

## Teddy Bear Clinic teaches kids about health and safety

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SALEM — More than 300 children brought their favorite stuffed animals to The Mall at Rockingham Park for yesterday's Teddy Bear Clinic.

The clinic was held by Caritas Holy Family Hospital in Methuen, Mass., in front of the former Macy's store, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The event included a dozen fun and educational booths, games and giveaways.

"Bringing various hospital experiences to life in such a safe, relaxing environment is a great way to educate kids and families about important health and safety issues," said Danielle Perry, the hospital's director of marketing and public relations. "With interactive, hands-on exhibits like the Teddy Bear First Aid Station and the Baby Bear Nursery, kids can discover how doctors and nurses care for patients and also learn how to be prepared if they were ever to need medical attention."

Sponsors of yesterday's event included The Eagle-Tribune, Build-a-Bear Workshop, and Patriot Ambulance.

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### Photos



Salem: Marie Youssef of Methuen gets down to eye level after taking a picture of her son, Hady Youssef, 5, in scrubs at the "Doctor Dress-up" station during the Teddy Bear Clinic held at Rockingham Mall by Holy Family Hospital Saturday. Photo by Jan Seeger/Eagle-Tribune Saturday, February 21, 2009 Staff Photographer



Jan Seeger/Staff photos With the helping hand of hospital volunteer Debbie Reed of Methuen, Sarah Hardcastle, 8, of Lawrence, Mass., measures her teddy bear after weighing her in at the "Teddy Bear Nursery" — one of the many stations at the Teddy Bear Clinic held at Mall at Rockingham Park in Salem, N.H., yesterday by Holy Family Hospital of Methuen. At right, Hady Youssef, 5, of Methuen got decked out in scrubs at the "Doctor Dress-up" station with some help from mom, Marie Youssef. Staff Photographer