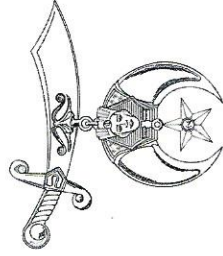


Who are the Shriners?

Shriners International is a fraternity of approximately 350,000 members who belong to local Shrine chapters throughout the United States, Canada, Mexico, and the Republic of Panama. Founded in New York City in 1872, the organization is composed solely of Master Masons. Since 1922, they have operated the Shriners Hospitals for Children, a 22-hospital system providing medical care to any child under the age of 18 with burn injuries, spinal cord injuries, orthopaedic conditions, and cleft lip and palate, without financial obligation to patients or their families.

Shriners come from every faith, from all walks of life, all ethnic and cultural backgrounds. Their common bond is membership in Freemasonry, the world's oldest fraternity.

Founders Billy Florence, a celebrated actor, and Walter Fleming, a respected physician, recognized that the fledgling fraternity could benefit from a colorful and exciting backdrop. An Arabic theme was conceived by Florence while on a tour of Europe. Legend has it that he attended an embassy party in France hosted by an Arabian diplomat, with entertainment provided by a troupe of Arabic performers. At the conclusion of the performance the guests were inducted into a "secret society" which caused all attendees much amusement. Florence took copious notes and presented them to his brethren who received the idea with enthusiasm. Thus was born the Ancient Arabic Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. Although the Shrine is not an actual "secret society", it still retains the colorful "mysticism" of its origin.



One of a Kind Hospital

Since 1968, Shriners Hospitals for Children - Boston has been providing expert pediatric burn care in a unique family centered environment. Annually, over 1,000 children are admitted and more than 6,500 are treated in the hospital's outpatient clinic. Shriners Hospitals for Children - Boston is affiliated with Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School.

Shriners Hospitals for Children is an international health care system of 22 hospitals dedicated to providing pediatric specialty care, innovative research, and outstanding teaching programs. Children up to age 18 with orthopaedic conditions, burns, spinal cord injuries, and cleft lip and palate are eligible for care and receive all services in a family-centered environment, without financial obligation to patients or their families.

Acute Injury Patients

The sooner a child with a burn injury reaches Shriners Hospitals for Children - Boston, the better the outcome.

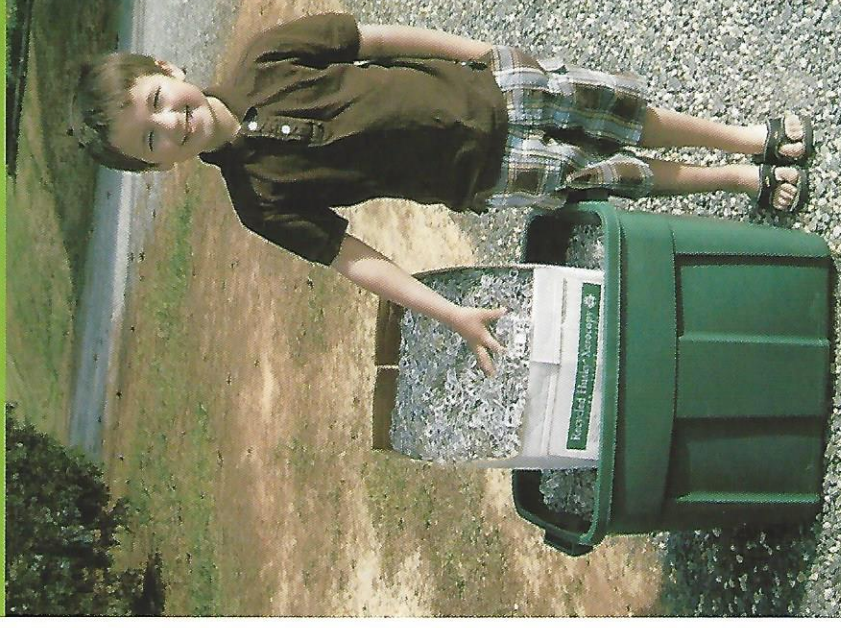
In an emergency, referring physicians should call us here and indicate their wish to refer a patient needing immediate care.

Shriners Hospitals for Children - Boston
617-722-3000

Elective Reconstructive Patients

The physician or parent of a child requiring reconstructive plastic surgery, or treatment for certain non-burn conditions, can contact the nearest Shriners Hospitals for Children location for an application for treatment.

You can help a Shriner help a child.



Donate Pull-Tabs For Recycling

What is the "Pull-Tab Collection Program"?

Pull-tabs, or "pop-tops," from beverage cans can be saved and donated to Shriners Hospitals for Children - Boston. The tabs are sold to a recycling company and the money collected is used to purchase non-medical items such as educational computer programs and games, arts and crafts materials, books, videos, and playground equipment. All of these items directly benefit the children at the hospital.

Why Collect the Pull-Tabs and not the Entire Can?

Aluminum has recycling value and the tab is the only pure aluminum part of the can. The can itself can be returned for the deposit (in states that have can and bottle deposit laws) after the tab has been removed.

Who Collects Tabs?

Tabs are collected by individuals, church groups, youth groups, schools, businesses, and the like. Donors come from all over New England, New York, New Jersey, and beyond.

How are the Tabs Delivered?

Tabs can be dropped off at Shriners Hospitals for Children - Boston at any time. However, we request that you call before bringing quantities in excess of 200 lbs. If delivery to Boston is not possible, please call the Volunteer Services Department at 617-722-3000, ext. 4744 to arrange for pick up. Quite often, a Shriner in your area can pick up the tabs and bring them to the hospital.



How are the Tabs Recycled?

There are approximately 1,200-1,400 tabs in one pound. In order to maximize their recycling value, the tabs should be sorted after they have been collected. Our dedicated volunteers clean the tabs, removing foreign materials in order to increase the value of your donation. After sorting, the tabs are taken to a recycler, weighed, and sold.

Who Runs the Program?

Members of the Volunteer Services Department at Shriners Hospitals for Children - Boston administer this program for the benefit of our patients and their families. Most of the volunteers are affiliated with the Aleppo Shriners of Wilmington, Massachusetts. Aleppo is one of 191 local Shrine chapters located throughout the United States, Canada, Mexico, and The Republic of Panama.

For more information about the Shriners and Shriners Hospitals for Children, visit www.shrinershq.org or contact the Shriners International Headquarters, 2900 Rocky Point Drive, Tampa, FL 33607-1460, or call 800-281-0300.



Shriners Hospitals
for Children™