



Shriners Hospitals for Children

Hospital Gets Makeover From Popular Design Show

(NAPSA)—Roll cameras...action... and cut! The production company from the British Broadcasting Corporation worked for two days recently at Shriners Hospitals for Children-Lexington, filming the popular show "While You Were Out." The one-hour show's plot involves completely redecorating a room in two days as a surprise to someone who is "out," in this case, Glenda Ross, director of patient care services.

Ron Hitzler, administrator of the Cincinnati Shriners Hospital, and Louise Hoelker, director of public relations, provided the means to keep Ross away from Lexington while the work and filming were being done, as well as a reasonable explanation for her being videotaped. Since the Cincinnati hospital's Camp Ability was scheduled for the same time as the "While You Were Out" filming, Hitzler convinced Ross to visit Camp Ability so that information about the Lexington Hospital's camps could be included in the video.

The opportunity to participate in the program began earlier this year. Russell Fisher, associate producer of "While You Were Out," visited the hospital to assess the potential of filming a show. After declaring the lobby and recreation areas "too big" and the classroom "too organized," he declared the surgery waiting/consultation room "perfect" for the show.

The "While You Were Out" cast and crew arrived and quickly went into production. The hospital was filled with excitement, since many patients, parents, volunteers, and staff members are fans of the show. Designer John Bruce's goal was to make the waiting room a "calm, peaceful and soothing" haven for families.



"While You Were Out" cast members Ali Barone and Evan Farmer took time out from the show to spend time with patients such as Morgan.

Cast member Ali Barone, who loves children, was a fast favorite of the patients; they helped her make both eucalyptus-filled domes to attach to the fluorescent light covers and slipcovers for the seat backs. Both designs fit the decorating theme of "a clearing in the woods."

"The outcome of 'the plot' is worth every minute of my being in the woods for those two days," said Ross. "What great exposure for both us and Cincinnati!"

Ross was surprised: The room is beautiful, and the experience was a "blast" for all. The BBC cast and crew stated they felt "honored" to have been at the Lexington Shriners Hospital.

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.