



Children's
Hospital of Pittsburgh | of
UPMC

Another
SUPER
Year



Community Report 2012



16



12



8



6



CONTENTS

- 2 Letter to the Community**
- 4 Lily's Gift** — Maryland family's generous spirit leads to life-altering transplant
- 6 Focusing on Convenient Care** — Outreach services provide convenience while improving outcomes
- 8 Innovative Investigators Focus on High-Risk, High-Impact Projects** — The Richard King Mellon Foundation Institute for Pediatric Research focuses on developing bold advances in the treatment of childhood diseases
- 10 Living Proof** — Advancements in imaging capabilities provide critical tools in determining the best comprehensive care
- 12 In the Blink of an Eye** — Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC and Kohl's Cares® are developing an extensive injury prevention program
- 14 Saving Baby Baylee** — Experts in heart failure management and transplantation on Children's Hospital's Pediatric Cardiology team save the life of a young patient in cardiac distress
- 16 Austin's Wish** — A little boy's wish for a new tummy inspires a doctor's research
- 18 Accolades and Accomplishments**
- 20 Foundation Highlights**



About the cover: Patients were wide-eyed with surprise when four superheroes dropped in to wash the windows. All were professionals from Allegheny Window Cleaning, who donned costumes to brighten a fall day for our patients.





Christopher Gessner, president,
Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh
of UPMC (left) and J. Gregory Barrett,
president, Children's Hospital of
Pittsburgh Foundation

What's your Children's Hospital story?

When we're out and about in the Pittsburgh region and people find out we work at Children's Hospital, they inevitably share a story with us about how the hospital has impacted their lives or the lives of their loved ones.

They feel compelled to support the hospital because of that story.

[Share your Children's Hospital story. >](#)

Our story began 122 years ago.

That's when Kirk LeMoyne, the son of a local pediatrician, raised enough money to endow a cot at a local adult hospital. With continued community support, that cot soon became Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh.

The community's hospital.

Today, our story continues with Austin, a little boy who has an intestinal disease so severe, he's never been able to enjoy a cupcake, or many other foods, without severe pain. So he started a "Cupcake Fund." This little boy and his family have had a profound impact on the laboratory at Children's where physician-scientists are working to develop an artificial intestine. You can read more about that impact in this report.

Another story involves a husband-and-wife team, Drs. Paul Szabolcs and Maria Escolar, who came to Children's to advance a radical treatment for patients with neurodegenerative diseases like Krabbe.

And, in the true spirit of Kirk LeMoyne, the leaders of the venerable Richard King Mellon Foundation had the foresight to support Children's in establishing a pediatric research institute where scientists can focus on high-risk, high-impact science that might otherwise not be supported. The institute recently recruited its first two scholars.

All of the stories within this report are inspiring examples of how individuals and organizations alike are continuing the legacy of Kirk LeMoyne.

Thank you for being part of the Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh story.

Christopher Gessner
President
Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC

J. Gregory Barrett
President
Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh Foundation

A woman with dark hair, wearing a purple top and a necklace, is smiling and looking down at a baby. The baby is wearing a pink polka-dot headband and a pink polka-dot top. The background is a warm, orange-toned wall.

Lily's Gift

Maryland Family's Generous Spirit
Leads to Life-Altering Transplant

Led by Maria Escolar, MD, the Program for the Study of Neurodevelopment in Rare Disorders (NDRD) is the only program of its kind in the United States. Dr. Escolar and her team provide ongoing services for more than 500 patients with rare metabolic disorders from across the world. This experience, combined with ongoing clinical research, provides the expertise to assess the multi-system needs of these children and to plan appropriate management, therapies, and palliative care when needed. The NDRD team also consults with local health care providers and educators to assist them in providing care to children with these rare diseases.

WHEN SHE WAS BORN to Benjamin and Kathleen Smith of Leonardtown, Md., Lillian Grace was the perfect baby daughter and baby sister in a family that included older siblings Elijah and Abby.

But within just a few months, her parents' concerns about Lily's regression in mobility and muscle control had her undergoing metabolic, neurologic, and genetic testing. The diagnosis was early infantile Krabbe disease, a rare, degenerative genetic disorder that typically results in total loss of function within one year and death within two.

The Smiths, stunned by the news no parent wants to hear, were determined to try to help other children in any way they and Lily could. Internet research and the small world of physicians interested in these diseases led them to [Maria L. Escolar, MD, MS](#), director of the [Program for the Study of Neurodevelopment in Rare Disorders](#) (NDRD) at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC. In the NDRD, Dr. Escolar and her team help families find answers, education, and treatment for their children's rare genetic disorders.

Once the Smiths got to Pittsburgh, they began another whirlwind of tests ordered by Dr. Escolar and [Paul Szabolcs, MD](#), including new MRI technology developed by Dr. Escolar's team. The result: They determined that although Lily was symptomatic, some of her neurological function was still preserved, and the physicians determined that a reduced intensity umbilical cord blood transplant could prevent further deterioration. Usually, by the time Krabbe symptoms appear in the early infantile onset disease, it is too late to do anything more for a child than manage his or her symptoms.

Dr. Szabolcs is chief of the [Division of Blood and Marrow Transplantation and Cellular Therapies at Children's Hospital](#). He's also married to Dr. Escolar. "Lily is a testament to the benefit of reduced intensity transplants," he says.

