

Local toy company donates stuffed monsters to children

By Samantha Bryant
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Some children in the Austin area who have suffered through abusive situations will soon receive their own custom-built toys.

Home-based business CurlyQ Cuties LLC donated \$1,000 in made-to-order plush monsters Oct. 1 to nonprofit Helping Hand Home for Children.

The stuffed toys will go to the more than 30 children in the residential treatment program of the organization. This program provides a safe environment for children between the ages of five and 12 who have experienced physical, emotional or sexual trauma.



CurlyQ Cuties, a toy company based in Cedar Park, wanted to give these children a unique toy that they created themselves. Vice President of Operations Michael Estrin said.

"One of the things a child doesn't have coming out of these situations is anything of their very own," he said.

The children will use the interactive website to choose such features as the monster's color, body shape and eye color, and then they will receive the toys at Christmas.

Helping Hand Home for Children has been in operation in Travis County for more than 116 years. It is a private, non-profit organization that is based out of Austin and is a member of the Helping Hand Society.

In addition to the residential program, Helping Hand Home for Children also provides foster care, adoption services and a charter school for emotionally disturbed children. Visit www.helpinghandhome.org.

For more information about CurlyQ Cuties and its products, go to www.curlyqcuties.com.

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