

## OLD-FASHIONED VALENTINE'S DAY

- General Focus: Valentine's Day  
This project was designed to have some fun making old-fashioned Valentines with a variety of individuals confined for one reason or another.
- Audience: Elderly, ill
- Benefiting: \_\_\_\_\_ Convalescent Hospital  
                  \_\_\_\_\_ Assisted Living Center  
                  \_\_\_\_\_ Hospital (in another city)
- Budget: \$50.00 + donations

## HOW-TO

### A. Preliminary Steps

1. Called each of the agencies to find out how many residents they had and if they would be receptive to our coming in with cards.
2. Drew up a flyer and sent out invitations to friends, coworkers, relatives and church friends, outlining the ideas and asking for participation.
3. Took discount coupons to local craft store and bought the following (using calculator to stay on budget):
  - a. Pink, white, and red construction paper
  - b. Doilies of all sizes
  - c. Rolls of ribbon (to make small bows, etc.)
  - d. Glitter, glue, buttons, small flowers
4. Set up dining room table, card tables, coffee table
5. Got out all scissors, pinking shears, edge cutters, hole punches
6. Wrote simple messages on the inside like "you are loved"
7. Put down newspaper on kitchen counters and set up glue guns and glitter areas for the kids. Had an old fashioned Valentine making party.
8. Used no other media coverage

### B. The Event

1. We made 225 homemade cards.
2. We served punch, small valentine candies, and cookies.
3. With other volunteers, we took the Valentines to the homes and handed them out with hugs and kisses. We shipped 40 to my daughter, whose best friend is a nurse. She handed them out at their local hospital.
4. Each person who participated received small bags of Valentine jellybeans as a thank-you and a follow-up flyer outlining our results. Each child who came was invited to

make cards for Grandma and any other person.

Stumbling blocks: None. (Glitter is still showing up in corners of my kitchen!)

Most touching moment: Allowing the children the freedom to follow their creative streak. They were told they could not do anything these older people wouldn't love. Some had so much glitter, etc., on them that we wrote on the back "Made by Robert, 5 years old." They were all very touching. Handing out the Valentines touched our hearts as well.

### **BUDGET**

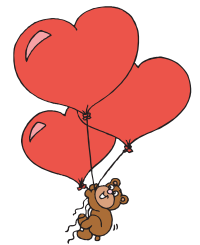
Craft supplies	\$35.00
Refreshments for volunteers (soft drinks and treats)	\$10.00
Postage	\$12.00

### **INVITATIONAL FLYER**

Cupid's Arrow Flies...

How many years since you've made a homemade Valentine? Come and touch some lonely hearts...

To be received by patients at: \_\_\_\_\_ Assisted Living Home  
\_\_\_\_\_ Convalescent Hospital



What: Valentine Making Party! We'll be using paper, stickers, stamps, buttons & bows, doilies, glitter, and a little love to stick it all together! (It will be easy!)

Who: We hope you'll come! Certainly bring the kids!

Where: (address)

When: (date)

Time: 11:00 am to 2:00 pm (stay or stop by for a few minutes)

Bring: Warm smile and joyful heart

"Share the Love"

### **THANK-YOU FLYER**

Cupid's Arrows Touch Hearts...thanks to your kindness

Valentine's Day started with cards, flowers, and a heart cake being delivered to the residents of \_\_\_\_\_ Assisted Living Home. Next, each person at \_\_\_\_\_ Convalescent Hospital



received a hug, a smile, and a card. Some of the cards went as far as \_\_\_\_\_ Hospital in (city, state) for every patient there.

A special THANKS to all of the Valentine Helpers, especially the children who made it so much fun!

"Offered freely and joyfully, these are the gifts  
which win and preserve the heart and bring comfort to the soul."

☺ Project contributed by Maureen in Fresno, CA