"Reduced intensity" means that lower doses of radiation and other agents are used during conditioning, before the transplant. With reduced intensity transplants, families are away from home for a shorter time. Other benefits are faster recovery and an easier way to give medication.

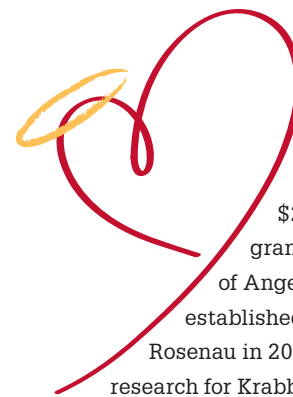
The same week as her birthday, Lily was finally allowed to return home. Lily has surpassed Dr. Escolar's expectations. "I told the family she would not be able to move below her neck, but she is moving her arms," Dr. Escolar says. Lily's vision, hearing, and cognition have been preserved. Most importantly, says Dr. Szabolcs, "Lily is not regressing." And she loves to laugh at her sister.



Kathleen and Ben Smith share their journey from despair to hope for daughter Lily.



From left, Dr. Szabolcs; Benjamin, Kathleen, and Lily; and Dr. Escolar



[The Legacy of Angels Foundation](#) has given

Dr. Escolar more than \$2.6 million through its grant program. The Legacy of Angels Foundation was established by Paul and Sue Rosenau in 2008 to fund curative research for Krabbe disease and cystic fibrosis, conditions that have impacted their family. Lily's local neurologist attended a conference that was hosted by the NDRD and sponsored by the Legacy of Angels Foundation—helping connect the Smiths to Dr. Escolar.



Learn about the use of cord blood to treat neurodegenerative diseases like Krabbe.

Outreach

Focusing on Convenient Care

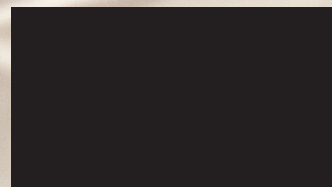


Nicolas and his dad, Joe, share a lighter moment with his doctors.



Telemedicine + Health Care

Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC is a leader in using advanced communications technology to provide specialty pediatric consultations and care to children in remote locations. Children's specialists provide consults via teleconference to cardiac intensive care unit physicians at three hospitals in Colombia, as well as to transplant physicians at UPMC's ISMETT in Palermo, Sicily. Today, telemedicine capabilities have been installed at all five of [Children's Hospital's regional Specialty Care Centers](#). "We will continue to show that these services not only provide convenience to patients, but that they significantly improve patient outcomes," says Harun Rashid, vice president, Global Health Services and chief information Officer.



View more of the far-reaching benefits of our telemedicine capabilities.

TO CONTROL SYMPTOMS FROM A MOVEMENT DISORDER KNOWN AS DYSTONIA, a pediatric neurosurgeon at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC implanted a device in Nicolas Griffith's brain when he was 6 years old.

Sometimes called a "brain pacemaker," the deep brain stimulator (DBS) sends a continuous stream of electrical impulses to part of Nicolas' brain in order to block its abnormal firing of neurons. The procedure had the greatest potential of helping Nicolas, who lives with his family in Boonsboro, Md., about a four-hour drive away from Pittsburgh.

Traveling with Nicolas can be tough. He uses a wheelchair and has to be fed and given medications on a strict schedule. His DBS also has to be adjusted regularly by Keith Coffman, MD, Nicolas' neurologist in the [Brain Care Institute at Children's Hospital](#). If the Griffiths had to travel to Children's main campus in Lawrenceville for Nicolas' routine visits, each outing could be an all-day, intensive, exhausting affair.

Fortunately for them and many other families throughout the region, Children's has dramatically expanded its presence — and accessibility — through western Pennsylvania, eastern Ohio, and northern West Virginia over the last five years. Its outreach locations in communities that are relatively far from Pittsburgh, as well as its burgeoning [telemedicine program](#), have made Children's specialists more available to families who live far from Pittsburgh.

Nicolas can have his DBS settings adjusted at Children's Hospital Specialty Care Center Johnstown, which is about two hours away from their home. Dr. Coffman says, "It turns what could be an all-day journey into one where they are home in time for lunch."

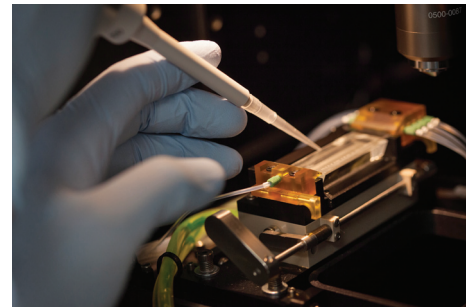
THE PROGRAM has received significant funding to support regional development of telemedicine services, including \$1.2 million from UPMC FOR YOU to develop a community hospital emergency care network of 20 hospitals, nearly \$800,000 in support of telemedicine from the friends of Arnold Palmer in honor of his 80th birthday, \$75,000 from the state of Pennsylvania, and \$50,000 from Highmark for pediatric dermatology. Others supporting this project include The Erie Community Foundation and Carolyn and Mark Snyder. Funding from the Hillman Foundation is being utilized for telemedicine services for cardiothoracic patients with The Children's Home. Children's Hospital also received a grant from the Department of Health and Human Services. Philanthropic support will fund equipment and technology-related expenses.





