

# Teddy News

Your Donor Impact Report

{ Winter 2021 Vol. 13

## “Our son couldn't have been in better hands”



**Baby Beau with  
cleft palate**

Every parent whose child has undergone surgery knows that the hardest moment is leaving your child at the operating room door.

Winnipeg Blue Bomber Adam Bighill experienced those emotions first-hand, when his son underwent

surgery for a cleft lip at just four months old.

*“We walked him to the door and handed him over — and that is the toughest part,” says Adam. “You try to stay busy to keep your mind from wandering until they come and get you.”*

Adam himself was born with a cleft lip and palate, and knows the toll it can take on a child. That's why he advocates to support children with facial differences.

Adam has spent a lifetime working to overcome his own condition, but he also credits this challenge — and his family's unfailing support — for creating the determination and will to succeed that has carried him so far.

*“At the end of the day, it doesn't change how you feel about yourself or what you can accomplish.”*

When Adam's wife, Kristina, was pregnant, they discovered that their baby would be born with a cleft palate.

*“Initially it was frustrating, because you don't want*

*anyone to have to deal with that,” Adam says. “You don't wish it upon anybody.”*

*“But as I sat and thought about it, I realized he couldn't be in better hands.”*

*“They made it easier on us. We weren't really worried. We had answers and the right kind of support — so we were confident in the process,” says Adam. “Beau's doctor, Dr. Ross, clearly explained the procedures beforehand.”*

Beau will need further surgery when he is a bit older. In the meantime, he is already able to drink through a straw, a great development for a child that has been born with a cleft palate.

And the family remain big fans of HSC Winnipeg Children's Hospital, encouraging everyone to do what they can to support the kids in their care.

*“Everyone there does a fantastic job and they're obviously there to support our children. As a parent, you know how much your child's life and safety means to you, and know there's a staff and system that's out there working so hard and doing so much good for our community. It's always good to be able to give back to this organization.”*



**Beau after recovering  
from surgery**

## For the love of Paige

The memory of their daughter, Paige, inspires Angela and Greg Kornelsen every day.

And, through those memories, Angela and Greg are doing everything they can to help other children and families when they need it most.

When Paige was just two years old, she unexpectedly went into respiratory distress. She was rushed to Children's Hospital.

Within minutes of arriving at the hospital, Paige lost consciousness. Her heart stopped.

The emergency staff performed CPR on little Paige — twice for almost 20 minutes before she was revived and put onto a ventilator.

After days of tests, doctors had to tell Paige's parents that she had been born with a rare, genetic condition called Leigh's Syndrome, which has no cure.

There was no way to save Paige's life. But hospital teams and Paige's family made sure that her days were filled with comfort and love.

Here are her mother's words...

*"Every person who came into Paige's hospital room met her with kindness and compassion."*

Paige's parents have shared her story to encourage others to support the Children's Hospital.



Winter's Auto Service raised over \$16,000

The Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) at Children's Hospital is a very special place for the Kornelsen family. Knowing how well Paige was cared for, Angela and Greg wanted to give something back.

Through Winter's Auto Service, where Greg is the manager, they donated 10% of all sales for the month of October. Winter's Collision Repair also matched all online donations made by family and friends that were made to the hospital in her memory.

In all, this kind family raised an amazing \$16,000 to show their gratitude and appreciation for the PICU staff.

As Greg explained, *"We are helping raise funds so that other children and their families receive the same care and compassion that we received, when we needed it the most."*

If you would like to host your own fundraiser to raise money to support Children's Hospital or make an in memory donation, please email us at [info@goodbear.ca](mailto:info@goodbear.ca).

## You made a difference in 2020!

You made the difference in 2020! You helped purchase specialized equipment like ventilators, a laryngoscope and a fluoroscopy machine for the cath lab to treat children with heart issues.

You also supported Child Life programs at the Children's Hospital, bringing comfort to kids in hospital. And you helped fund life-saving research at the Children's Hospital Research Institute of Manitoba, including critical COVID-19 research like Dr. Kelly's. Thank you!



books for kids



fluoroscopy machine



# CHIRM Research – Dr. Lauren Kelly

When COVID-19 struck, Dr. Lauren Kelly knew that her research skills and clinical trial expertise could be valuable in the race to find an effective treatment.

