



The Mount Sinai Medical Center  
One Gustav L. Levy Place, Box 1153  
New York, NY 10029-6574  
The Mount Sinai Hospital  
Mount Sinai School of Medicine

The Eugene Zitwer Foundation  
50 Court Street, Suite 702  
Brooklyn, NY 11201

December 7, 2012

Dear Zitwer Foundation,

I would like to offer my sincerest gratitude and excitement for the generous grant from your foundation that has enabled the art therapy program to offer our medically ill adolescents sophisticated art techniques as options when engaging in art therapy.

The button makers have been used at bedsides, therapeutic groups held in our play space called the Zone, and in our hematology/oncology outpatient clinic. One young teen worked all night on making her buttons. When her mother and father saw her enjoyment with her creations, they immediately joined in with her. Another teen, well known to our department due to her lengthy history of treatment, worked on creating buttons for her dance group that she misses when she is hospitalized. The night she was discharged, she was so excited about the process and outcome she asked her father if they could stay a bit longer so she could finish. We have since brought the button maker to her during her out patient visits.

The screen-printing kit was purchased in place of the printing press due to the large size and lack of mobility of the printing press. The screen-printer has been used during the evening therapeutic groups and has most recently been attached to a cart on wheels so it can be brought to the bedside. The multi-step process of the professional screen-printing equipment has required focus, thought, and planning from our teens. Several teens during the Zone group have commented on how they 'never thought they would have had the opportunity to use equipment like this'.

Your generous grant has given our teen patients arts activities that meet their developmental age and maturity levels. The button maker and screen printer are vehicles for expression of feelings and provide our teens with a diversion from their hospitalization. Thank you again for this wonderful opportunity to better serve the adolescent population here at Mount Sinai Kravis Children's Hospital.

Enclosed you will find photographs of the teens using the equipment and a thank you button created by two teen patients.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susanne Bifano".

Susanne Bifano  
Creative Arts Therapist  
Mount Sinai Kravis Children's Hospital