The bold pursuit of new advances
for the treatment of some of the
world's most debilitating childhood
illnesses defines the work of the
[Richard King Mellon Foundation](#)
[Institute for Pediatric Research.](#)

**Innovative
Investigators
Focus on High-Risk,
High-Impact Projects**



From left, Jay Kolls, MD discusses results with Nikki Nguyen, PhD and Kong Chen, PhD.

ESTABLISHED THROUGH A GIFT from the Richard King Mellon Foundation, the institute is an incubator for research that challenges conventional scientific thinking. This kind of high-risk, high-impact investigation is not typically funded through government, placing Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC in a unique realm of pediatric research centers. Led by its internationally renowned director, [Jay K. Kolls, MD](#), the institute's goal is to support exceptionally talented [Mellon Scholars](#) and their teams by encouraging them to pursue their most innovative ideas.

As part of his work with the institute, Dr. Kolls directs one of the key laboratories where his research focuses on lung host defense and pneumonia, the number one killer of children in the world. Dr. Kolls explains his findings, published in *Immunity* in 2012, "While most current vaccines work through antibodies, there are some diseases, like tuberculosis, where antibodies are thought not to be protective. There is also a huge issue of the emergence of drug resistance as we use antibiotics. Our recent paper showed that we can vaccinate against a multi-drug-resistant organism by using proteins that are involved in the structure of the bacteria." This is exciting research because it suggests vaccines with broader reach might be created, which is particularly beneficial in preventing infection by hard-to-beat bacteria.

Dr. Kolls' lab is also working on creating biomarkers for the increasingly popular mucosal vaccines, like the FluMist®, most often given to children. He explains, "The field is moving toward mucosal vaccines, which are nice because kids don't have to get shots, but the question is, how do you measure if they work or not, because sometimes they don't show up in the blood. So we're trying to develop biomarkers of mucosal vaccines so we can measure vaccine effectiveness locally." The research conducted in Dr. Kolls' lab could ultimately change the way we vaccinate ourselves and our children in the future.



Mellon Scholars Pursue "Dream Science"

"We want to find the best science out there," Dr. Kolls said, "the type of scientists who aren't thinking in their own niche but in broader terms—investigators who have a comfort level with their research that will allow them to push the envelope and use these resources to the maximum extent possible." Two such physician-scientists, Stephen M. Maricich, MD, PhD, and Timothy A. Sanders, MD, PhD, arrived in Pittsburgh in 2013 as the institute's first Mellon Scholars. Each was chosen for his traditional science that potentially would garner support from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), as well as what Dr. Kolls calls their "high-risk dream science." Dr. Kolls stated that there will be a very strong mentoring component, with scholarship oversight committees in place to help faculty focus their research to be successful and competitive at the NIH level.

Dr. Maricich is a rising star in Child Neurology. His research focuses on understanding the role of the ATOH1 gene in the development and function of Merkel cells, which cause a very rare cancer that is resistant to chemotherapy. These cells are also a critical component of touch receptors and allow a person to sense one versus two points of contact with the skin as well as curvature of an object. Under a grant awarded by the NIH, Dr. Maricich will use genetic models to understand how the ATOH1 gene regulates Merkel cell development. Dr. Maricich joined the institute in January 2013.

Dr. Sanders is a neonatologist who conducts cutting-edge research on the control of neural and limb development, having worked on molecular mechanisms of signaling and patterning within the vertebrate limb. With the addition of Dr. Sanders will come the capability for high-end cell imaging to conduct real-time video-microscopy, which will build on the microscopy core already in existence in the laboratory of David J. Hackam, MD, PhD. Dr. Sanders joined the institute in February 2013.

Both are assistant professors of Pediatrics at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine.

In the quest for the best physician-scientists, Dr. Kolls said the institute will continue its recruiting efforts in Fiscal Year 2013 with the goal of having a total of five scholars recruited by 2014.



Hear from Dr. Kolls and two Mellon Scholars who are conducting breakthrough research in exciting fields of medicine.

Living Proof

Advanced imaging combined with expert care resulted in accurate, timely diagnosis and treatment for Alessandra. Her commitment to her own rehabilitation fueled her recovery. Today she is healthy and happy, and living proof that advancements in imaging capabilities provide critical tools in determining the best comprehensive care.

Alessandra in the transformation corridor at Children's Hospital.



Ashok Panigrahy, MD, talks about the impact of advanced imaging capabilities.



Alessandra's headache started over Memorial Day weekend. Instead of going to a picnic or watching a parade, Alessandra was stuck at home with what she thought was another terrible migraine. Except that this headache wasn't like the others. When her headache and vomiting became increasingly severe, her parents took her to a local emergency room. Shortly after her arrival there, Alessandra began having trouble speaking and walking. A CT scan revealed something much more critical than a migraine — an intracranial hemorrhage, or bleeding within the portion of the skull that encloses the brain.

