

**FRIENDS OF LA RABIDA GALA
GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY!**

No Tricks, Just Treats!

How La Rabida's Infant Development Specialists Keep Our Littlest Patients Developing



At La Rabida our Infant Development Specialists (IDS) are masters-level early childhood development or special education professionals. These care givers provide daily support to our patients with complex medical conditions to maximize global development.

Every patient at La Rabida under the age of three years is assigned an Infant Development Specialist who works with the patient and family. For our youngest patients, we focus on improving social-emotional, developmental, and cognitive skills while providing high-level therapeutic care.

"Hospitalization is stressful for infants and their families," says Becky Hardy, La Rabida Infant Development Specialist. "Our team is here to support them every step of the way."

Our IDS professionals begin by assessing a patient's overall developmental skills, as well as attachment relationships and caregivers' understanding of the child's needs and development. Then, with a focus on cognitive and social-emotional functioning, an IDS will develop and implement safe, meaningful, and effective treatment plans through developmentally appropriate play and routines.

Using infant mental health informed practices, these plans include relationship-based interventions with consideration of medical status, regulatory, sensory, and behavioral needs to engage caregivers in providing developmentally supportive care in preparation for successful discharge home.

Getting Into the Halloween Spirit



Trick-or-Treat! La Rabida kicked off the Halloween season with some "fa-BOO-lous" fun. Staff from Spirit Halloween visited our inpatient unit and outpatient clinic to hand out Halloween costumes to patients and their siblings. In addition to getting to choose their own costume, kids got crafty by decorating pumpkins and masks. Still shopping for the perfect Halloween costume? Use the coupon below to save 10% on your purchase at Spirit Halloween and support La Rabida at the same time!

SAVE 10% OFF YOUR ENTIRE ORDER
SPIRIT GIVES 10% TO YOUR LOCAL PARTNER HOSPITAL
 Present coupon in any Spirit Halloween or enter promo code CARING23 at checkout when shopping at SpiritHalloween.com

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Offer valid through 10/31/23 at Spirit Halloween and SpiritHalloween.com. Coupons that are forged or altered in any way will not be accepted. Not valid on prior purchases, associate discount or sales. If merchandise is returned, coupon discount will be deducted from items prior to refund/credit. Limit one per customer. Shipping offers cannot be combined with other discounts at store, books or online. No cash value. Spirit Halloween may cancel promotion at any time. Exclusions may apply. ©2023 Spirit Halloween Superstores, LLC.

Reach Out and Read

Reach Out & Read with La Rabida!

Did you know that 80% of a child's brain is developed by age 3? Thanks to a grant from Reach Out & Read-IL, La Rabida patients and families are receiving age-appropriate books to read together at home.

What are your favorite books to read with kids?

We launched our **Reach Out and Read** program this month and patients and families are loving the opportunity to read together at home. Reach Out and Read is a national program that champions the positive effects of reading daily and engaging in other language-rich activities with young children.

Reach Out and Read Illinois introduced a mini grant program earlier this year, and we are proud to have been offered support to implement the program. Reading together promotes healthy brain development, furthers language acquisition, and helps families build meaningful bonds.

World Mental Health Day

Meet our main campus behavioral health team!
 #WorldMentalHealthDay

At La Rabida, we believe that a child's emotional and behavioral well-being is just as essential as any other routine part of a child's medical care. That's why on October 10th, we recognized World Mental Health Day and our behavioral health team for the outstanding work they do. La Rabida's mental health professionals use a trauma-informed, individualized approach to treat and support our patients. Did you know that mental health services are available to EVERY La Rabida patient, regardless of their ability to pay?

Calling All Tutors!

Interested in becoming a volunteer tutor?

School's back in session and we're looking for on-1 help with schoolwork. As a tutor you'll:

- Meet with the same child twice per week (Tuesday and Thursday, 5:30 - 7 p.m.)
- Serve as a role model and mentor to the children in the program

Tutoring runs from 10/3/23 through 5/7/24. Visit larabida.org/volunteer for more info or to apply today!

Our after-school tutoring program is up and running, but we still need a few more volunteers. If you'd like to provide homework help and serve as a mentor, you may be a great fit!

National Pharmacy Week



It's National Pharmacy Week! We love our dedicated pharmacy staff and are grateful for the critical role they play in a patient's healing journey. Did you know we have a pharmacy located right inside our outpatient clinic? This means our patients facing complex medical conditions that often make travel difficult don't have to make an extra trip to get their prescriptions.

La Rabida is also saying "bon voyage" to one of our staff pharmacists! Jack Fabris is retiring after 24 years. Thank you, Jack, for your service and dedication to our patients.

You're Invited! Don't Miss the 2023 Friends of La Rabida Gala

FRIENDS OF LA RABIDA GALA
 November 16, 2023 • The Ritz-Carlton, Chicago
 Reception 6 p.m. | Dinner 7 p.m.

Honoring
 Ariel Investments
 Alvin H. Baum Family Fund

The 2023 Friends of La Rabida Gala is only four weeks away, be sure to get your ticket before they're gone!

Stay In Touch

Follow us on social for news, information, updates, and plenty of patient pictures. Invite your friends to join us, too!

