

The Virgin Islands Consortium

J.F.L. Deploys Pediatric Wagons

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ST. CROIX -- Children who have to stay overnight at the Juan F. Luis Hospital (J.F.L.) will now have a new way to get around the facility, a press release J.F.L. issued on Thursday says. The hospital deployed a fleet of four red wagons this week to different areas of the medical center that will serve pediatric patients.

Wagons are used in scores of children's hospitals nationwide to help provide a "kid-friendly" experience to what can be a very frightening time for a young child. The red wagon project is the brainchild of the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) Nurse Manager, Faye John-Baptiste, who is very excited about the "red wagon" roll out.

“Children have very unique needs to feel safe, especially when they are sick, injured or in an unfamiliar environment. Using the wagons for transport throughout JFL can provide a fun element to what can be a very scary time,” Mrs. John-Baptiste said.

The Radio Flyer wagons were deployed on Wednesday to the following areas of the hospital: the Emergency Room, the Operating Room and Pediatrics. Each wagon is uniquely labeled with a J.F.L. license plate for easy identification. They will be used to transport children, who are being admitted, who are going to have procedures or x-rays done, and to transport them to and from their rooms.

Mrs. John-Baptiste is a strong advocate for child friendly experiences throughout the hospital, and she said these new child transports will help calm a lot of little fears.

The hospital purchased the wagons from Radio Flyer, Inc. *Feature Image: : Miss Jiana Adeen, our reigning "JFL Premie Princess". Jiana was born at JFL at only 27 weeks gestation, and weighing only 2 lbs.,13 oz! Jiana is now a first grade honor student at the St. Croix Seventh-day School.*