Alessandra was rushed to Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC, where neurosurgeon [Stephanie Greene, MD](#), director of vascular neurosurgery at the hospital, was on call. Dr. Greene and other team members from [Children's Hospital's Brain Care Institute \(BCI\)](#) immediately arranged for Alessandra to undergo a CT-angiogram, a medical imaging technique, that revealed the blood clot and an arteriovenous malformation (AVM) in her cerebellum, the coordination center of the brain. Dr. Greene performed emergency surgery on Alessandra that removed both the blood clot and the AVM — normally done in two separate surgeries — and saved her life. A post-operative angiogram confirmed that the AVM had been completely removed. It also revealed an aneurysm on the ophthalmic artery, located behind Alessandra's left eye, that was able to be treated preventatively several months after she recovered from the hemorrhage.

When expert care and advanced technology intersect, patients like Alessandra:

- Are treated by specialists who have the most powerful advanced imaging tools available to help make an accurate, timely, and potentially life-saving diagnosis
- Are treated by experienced surgeons working in teams of specialists to provide comprehensive care and the best possible techniques and outcomes
- Have a children's hospital that is at the forefront of innovation and discovery

Today, Alessandra is a healthy, happy 19-year-old, and living proof that advancements in imaging capabilities are pivotal in the patient experience and in optimal diagnosis and treatment. Her extraordinary commitment to her own rehabilitation has fueled her excellent recovery. Alessandra is a talented artist who dedicates much of her time and artwork to raising AVM awareness.



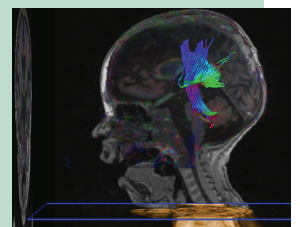
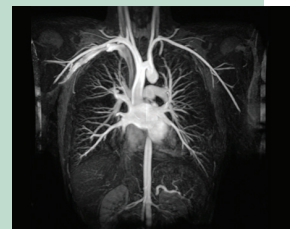
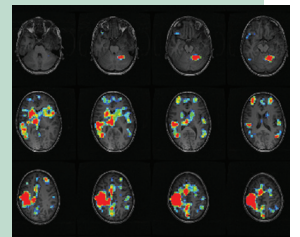
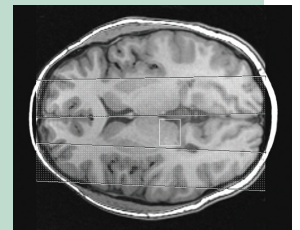
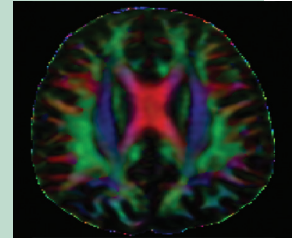
Former Board Member Donates to Advanced Imaging

Patricia and John Staley IV, long-time donors to Children's and grateful grandparents, pledged a generous gift in support of the acquisition of a Mobile CT Scanner. This mobile unit will enable the hospital's medical team to safely scan critical care patients without transporting them to Radiology; thus eliminating unnecessary travel within the hospital for critically ill patients. The Staleys' imaging technology gift will improve patient safety and tremendously benefit the quality of care and long-term outcomes for our patients. Their support, with the help of others in the community, can help Children's build on its advanced imaging capabilities.

ADVANCED IMAGING

Children's current imaging capabilities enable us to provide differentiated care to patients and families. This means:

- The use of **diffusion tensor imaging (DTI)**, a relatively recent imaging modality, provides both two- and three-dimensional images of white matter fiber pathways in the brain. Tractography plays a critical role in neuro-imaging, as it enables physicians to identify areas of the brain that can be affected by anomalies and pathology. This allows for a treatment to be developed to meet the specific needs of a child.
- **Magnetic resonance spectroscopy** collects sequencing information of metabolic disorders in the brain. An MRS is helpful in the definitive diagnosis of tumors and other disorders. Importantly, the MRS is a non-invasive procedure that can provide information on certain chemical levels in the brain that could otherwise only be gathered from a surgical biopsy.
- **Functional MRIs** measure brain activity in a child by detecting changes in blood flow. At Children's, functional MRIs help to gather information as a child is thinking, seeing, reading, and reacting, and help identify which parts of the brain are working and identify those that are not.
- **Advanced cardiac imaging** at Children's provides detailed information on cardiac issues specific to young patients. Our pediatric cardiologists and pediatric radiologists collaborate to ensure definitive diagnoses and comprehensive treatment.
- **High-definition fiber tracking (HDFT)** provides detailed, colorful images of the brain's fiber network. HDFT scans accurately reflect brain anatomy observed in surgical and laboratory studies and are used to provide vital information on patient symptoms.



In the Blink of an Eye

Children's Hospital and Kohl's Cares® have worked to develop a comprehensive injury prevention program aimed at reducing injuries and trips to the emergency department.



The Flores family during a recent visit to Children's Primary Care Oakland. From left: Jesus Jr., Emily, Araceli, and Brian

The dramatic images from the car crash are hard to forget.

That winter day, the Flores family's lives were forever changed.

Jesus Flores and Araceli Castaño strapped their three young children into their Chevrolet van, headed out for some last-minute Christmas shopping. Minutes into their trip, an oncoming car struck their van head-on. Despite the violence of the collision, their children, Jesus Jr., Brian, and Emily, suffered only bumps and bruises.

The outcome could have been much, much worse.

Only a few months earlier, the Flores family visited a Hispanic/Latino car seat clinic organized by [Salud Para Niños](#) and sponsored by Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC and Kohl's Cares®. Children's Hospital's injury prevention experts determined the car seat the Flores family had for Emily, then 8 months old, was insufficient, and so they provided the Flores family with a new car seat. And they properly installed all of the car seats in the family van. That visit to the car seat clinic proved life-changing.

