

UNUSUAL HEROES

Leading Hand Surgeon Has A Grasp On Excellence

(NAPSA)—For 30 years, James B. Bennett, M.D., one of the most distinguished upper extremity and hand surgeons in the world, has donated his time and surgical expertise to Shriners Hospital for Children—Houston. Because of his generosity, children like 7-year-old Adriana, who was born with webbed hands and underwent surgery to release her fingers, have better-functioning hands that allow them to be more independent.

“It has been easier for Adriana to do things for herself since the surgery,” said her father, Ismael. “My family and I consider Dr. Bennett’s generosity a great gift that will help her for the rest of her life.”

Leading and Teaching

As director of the Houston hospital’s hand clinic, Dr. Bennett has trained hundreds of medical professionals interested in upper extremity conditions that can be treated surgically, including both Dr. Charlotte Alexander and Dr. Gloria Gogola, who now staff multiple clinics at the Houston Shriners Hospital.

“Jim has a wonderful ability to see patients. He takes into account the child’s needs, as well as social and ethnic background, to find the best treatment for the most functional outcome,” said Dr. Alexander, who has volunteered at the Houston hospital for 16 years. “He is a superb technician in surgery and has an upbeat approach in life that is contagious, making him a wonderful teacher.”

Hope for Children

Shriners Hospital for Children—Houston is often the only source of hope for children who arrive unable to use their hands or arms. Fortunately for them, Dr. Bennett



HELPING HAND—James Bennett, M.D. has donated his time and surgical expertise to Shriners for 30 years.

is there to give them excellent treatment, enabling them to have more active, independent lives.

“I look forward to coming to Shriners Hospital because it provides me with the most challenging surgery I do,” said Bennett. “Working with kids is great. It’s extremely rewarding to help them use their hands so they may grow up and be productive.”

For more information on Shriners’ network of 22 hospitals that provide medical care and services totally free of charge to children with orthopaedic problems, burns and spinal cord injuries, write to Shriners International Headquarters, Public Relations Dept., 2900 Rocky Point Dr., Tampa, FL 33607 or visit the Web site at www.shrinershq.org. Treatment is provided to children under age 18 without regard to race, religion or relationship to a Shriner.

If you know a child that Shriners can help, call 1-800-237-5055 in the United States or 1-800-361-7256 in Canada.