



**The Jim Mora *Count On Me* Family Foundation and Seattle Seahawks
Women's Association Bring "Holiday Shop" to
Mary Bridge Children's Hospital in Tacoma**

Foundation and Friends Plan Shop for Patients Unable to Leave the Hospital during the Holidays

Patients of Mary Bridge Children's Hospital and Health Center in Tacoma will get the chance to shop for presents for their family members during The Jim Mora *Count On Me* Family Foundation Holiday Shop on Dec. 15, presented by Michael's Toyota of Bellevue.

At the Holiday Shop, each child will be able to select two items for parents, siblings or other family members. Each patient, three and older will receive help picking items, writing cards and wrapping gifts. The Seattle Seahawks Women's Association, along with foundation and hospital volunteers, will assist them in wrapping their gifts with festive paper, bows, gift tags and writing cards for the special people in their lives. Patients younger than three will receive gift bags filled with items to keep them busy while in the hospital and infants will receive baby blankets to take home for the holidays.

The event is open to both inpatient and some outpatient children by invitation only.

The holiday shop will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 15 in Conference Room 1 of Tacoma General Hospital. Media will be able to attend from 10:30 to 11 a.m.

In addition to the shop, the Jim Mora *Count On Me* Family Foundation will donate items to Mary Bridge for the newly remodeled patient playroom.

"We are so grateful to the Jim Mora *Count On Me* Family Foundation and Seahawk Women's Association for providing us with this unique holiday shopping event for the children of Mary Bridge," said Anna Ahrens, Family Services Supervisor for Child Life, Family-Centered Care and Palliative Care. "This 'Holiday Shop' experience will provide our children with an opportunity to get in the true spirit of the holiday and give to their family. We anticipate this event will touch about 150 children and families, which is amazing."

"We are very excited about the opportunity to bring our annual Holiday Shop to Mary Bridge Children's Hospital," said Shannon Mora, VP of the Foundation, and President of the Seattle Seahawks Women's Association. "We designed the Holiday Shop six years ago in Atlanta to empower children in the hospital during the holidays to participate in the holiday season by giving gifts and spreading cheer to their own families at a difficult time. The children beam from ear to ear with pride picking out and wrapping the gifts to surprise their families, bringing the holiday spirit to our hearts, too, to see them so happy."

The foundation, started by Seattle Seahawks Coach Jim Mora and his wife, was created in 2005 to support children in need (primarily in three target areas: from low socio-economic backgrounds, mentally and physically challenged, and children at-risk) by affording them the opportunity to realize their potential and dreams, help create more stability in their lives, support advocacy for children, and support channels that allow

children to have a voice. For more information on the Foundation, please log in to www.countonmefoundation.org.

Mary Bridge offers comprehensive resources and expertise for critically ill or injured children through its pediatric critical care transport teams and helipad, emergency department, pediatric intensive care, and medical-surgical units. Mary Bridge offers the region's most advanced, full-service pediatric surgical center, including open heart. With its family-centered care philosophy, Mary Bridge provides services and accommodations for families in a child-friendly environment.

Media: Please contact Marce Edwards, MultiCare media relations manager, at 253-403-1716 if you plan to attend.

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