"Anything can happen on the road. It's important for parents to be educated of the dangers and they should know how important car seats are," Araceli Castaño said. "They saved my children's lives."

The Flores' story dramatically illustrates the effect [Children's Injury Prevention program](#) has had on thousands of families in the tri-state region. These initiatives, which have been supported by Kohl's Cares® for more than a decade, include:

- [Child Passenger Safety](#) – a program that includes car seat clinics throughout the region
- [Hard Head Patrol](#) – a program to encourage helmet use by kids riding anything with wheels
- [Reality Education for Drivers \(RED\)](#) – a program for young drivers
- [Community Home Safety](#) – a program to provide home safety education and resources throughout the region
- [Think First for Kids & Teens](#) – a school-based program focused on head and spinal cord injuries

"Children's Hospital draws patients from such a large region that we're actually one of the busiest pediatric trauma centers in the United States. In Fiscal Year 2012, we treated more than 1,700 kids with traumatic, sometimes life-threatening injuries," said [Barbara Gaines, MD](#), director of trauma and injury prevention. "Children's and Kohl's have worked together to develop a comprehensive injury prevention program aimed at educating kids and families so we don't see them in our Emergency Department or operating rooms."



Kohl's Cares® has provided more than \$2.4 million to Children's for injury prevention programs since 2003.

Injury Prevention Efforts in 2012

- Distributed nearly 1,000 car seats to families in need as a loan or donation
- Fit and distributed 3,300 bike helmets
- Completed 850 home safety assessments and provided education and resources to 850 families
- Provided teen driver educational programs to 200 students and parents
- Provided 25 school programs to over 5,000 students in the *Think First for Kids* curriculum

Saving Baby Baylee



For first-time parents Rebekah and Ernest Carper of Spencer, W.Va., there was no greater joy than the birth of their daughter Baylee Louise on April 5, 2012. It was all the young newlyweds had hoped for, after Rebekah was told that getting pregnant would be difficult. At almost 6 months of age, Baylee was thriving. But after experiencing her first cold, Baylee's health took a dramatic turn. She was eating less and sleeping more and, when awake, was fussy — all signs of teething, according to Baylee's pediatrician. While refusing to take pain reliever medication to soothe the teething, Baylee turned blue. Rehekah rushed her daughter to the local community hospital where doctors immediately recognized her grave condition. Baylee was quickly transferred by helicopter to a larger medical center in Morgantown, W.Va., where she was diagnosed with dilated cardiomyopathy — a potentially life-threatening enlargement and weakening of the heart muscle.

For one week, Baylee responded to medications given intravenously to help heal her failing heart. But when her heart raced out of control, doctors knew that Baylee needed more advanced treatment. They called Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC, the region's only [pediatric cardiac critical care unit](#) and [heart transplant program](#), for emergency helicopter transport.

Once at Children's Hospital, Baylee was met by a team of specialists, including Shawn West, MD, MSc, to stabilize her condition. It was Dr. West who also delivered Baylee's prognosis and need for a heart transplant to her frightened parents with his direct but compassionate style.

For Dr. West, holder of the Claude R. Joyner, MD, Endowed Fellowship in Pediatric Cardiology at Children's Hospital, this type of situation may occur at any hour of the day or night. When on call, it is Dr. West's responsibility to help manage emergencies and care for Children's heart failure and transplant patients. Anxiety is high in some cases, with precious little time to save the life of a young patient in cardiac distress.

Pediatric subspecialists like Dr. West are in short supply throughout the country, especially in disciplines like pediatric cardiology, where expertise in heart failure management and transplantation require years of training beyond residency. The Joyner Fellowship, along with Children's Hospital's commitment to offer rigorous, high-quality training programs, helps to fill the demand for pediatric subspecialists.

On Oct. 17, after 20 days on the heart transplant waiting list, including six days on an artificial heart pump, Baylee received her new heart. Dr. West was there every step of the way, educating and comforting Rebekah and Ernest throughout their emotional journey. Today, Baylee is an active, playful toddler. The Carpers are thankful for Dr. West's counsel and guidance and for the life-saving work of the specialists at Children's Hospital.



What makes us a Heart Institute? Watch to learn more.



Parents Rebekah and Ernest Carper enjoy a moment with one-year old daughter Baylee, the recipient of a life-saving heart transplant.

In 2012, Peggy Joyner established the Claude R. Joyner, MD, Endowed Fellowship in Pediatric Cardiology at Children's Hospital in memory of her late husband, a cardiologist and echocardiography pioneer. Peggy chose this gift to honor Dr. Joyner's deep love and skill in the teaching of cardiology.

Austin's Wish



*A little boy's wish for a new tummy
inspires a doctor's research*

Austin Rath had a very special Christmas wish, and it wasn't in a letter addressed to the North Pole. Instead, it was to email a video message to [David Hackam, MD, PhD](#), a pediatric surgeon and scientist at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC, whose laboratory is working to develop an artificial intestine.

In the video, Austin, then 5, of Butler, Pa., is seated in front of a Christmas tree surrounded by presents. His message is to the point.

