



Gratitude Report 2022-2023



The
Children's
Hospital
Foundation
of Manitoba

OUR VISION

To be the charity of choice devoted to funding excellence in child healthcare and child health research.

OUR MISSION

To improve the health of children everywhere, by inspiring our community to support excellence in child healthcare and child health research.

VALUES

Passion to increase the quality of life for infants, children and youth, **Dedication** to enhance child healthcare, **Integrity** to all we serve, **Engaged** volunteers, staff, donors and families, **Accountability** in all that we do.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba is privileged to gather, work, and care for each other on Treaty 1 territory, the ancestral homelands of the Anishinaabeg (Ojibway), Ininiwak (Cree), Anishiniwak (Oji-Cree), Dakota Oyate (Dakota) and Denesuline (Dene) peoples, and the birthplace and homeland of the Métis Nation. Inuit from ancestral northern territories also make their home here. As a champion of children's health and wellbeing, we acknowledge the harms of the past, and promise to honour the children of yesterday, today and tomorrow, as we walk together with First Nations, Métis and Inuit on a path of reconciliation and healing.

HSC CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL BY THE NUMBERS



388+
BEDS



4800+
SURGERIES



11,350+
ADMISSIONS AND
TRANSFERS-IN



82,000+
CLINIC VISITS
(INCL. 16% VIRTUAL)



140,000+
CHILDREN NEED
CARE EACH YEAR



48%
KIDS LIVE
OUTSIDE
WINNIPEG

50,000+
EMERGENCY
VISITS

UP TO 60%
KIDS ARE FROM
INDIGENOUS
COMMUNITIES

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF MANITOBA (CHRIM) BY THE NUMBERS



350+
RESEARCHERS



25+
RESEARCH
AREAS OF FOCUS



\$22M+
ANNUAL
FUNDING
AWARDS



3,600+
FAMILIES
ENROLLED IN
RESEARCH STUDIES



95+
STUDIES IN
THE RESEARCH
SUPPORT UNIT

BETTER FUTURES... THANKS TO YOU!



On behalf of the Board of the Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba, please accept my deepest thanks for all you have done to support sick and injured

kids in our community over the past year. Our Board has been working hard to support the Foundation, particularly in its ongoing commitment to Reconciliation. Working with the wisdom and expertise of our Indigenous Advisory Circle, we adopted a unique and authentic Land Acknowledgement. We were also privileged to have been able to sign the City of Winnipeg's Indigenous Accord. The Foundation is deeply committed to taking meaningful steps towards reconciliation through projects like the Indigenous Community Healing Space.

We successfully officially opened the world-class Travis Price Children's Heart Centre, a feat accomplished by the generosity of hundreds of incredible donors from across the province, a true reflection of our community coming together to deliver the highest level of care to the littlest hearts in our province.

We were also so grateful to welcome back in-person fundraising events like the Ice Crystal Gala and Book Market, as well as many other third-party events, put on through tremendous efforts by our tireless army of volunteers.

I am humbled by the never ending support from our community, in terms of time, dollars, and dedication to child health in our province. Thank you all!

ZOË RICHARDSON
Chair



What an incredible year it's been!

We were thrilled to connect with many of you face-to-face once again. In June 2022, surrounded by caring and generous donors, partners, friends and families, we launched the Foundation's \$75M Better Futures campaign – the largest donor-driven campaign for child health in Manitoba's history – to transform the health of sick and injured kids in the province and beyond. The consistent generosity of our donors, sponsors and partners, coupled with critical needs outlined by HSC Children's Hospital and Children's Hospital Research Institute of Manitoba, gave us the courage and confidence to move boldly ahead with the Better Futures initiative. And you responded, bringing us now to over 80% of our goal! There is more to do but we are well on our way, thanks to you.

In this report, you will learn about some of the dreams you have helped bring to life. Some of the goals you have brought within reach. Some of the countless children and families whose lives have been changed because you gave. These are some of the many reasons we are grateful every day for donors like you. Together, we can continue to transform the present into **Better Futures** for all our kids. Thank you!

