



## *Teddies for Loving Care*

Registered Charity No. 1087765

# TLC Appeal

[www.tlcappeal.org](http://www.tlcappeal.org)

*“Freemasonry in the community”*

**Patron – R.W. Bro. Col. Sir Neil Thorne, OBE, TD, DL.**

*Past Provincial Grand Master – Province of Essex*

**Hon. President: V.W. Bro. Brian Procter**

*Past Deputy Provincial Grand Master – Province of Essex*

**Chairman: W. Bro. Ian Simpson**

### *A Teddies for Loving Care Story?*

I am a young child.  
Something is wrong with me.  
I am ill, or I've had an accident.  
It hurts, and I don't know what's wrong.  
Mum and Dad seem worried, that worries me  
I am taken to Hospital – the Casualty Unit  
I don't understand what is happening  
There are strange people – in uniforms & coats  
With all kinds of frightening needles and instruments  
I am still in pain, but now I'm very scared!  
I don't want them to touch me – it will hurt  
I am scared at what they are going to do  
I cry – I scream – I struggle  
Everyone says they just want to make me better  
But it's so scary – they always say it won't hurt

But one of them has a teddy  
They give it me to cuddle  
They tell me what that they need to do  
They show me what they are going to do on teddy  
Teddy doesn't cry  
It didn't seem to hurt him  
If it didn't hurt teddy, it won't hurt me  
I cuddle teddy very hard

It doesn't hurt as much  
They say I am very brave  
As brave as teddy  
They say I am going to get better  
They say I can go home  
Mum & Dad are smiling  
The Nurse says I can take teddy home!  
I am smiling!



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### *What is the TLC Appeal?*

The simple objective is for Freemasons to provide Teddy Bears and soft toys to Accident and Emergency units, for the medical staff, to give, at their discretion, to children admitted who are in severe distress and where the staff feel that a Teddy or soft toy to cuddle will help alleviate the stress and assist them in their work.

### *Do the children keep the Teddy?*

Yes, they take the Teddy home.

### *How did it start?*

The idea began following the resuscitation of the wife of an Essex Freemason at an Essex A & E unit after an allergic reaction, which closed her windpipe. They both found the experience the most frightening of their lives and are eternally grateful for the swift and caring attention that she received.

He discussed with his Masonic Lodge trying to do something useful as a thank you to the A&E unit and its staff. From that point onwards the idea of Teddies for Loving Care was born. All Essex Freemasons and A&E units are involved, with Freemasons and A&E units over 30 other Provinces and it is spreading across the country through other Masonic Provinces and has also spread as far as the USA & South Africa, Germany, Gibraltar & Cyprus.

### *What do the hospitals think?*

They think it is a wonderful idea. Some quotes from the staff:-  
"A Wonderful idea and Contribution to Humanity".

"We don't know how we used to cope without the Teddies"

"We hope that Freemasons will continue to help us with Teddies for many years "

Over 350,000 distressed children, at A&E units have been comforted with a TLC Teddy.

### *An Actual Example:*

A young girl with 3rd degree burns, would not let the nurses near her.

A TLC teddy calmed her, and she was urgently treated. She recovered & called her teddy "Burnie".

### *Is this a Public appeal?*

As a charity, we do not turn down donations from others who see the benefits of the idea, but over 99% of the money needed is being donated by Freemasons.

### *How many teddies are involved?*

Over 350,000 teddies to date. This means that well over **One million** distressed children, parents and friends have been helped and touched by Freemasonry.

### *How much of the appeal money goes on administration?*

Absolutely nothing, time and facilities are donated. We do spend less than 1% is spent on fundraising and PR, but every penny of the remainder is used to purchase the Teddies soft toys or urgently needed paediatric equipment for A&E units.

### *What if I have some other questions? Or want to donate?*

You can contact or send donations (payable to "TLC Appeal") to any of the TLC representatives, or Ian Simpson at the address below, or visit [www.tlcappeal.org](http://www.tlcappeal.org).

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