



# Teddy News

Your Donor Impact Report

{ Summer 2020 Vol. 12

“Éveline would not be here today without you.”



Éveline with her loving family

On March 18th, as the world went quiet in the face of the Coronavirus pandemic, there was a very special birthday celebration taking place in a house in Winnipeg.

With her immediate family around her, little Éveline turned one year old.

It marked a huge landmark in this brave child's fight for life. Her mother Candice calls it, “a day we sometimes didn't think we'd see.”

When Candice was 18 weeks pregnant with Éveline an ultrasound showed that the baby's kidneys were enlarged. By 23 weeks, her bladder wasn't working and she had no amniotic fluid left.

But mom, Candice, and dad, Marquis, held onto their faith that they would see their little girl one day.

And that day came earlier than expected.

At just 34 weeks, Éveline was born via emergency C-section. The tiny infant couldn't breathe on her own. It took four hours just to stabilize her enough to move her to the NICU.

Candice and Marquis were warned that their daughter may not survive her first 24 hours.

But Éveline had different plans.

On day three she had surgery to fit a dialysis catheter. On day six, she started dialysis.

For the next three months, she lived in the intensive care unit – fighting each and every day for her life.

Finally at four months old, Éveline made it home to her family.

Her family will never forget the teams of people who saved her. The Children's Hospital family at HSC Winnipeg. The doctors, nurses, staff – and supporters like you.

*“The most amazing doctors, nurses and staff took us in like we were family. They cared for Éveline like she was their own. Éveline's journey isn't finished, but we're so thankful that we have such a great place taking care of her for years to come.”*

The family are passionate supporters of the hospital now – as you can read more about on page three.

*“When we donate, we know directly how it affects each and every child, mom and dad, and siblings. It gives them hope, it gives them compassion and empathy. It gives them someone to talk to. It makes them feel they're not alone when their world has just been turned upside down.”*

Éveline in the hospital



# You give children joy and comfort through books

For the last 58 years, the Children’s Hospital Book Market has been a much-loved hospital fundraiser.

And it’s raised over \$8 million for kids in the hospital!

Along with other vital services and programs, this volunteer-run book market has helped fund the Book Corner, CHTV (the internal, commercial-free TV station here at the hospital) and the Family Resource Library.

*“Books help to distract children during their hospital stay. Just last year alone, over 1,000 patients at Children’s Hospital had a book read to them by library staff,”* says librarian Emma Robin.

The Book Corner is a lending library for in-patients and their families, offering books, DVDs, and magazines for all ages. Library staff read with kids one-on-one, and visit the wards with book and DVD lending carts every day.



**Emma, the Coordinator for Children's Hospital Family Libraries, reads a book to a child**

It brings a bit of normal life to patients – and minimizes their stress. Getting transported into a new world within the pages of a book is a delight for all of us – but especially for a sick child or worried parent.

Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, April’s Book Market had to be cancelled, leaving our book programs almost \$200,000 short. At the time of writing, we don’t know if we will be able to have a fall book market. And we know that the hospital’s compassionate, book-loving supporters will be there to help us make up for lost time!

# Your donation helps kids cope with isolation during COVID-19

We are deeply grateful to two donors whose gifts have been used to provide kids in hospital with smart phones and tablets to keep in contact with their families and friends during the COVID-19 crisis.

*“It’s vital for the kids to stay safe while they receive great care at the hospital, but they also need the comfort of connecting to family and friends during this time,”* says Stefano Grande of the Children’s Hospital Foundation. *“Our team went to work fast, putting out calls to donors. We are so inspired by the quick response from our community.”*

With recent requirements to reduce visitors at the hospital to protect vulnerable patients and their

health care workers against the spread of COVID-19, having a way to phone, text or video call with loved ones is more important than ever. Now the children can see for themselves that their families and friends are safe and doing well.



# A celebration of love and giving back

When it came time to think of a theme for their little girl's first birthday celebration, Candice and Marquis Petit knew exactly what it had to be.

The youngest of four children, there weren't a lot of clothes or toys that Éveline really needed.



