

# THE RED & BLACK

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# THE ART OF HEALING

BRINGING SMILES AND SUPPORT TO HOSPITALIZED CHILDREN AROUND THE GLOBE

Suma Gadde, a Hillsborough High School junior, has always been interested in art. She believes art helps people promote their artistic and creative abilities and that it's a very expressive and important part of life.

"Create for Kids" is a non-profit organization created by Gadde. This organization promotes artistic creativity for hospitalized children and aims to get their minds off their current situation. One way Gadde aims to do this is by getting students from around the world to make baskets composed of art materials and supportive cards. For many kids, these kits become a cherished part of their healing journey. She hopes to increase artistic accessibility for these children, helping to shift the focus from only the negative part of this experience into greater and more positive opportunities. This initiative not only brings smiles, but it also builds a community of hope and support for each family. Very raw and emotional reactions by the patient's parents are also common when receiving kits.



STORY BY: MARIA MOREIRA MIGUEL

PHOTOS COURTESY OF: @CREATEFORKIDSORG

"I love art, it's very fun and I feel like kids also love to do it too, so it's upsetting to see that it's not something they have access to, especially since they're just sitting in their rooms, bored," Gadde said. Giving back to the community is a huge goal that Gadde has. Hospitals do so much for children every day and there are still many things that aren't as accessible as they should be for kids.



Gadde believes that art is an important aspect of childhood. As an artistic person, she hopes to be able to help soften the hardship these families are going through by making the experience as enjoyable as possible, by showing we care and that they have the world's support.

Create for Kids has distributed roughly 3,000 art kits, making significant progress in encouraging young artists' creativity. It has even become an international matter, with active chapters in countries such as Panama, United Arab Emirates, Mongolia, Turkey, Australia and more. Every kit is thoughtfully crafted to encourage children's creativity and includes everything they need to explore their artistic abilities. The large amount of kits the organization provides demonstrates its dedication to encouraging children's creativity. Numerous children's hospital experiences have been greatly improved by this organization.

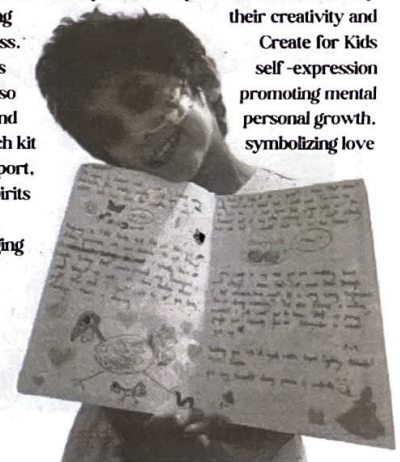


"It really touched me when I first saw one of the kids opening their packages. It was a very special moment to me. It's always so heartwarming to see the smile on their faces," Gadde said.

The heartfelt messages and drawings created by the public are important in showing that people truly care about these patients going through such horrible times.

Create for Kids' growing influence around the world helps students become more aware of the impact they can make if they participate in such events and volunteering opportunities. The organization's initiatives go beyond helping specific patients—they also encourage the larger community to help.

During difficult periods, these kits bring much joy and comfort to these young patients. They also offer much-needed emotional support and distraction, reducing stress while encouraging a sense of normalcy, which was Gadde's main goal when creating this organization. In the end, Create for Kids makes a significant difference in the lives of several young patients and their families by assisting in the transformation of the hospital experience into one that incorporates creativity, hope, and fun. By providing children with individualized art kits, the organization has a significant and positive impact on the world by nurturing happiness, supports while also health and with each kit and support, lifting spirits during challenging times.



their creativity and  
Create for Kids  
self-expression  
promoting mental  
personal growth,  
symbolizing love