As a scientist and the clinical trials director at the Children's Hospital Research Institute of Manitoba, Dr. Kelly was busy studying the safe use of cannabis and opioids in children with health concerns.

But she didn't hesitate to take on COVID-19, teaming up with the Canadian arm of the World Health Organization's global Solidarity Trial.

The Solidarity Trial involves scientists in nearly 100 other countries, each simultaneously running studies on different drugs that might be used to treat the virus.

It was the Solidarity team, for example, who ascertained that neither hydroxychloroquine nor lopinavir/ritonavir improved mortality in

hospitalized COVID-19 patients.

And the Solidarity team in Canada is currently the only study in Canada investigating remdesivir as a possible treatment.

Mother to a busy toddler and having had her second child at the beginning of December 2020, clinical trials to help treat sick kids in Children's Hospital are close to Dr. Kelly's heart.



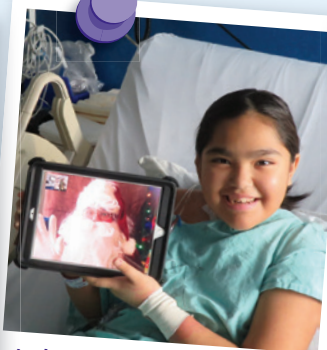
Dr. Lauren Kelly

As the virus seems to be affecting children and youth differently, clinical trials can provide much-needed data on how to specifically treat infants and children moving forward. Dr. Kelly and her team are working on building infrastructure for future adaptive platform trials to study COVID-19 and other respiratory infections.

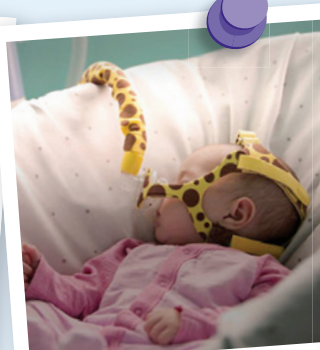
*"As a clinical trialist, methods and operations are a skill I can bring to the table during a pandemic," explains Dr. Kelly. "COVID-19 hit us all close to home, and not just because we are now stuck there!"*



machine



tablets keeping kids connected



ventilator



remote monitored beds



video laryngoscope

# A Place to Play

Children's hospitals across Canada are facing unprecedented demand for mental health services. Unfortunately, the impacts of COVID-19 have created an even greater need for this kind of support for children and teens than ever before.



Before

We know that early interventions are key to preventing long-term struggles with mental illness.

Here in Manitoba, more than 1,400 kids and teens annually need mental health assessment in the Children's Emergency department. In the year 2000, that number was just 300.

Each year, more than 500 of those children and teenagers are admitted to the Child & Adolescent Mental Health inpatient unit.

These are children and teenagers experiencing acute mental health issues, like depression, severe anxiety, psychosis, and suicidal thoughts.



Recently, our wonderful family of supporters reached out to support these young people by funding the renovation of a new indoor and outdoor play and exercise space.

These safe spaces — including a sports area and a pergola for yoga — will give kids a place to exercise, enjoy the outdoors, and simply smell the fresh air.

We know that play and exercise will bring a reduction in depression, anxiety and stress, and help teach coping tools for the future.

Big thanks go to Red River Co-operative Ltd., the Winnipeg Foundation, the Thomas Sill Foundation Inc., Bell Canada, Canada Life, Giant Tiger, Earl and Cheryl Barish, Crosstown Civic Credit Union, the Sports Legacy Fund, and our generous community of supporters.

Construction has begun but has been delayed due to COVID-19. We are hopeful the project will be complete by summer 2021. Although this project has been fully funded by our generous donors, please visit [goodbear.ca](https://goodbear.ca) for information about other projects that still need support.

## Did you know?

**Employee Payroll Deductions** are an easy way for employees to make a positive impact on their community!

**Employer Matching** — did you know many employers sponsor matching gift programs and will match any charitable contributions made by their employees? Ask your HR rep if you have a matching gift program or suggest your company gets one!



For all the ways you can help sick kids through your work visit: <https://goodbear.ca/ways-to-help/corporate-giving/>



CE501-840 Sherbrook Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3A 1S1  
Tel: (204) 953-KIDS (5437) Toll-free: 1-866-953-KIDS (5437)

[www.goodbear.ca](https://www.goodbear.ca) Join us on:   