"My biggest wish ever is to get a new tummy. Work very hard," Austin says in his video message to Dr. Hackam. Christmas morning, Austin received an email response from his new hero: "Please share with Austin that I will not rest until I succeed in generating a new tummy for Austin and for people just like him." Since then, the two have met several times. Austin has toured Dr. Hackam's lab and even looked through a microscope at the artificial intestine he is creating.

For his 6th birthday, Austin told his parents that instead of gifts, he wanted to raise money for Dr. Hackam's research. Austin decided to name his fund "Austin's Cupcake Fund" in the hopes that one day he'll be able to eat "lots and lots of cupcakes," something he's never been able to do.

Austin has a condition known as short gut syndrome. He lost more than 90 percent of his intestine shortly after he was born due to Hirschsprung's disease. He receives 16 to 18 hours of intravenous nutrition every day. Among his significant dietary restrictions, Austin can't eat anything with sugar.

Over the last year, Austin's Cupcake Fund has raised enough money to increase the number of people working on the project full-time, to employ more sophisticated imaging technologies in order to determine how well the artificial intestine is working, and to grow the intestinal stem cells more effectively.

"The donations we've received from Austin's Cupcake Fund have been remarkable and have truly helped us advance our science," Dr. Hackam said. "But more importantly, meeting Austin allowed me and my team to truly understand who it is we hope to help with this project."

Dr. Hackam's research has supporters beyond Austin's Cupcake Fund. In November 2011, Dr. Hackam and John March, PhD, an associate professor of biological and environmental engineering at Cornell University, received a Hartwell Biomedical Research Collaboration Award. The pair received more than \$500,000 over three years from the Hartwell Foundation, an organization that supports innovative and cutting-edge biomedical applied research that may benefit children.



Dr. Hackam sharing the results of some of his work with Austin.



Watch David Hackam, MD, PhD talk about the development of an artificial intestine.



Austin had a Christmas wish for a new "tummy" and he made this video to tell Dr. Hackam.



Austin's Cupcake Fund raises money to help support Dr. Hackam's artificial intestine research. To date, Austin and his fund have raised more than \$100,000.

For news coverage click here.

[In the Tribune Review](#) | [On WTAE](#)

Accolades and Accomplishments



We Made the Honor Roll Again

Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC was named to *U.S. News & World Report's* 2012–13 Honor Roll of Best Children's Hospitals, one of only 12 hospitals in the nation to earn this distinction. Children's Hospital was ranked in nine of 10 specialties and met the criteria for the honor roll by earning a high ranking in at least three specialties. [Learn more.](#)

Parents Rates Children's One of the 10 Best

Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC has been named one of the 10 Best Children's Hospitals in the country by *Parents* magazine. Children's Hospital is ranked 6th overall, as well as 6th in emergency care and 9th in pulmonary care. The list provides the most comprehensive family-focused, data-driven comparison of pediatric facilities. The *Parents* survey focused on key areas including treatment success, groundbreaking research, and family-friendly facilities. [Learn more.](#)

2013
Parents
10 BEST
CHILDREN'S
HOSPITALS

Behavioral Health

A collaboration between Children's Community Pediatrics and Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic, Early Access to Integrated Behavioral Health in the Pediatric Medical Home, won the Patient Care and Innovation Award from the Hospital & Healthsystem Association of Pennsylvania as well as the Fine Award from the Jewish Healthcare Foundation. This program is supported by the Staunton Farm Foundation.



NIH Funding ▲

Children's Hospital has one of the fastest growing, National Institutes of Health (NIH)-funded pediatric research programs in the country. Pediatric research programs at Children's and the University of Pittsburgh ranked seventh in number of grants from the NIH for NIH fiscal year 2011.



Distraction Therapy Support ▲

Pittsburgh-based FedEx Ground, the small-package ground unit of FedEx Corp., donated \$150,000 to Children's Hospital in support of the hospital's distraction therapy program and to continue the ongoing sustainability of supplies of the playroom on inpatient unit 8A (recognized as the FedEx Ground Playroom after its contribution to the new building in 2008). This donation will help experts at Children's Hospital expand the distraction therapy methods they use to improve patient care by creating the colorful, animal-themed rooms in the outpatient clinics. Distraction therapy involves using special techniques to take a child's attention away from a procedure he or she is undergoing and potentially alleviate pain or discomfort by helping the child focus attention elsewhere. [Learn more.](#)



Magnet® Recognition

Children's Hospital earned Magnet Recognition status from the American Nurses Credentialing Center. Magnet is the highest honor an organization can receive for excellence in nursing, making Children's among only 6 percent of hospitals nationwide to have achieved this prestigious distinction. [Learn more.](#)

Quality Care Award

The Antonio J. and Janet Palumbo Cystic Fibrosis Center at Children's Hospital was a 2011 recipient of the annual Cystic Fibrosis Foundation's Quality Care Award: Recognizing Outstanding Quality Improvement Processes and Accomplishments. Children's was one of 11 cystic fibrosis care centers to be honored. [Learn more.](#)

Most Beautiful ▶

HealthExecNews.com ranked Children's one of the 25 most beautiful hospitals in the world. The site considered interior and exterior features for its "health-promoting qualities." Children's ranked 10th on the list, which featured hospitals as far-flung as Thailand, Austria, and China. [Learn more.](#)



Albert's Kids ▲

In June, Children's Hospital held a book signing to promote a new book highlighting the work of shoeshiner Albert Lexie, who has spent more than three decades collecting tips to raise money for the hospital's Free Care Fund.

