



## NEWS FROM THE CHILDREN'S INN AT NIH

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### **Microsoft Corp. Teams and Companions in Courage donate XBOX 360 kiosks To The Children's Inn at NIH**

**BETHESDA, MD** -Microsoft Corporation and Companions in Courage (CiC), a non-profit foundation launched by NHL Hall of Famer Pat LaFontaine, teamed up to donate 8 Xbox 360 interactive kiosks to The Inn and the NIH Clinical Center hospital.

Washington Capitals defenseman Mike Green visited The Inn to announce the donation, part of Microsoft's Lion's Den kiosk program. The interactive games will allow children at The Inn to connect with peers throughout the country, as well as athletes, such as Green.

"Children battling life-threatening illnesses should not have to go it alone," said Pat LaFontaine, whose organization has donated interactive playrooms at hospitals throughout the country.

LaFontaine challenged Green to an online hockey game during Green's visit to The Inn. The two were well matched as the 23-year-old Green joked about all the time he had during the day to practice online hockey. Veteran LaFontaine, playing from his New York basement office, refrained from teasing the young rookie about the historic Easter Epic victory decades ago where LaFontaine, playing for the New York Islanders, scored the winning goal in a post-midnight, fourth overtime.

With families watching over their shoulders, the two hockey stars skated around each other. The final score: 0-0. The Inn scored big time with the donation, which will be shared with the Clinical Center. The goal for the Lion's Den kiosk program is for kids to be able to play with professional athletes, such as Green, at designated times, said Microsoft's Mike Allen.

The Children's Inn provides a safe, healing home for 59 children and families, who participate in groundbreaking medical research on the campus of the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Md.,

"We are enormously grateful to Microsoft and Companions in Courage for this fun, interactive game," said Kathy Russell, Chief Executive Officer of The Children's Inn. "Our mission is to give kids and families a way to unwind and relax during their difficult treatments. These kiosks certainly let kids just be kids – as they were meant to be – it also allows grown ups to be kids for a bit too."

Families pay nothing during their stay at The Inn, no matter how long the treatment lasts. The Inn is a non-profit children's charity and relies on the generous donations from all.

For more information, visit [www.childrensinn.org](http://www.childrensinn.org).