadvantaged children, Locks of Love meets a unique exclusive need for children. Many of the children using LOL services suffer from hair loss due to chemotherapy and other medical conditions such as alopecia areata. The prostheses provided help to restore their self-esteem and their confidence, enabling them to face the world and their peers.

## The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society

[www.lls.org](http://www.lls.org)

The mission of The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS) is: Cure leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease and myeloma, and improve the quality of life of patients and their families. As the world's largest voluntary health agency dedicated to blood cancer, LLS funds lifesaving blood cancer research around the world and provides free information and support services. El Paso residents are served through the Albuquerque New Mexico office and some financial assistance is available through L&L programs.

## Children's Grief Center

[www.cgcelpaso.org](http://www.cgcelpaso.org)

A non-profit organization that provides healing and hope in a safe and loving environment for grieving children, teens and their families following the death of a loved one, the Children's Grief Center exists to serve the needs of children dealing with grief and loss. By sharing their experiences and feelings in a peer support group, families learn that they are not alone and that there is hope for their future.

by Patty Tiscareño