The book, *Albert's Kids: The Heroic Work of Shining Shoes for Sick Children*, is about the significant impact one person can have on the lives of so many. The book was the idea of one of Mr. Lexie's longtime customers and friends at the hospital, Joseph Carcillo, MD, a pediatric critical care physician.

Mr. Lexie has committed his life to raising money for Children's Hospital's Free Care Fund by donating all the tips he earns from his one-man shoeshine business to help ensure no child from the region goes without the care he or she needs. Since he started in 1982, Albert has raised more than \$200,000 for the Free Care Fund. [Learn more.](#)



Better Outcomes ▶

The Heart Transplant Program at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC is the recipient of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Silver Medal of Honor for Transplant Programs for achieving better-than-expected performance on at least two of the following factors: post-transplant graft survival rate, transplant rate, and pre-transplant mortality rate after patients are placed on waiting lists. [Learn more.](#)

Award-Winning App

In November, Children's smartphone application, *ChildrensPgh*, won a Silver Award in the 2012 eHealthcare Leadership Awards in the category of Best Mobile Communications. Last year, Children's added a customizable medication and allergy list for tracking important information about your family's prescriptions, over-the-counter medications, and allergies.

ChildrensPgh also includes a pediatric symptom checker and parent advice guide, as well as important information about Children's Hospital, including a department directory, links to Children's Emergency Department and Express Care Centers, and the ability to request an appointment online.

[Get the ChildrensPgh App.](#)



Joint Commission

Children's November 2012 survey by The Joint Commission was the most successful survey by the credentialing board ever, including the survey in 2009 just after the new hospital opened. The surveyors were particularly impressed with the competence, compassion, commitment, and overall engagement level of Children's staff and physicians in all areas of the hospital.

Foundation Highlights

Children's Hospital is built on the generous spirit of the community working together with a common goal — a commitment to children. Visit givetochildren.org to learn about the many ways you can get involved.

Because you give, Children's is here for every child.

All of these amazing stories are possible because of you.

Walmart and Sam's Club's participation in the Children's Miracle Network Hospitals (CMNH) 2012 spring campaign reached new heights, raising more than \$500,000 for Children's Hospital's greatest needs.



Luke Maeding, a double-lung transplant recipient, was selected to be an ambassador for Pennsylvania through the Children's Miracle Network Hospitals' Champions program. Luke and his family, who are from Upper Nazareth, Pa., traveled to Washington, D.C., and then to Disney World during the annual Celebration conference to receive their Champion medals and enjoy time in the park. Luke's family watched him emerge from his transplant to enjoy a life without supplemental oxygen, allowing him to go out and play with his siblings, return to school, and once again join in with those around him. He continues to show courage and strength, and all who have met him have been touched by his achievements and growth.

The Free Care Fund at Children's provides free and uncompensated care to families in need in our region, regardless of insurance or their families' ability to pay. Our Free Care donors are as diverse as the patients we treat. They include local businesses, community groups, and schools that have joined together with a common desire to support families and help children in need. In 2012, 28,000 children benefitted from the Free Care Fund.



Witness the many ways The Free Care Fund cares for sick children throughout our region.



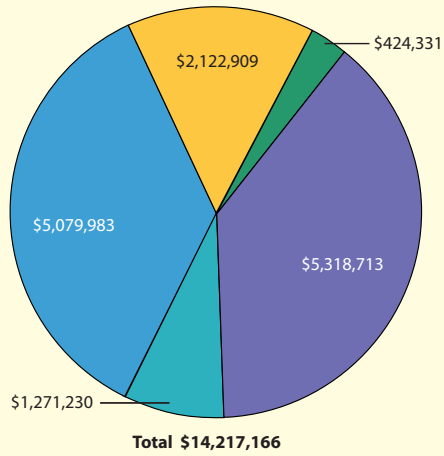
Brett Keisel of the Pittsburgh Steelers raised nearly \$40,000 for cancer programs at Children's through the 2nd Annual "**Shear Da Beard**" event. This year's event raised the stakes by having two beards to shear — Brett Keisel and his father Lane Keisel. With WDVE's Randy Baumann as emcee, the night featured several celebrity barbers who took turns snipping away at Brett's famous beard; including Steelers president Art Rooney II, coach Mike Tomlin and several players including Aaron Smith, James Harrison, and Heath Miller. Smith's son Elijah, who is a leukemia survivor, was the first celebrity barber to cut the beard.

Families with babies in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) will be able to observe their infants even when they cannot be at the bedside thanks to a generous donation of a state-of-the-art video-phone system from the **Snee-Reinhardt Charitable Foundation**. This gift, totaling nearly \$50,000, will outfit 20 rooms with the new NICView System. Additionally, five mobile units will cover other rooms until more resources are available so that a video-phone system can be installed in each infant's room. The Snee-Reinhardt Charitable Foundation is a long-time supporter of Children's, previously helping the hospital to upgrade many of the isolette beds to the preferred Giraffe beds used today in the NICU.



