

The Gaston Gazette

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A gift of love

Children who have to spend Christmas in the hospital worry tender-hearted Katie Greene, 8 of Waxhaw. When she was 6, Katie saw a "Care Bear" and she told her father, "I was walking by, and I noticed these toys, and I got this idea in my head - 'If I could give one of these [toys] to all the sick children, they'd feel better and they could have a happy Christmas.'" Her parents, Dean and Elizabeth Greene, told Katie she would have to raise the money. That first year, in 2007, Katie raised \$162. This year, she raised more than \$9,000! During the 2009 Christmas season she delivered presents to several area hospitals, including Cleveland Regional Medical Center. She is shown here with Veronica Poole-Adams, CRMC's Chief Nurse Executive. For more information or to donate for next year, visit her web site at www.katieskidz.org. Katie says 100 percent of the money is used to purchase items for the children including toys, gift cards and other items that hospital staff has recommended. Several retailers are assisting in her efforts.

DOTY LEATHERWOOD | CLEVELAND COUNTY HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