Éveline on her 1<sup>st</sup> birthday



So the Petit family decided to focus on what was deepest in their hearts – gratitude that their daughter had made it through to celebrate her first year.

They decided to dedicate Éveline's birthday celebration to raising vital funds for Children's Hospital, as a way of making sure that every child in need could receive the same great care that Éveline did.

A monthly donor herself, Candice knows firsthand how essential donors' gifts are to the hospital – funding the research and equipment that save tiny lives... and

also funding the crucial support system for families living through devastating times.

*"We were all set and so excited for her party – it was going to be a great celebration of Éveline's life and a thank you for all the support we've gotten the last year. We were amazed that we almost immediately reached our first goal with our online fundraiser before even holding her party. We doubled our goal and knew our amazing party guests would help us meet it."*

*Well, the world had other plans and we had to postpone Éveline's party. This was a huge disappointment. We were really hoping to reach our new goal. But no matter how long it takes we will hold this party and celebrate Éveline. We are so grateful to everyone who has donated, and are so close to our doubled goal. We are all looking forward to the day when we can hold the party and add to that total."*

If you'd like to help Éveline and her family reach their fundraising goal, you can donate directly to [goodbear.ca/Eveline](https://goodbear.ca/Eveline). Or, if you would like to host your own fundraiser to raise money to support Children's Hospital, please email us at [info@goodbear.ca](mailto:info@goodbear.ca) or visit [goodbear.ca/host-your-own-event](https://goodbear.ca/host-your-own-event).

## Meet Brady, our new Champion Child

Brady is proud to be the 2020 Champion Child, where he will be the ambassador for the 130,000 children helped by the Children's Hospital each year. At 5 months old, Brady's parents noticed unusual spots on his body. He was later diagnosed with Type 1 Neurofibromatosis, a genetic disorder that causes tumours to form on nerve tissue. Brady has undergone three spinal surgeries. These tumours aren't removable and he will require on-going monitoring at Children's Hospital as he grows.

Read more: [goodbear.ca/Brady](https://goodbear.ca/Brady)





# Children's Hospital is conducting critical research on COVID-19 and kids



Dr. Terry Klassen, CEO and Scientific Director at the Children's Hospital Research Institute of Manitoba (CHRIM), and Professor in the Department of Pediatrics & Child Health at the University of Manitoba, is co-leading a new global study into how COVID-19 affects children.

So far it seems that the virus presents more mildly in children than in adults – particularly seniors and those with underlying health conditions.



But, as Dr. Klassen says, *“It can happen, and so we need to be prepared. We need to recognize it early and ensure that children get the best care possible. Children are still picking up the virus. You have to be aware they may have the infection, but have no signs of it. So we have to be very vigilant of how this may be spreading in the community.”*

Dr. Klassen is working with the University of Calgary's Dr. Stephen Freedman. They are leading a collaboration with 50 pediatric units from 19 different countries.

*“We will be looking at which children are at risk of getting COVID-19 first of all and then, of those that get the disease, which are the ones in which it will be more severe.”*

The international collaboration means that our researchers will get the data they need to gather

accurate information on which kids could potentially get really sick.

Children's Hospital is also part of the national network, TREKK (Translating Emergency Knowledge for Kids). The network's focus is to improve children's emergency care across Canada, particularly in communities without dedicated pediatric services.

When COVID-19 started to spread globally, TREKK sprang into action, developing practical guidance and a pediatric COVID-19 fact sheet within a week.

In keeping with our commitment to support families, we know that Emergency Department (ED) visits are often stressful for parents and caregivers, but uncertainties around COVID-19 may cause even more anxiety for families going to the ED. That's why the TREKK team at HSC Winnipeg Children's Hospital Winnipeg helped develop an interactive infographic for parents on what to expect at the ED, with a specific section on COVID-19. The infographic walks parents through the process, including triage, the waiting room, interactions with emergency staff, and what to expect at discharge.

With every department at the hospital – from our medical teams to researchers to family support staff – your Children's Hospital is ensuring that any child affected by COVID-19 in our community has the very best care available.

This important research is supported by donors like you.



**Dr. Terry Klassen**



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

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