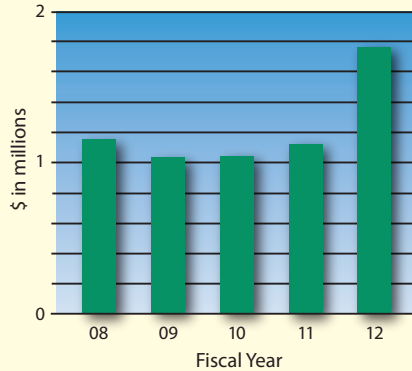
Because You Give

FY12 Donation Totals by Constituents



- Corporations
- Foundation/Orgs/Community Support
- CHP Medical Staff and Employees
- Other Individual Support/Closely Held Companies
- Foundation and Hospital Board of Trustees, Auxiliaries, and former Foundation Trustees

Free Care Donations

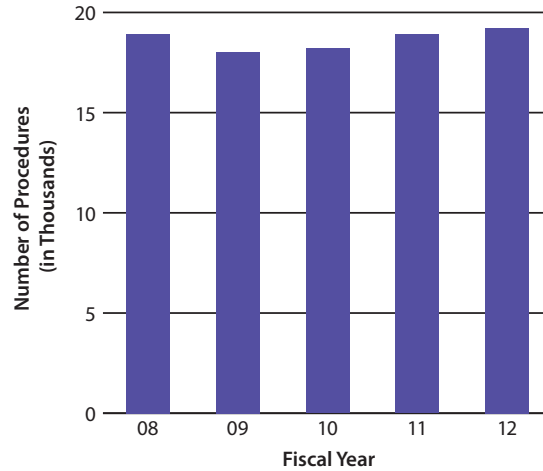


Number of Donors for FY12

Circle of Care	100
LeMoyné	324
Total Donors	18,454

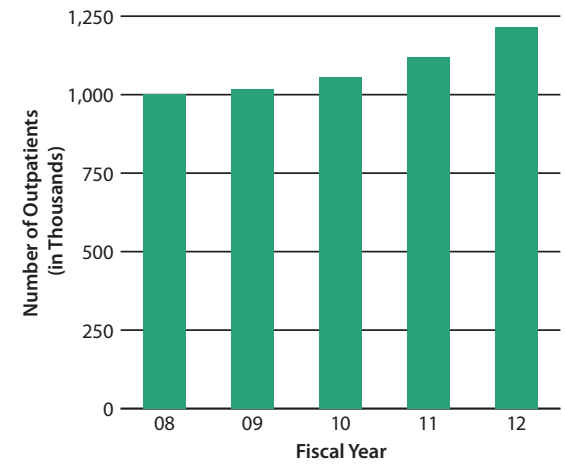
By the Numbers

Inpatient Stays*



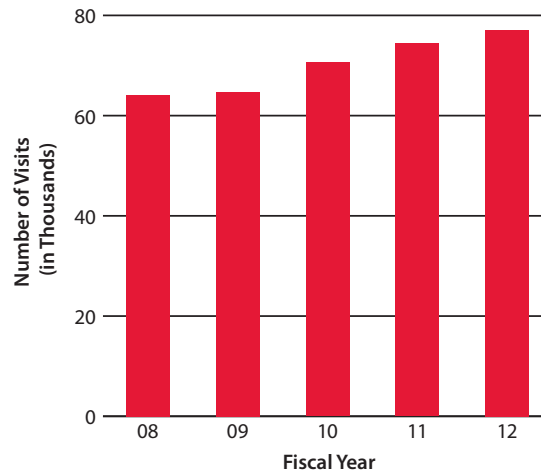
* Includes observation stays

Outpatient Visits**

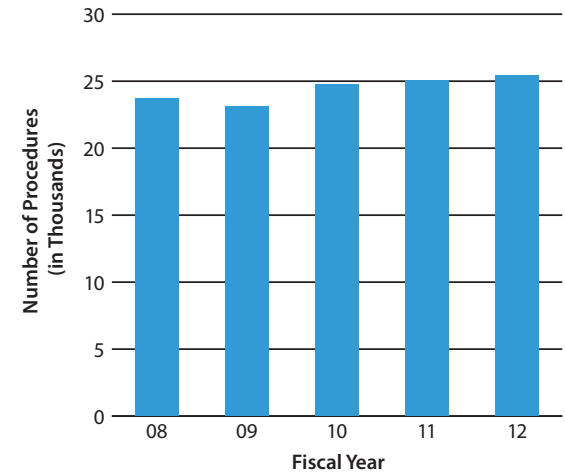


** Includes visits to Children's outpatient clinics and primary care visits to Children's Community Pediatric practices

Emergency Visits



Surgical Procedures



In fiscal year 2012, Children's...

- Provided \$46.5 million in free and uncompensated care.
- Provided \$8.5 million in support of scientific research programs in its John G. Rangos Sr. Research Center.
- Provided \$6 million in community benefit programs.
- Provided \$5.2 million in support of its Graduate Medical Education program, which trains the next generation of pediatricians and pediatric subspecialists.

Community Report 2012

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Marc Lukasiak
Director, Marketing and Communications

Writers/Contributors

Meghan Belotti
Maggie Bray
Andrea Kunicky
Kate Lindholm
Jamie Loveland
Jaime Nawojski
Jason Yurkovich

Photographers

Annie O'Neill
Bill Paterson
Martha Rial
Andrew Russell
Michael Tarquinio

Designer

Michael Tarquinio

If you have kids, be glad you have Children's.



www.chp.edu