STEFANO GRANDE
President & CEO

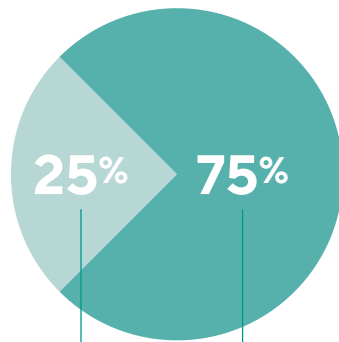


GIVING CREATES BETTER FUTURES

In the 12-month period ending March 31, 2023, donors and supporters like you raised **\$11,422,163*** to support sick and injured kids who need HSC Children’s Hospital across Manitoba, Northwestern Ontario and Nunavut. Your generosity funded:

- Specialized equipment that ensures HSC Children’s has the advanced tools needed to care for kids with complex medical conditions
- Innovative programs that enhance comfort and safety, and make a hospital visit a little less scary
- Groundbreaking research that helps us understand childhood disease and injury

FUNDS RAISED



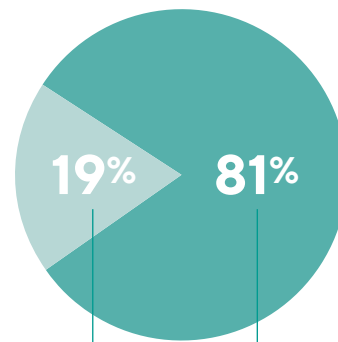
EVENTS

Including Children’s Miracle Network, Canada’s Children’s Hospital Foundations, Ice Crystal Gala, golf tournament and give-a-thon

PROGRAMS

Including annual giving, major gifts, planned giving and community relations

FUNDS GRANTED



HOSPITAL EQUIPMENT & PROGRAMS

LEARNING & RESEARCH

* Audited financial statements are available at goodbear.ca/annualreport



LEADERS CREATE BETTER FUTURES

With the help of generous donors like you, the \$75 million Better Futures campaign – **Manitoba’s largest ever comprehensive child health campaign** – will make sure kids get the care they need in places of comfort and healing that physically and technologically match the excellence provided by their pediatric healthcare professionals, and support leading-edge research focused specifically on the unique needs of children. This bold vision is within reach because of strong campaign leadership and open-hearted donors – thank you!

Thanks to our Better Futures campaign donors, an imaginative and interactive **outdoor play space** officially opened in June 2022. It is a safe and secure area for kids admitted to the Child and Adolescent Mental Health inpatient unit to play, exercise and enjoy the outdoors. The space has areas for team sports, independent workouts, yoga and family visits.

“Visiting outside is comforting, more relaxing and refreshing than being in the hospital room,” says one grateful parent. “I know that my child has appreciated the fresh air and the chance to be outdoors in this beautiful space.”

Addressing critical infrastructure and facility needs in Children’s Emergency is a key component of the Better Futures campaign. Funds will go to vital equipment like specialized stretchers, renovated and new spaces, like **mental health rooms**, more treatment rooms and spaces with low stimulation for kids living with conditions like autism, and so much more. Thanks to you, the transformation has already begun.



“The **mental health room** is a space where we care for adolescents who are experiencing crises. Often their crisis leads to physical responses and regretfully, the furniture is often the recipient. Our new furniture is as non-destructible as it gets! They are in one piece, so there are no removable parts that adolescents can injure themselves on. The furniture has weathered well since we received it – thank you!” – Children’s Emergency Team

EQUIPMENT CREATES BETTER FUTURES

HERE ARE A FEW NEW TOOLS BEING USED IN CHILDREN'S EMERGENCY, OPERATING ROOMS, CLINICS AND INPATIENT UNITS, THANKS TO YOU.



The hospital and research teams need the right equipment to deliver the best care and knowledge possible. With a new non-invasive **jaundice meter**, Children's Emergency triage nurses can easily screen infants with jaundiced skin, avoiding blood tests for some infants, saving them from discomfort. It also reduces lengths of stay in the department because treatment can begin faster.



The Sandra Schmirler Foundation continues to support care for families in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) by purchasing **Babyleo incubators**, providing the littlest babies with a safe and warm environment to heal. The finely tuned temperature controls and audio feature create a protected environment, complete with mother's own gentle heartbeat to comfort and calm.

Visits to Children's Emergency have increased by 25% in 2022. A **centralized monitoring system** is vitally important, enabling the medical team to monitor several patients at once. This allows for faster responses to the changing needs of kids like Jonnie during emergency care. Thanks to you, a system like this is on its way to HSC Children's Emergency!



The **Child Protection Centre (CPC)** at HSC Children's has been transformed by the ongoing support of the Royal Princess Ball. The Centre offers specialized medical, psychological and social interventions to kids and youth who have experienced maltreatment. Because of you, the CPC space has been renovated, furnished and provided with the specialized software, cameras and technology infrastructure needed to provide the best possible care for these vulnerable kids.



JONNIE'S STORY

Michelle is grateful that when her 2-year-old son Jonnie suddenly had a seizure, they were in the right place at the right time – HSC Children's Hospital Emergency Department.

They were there because Jonnie had developed a fever of 41°C (105.8 °F). While in the waiting room, he had a febrile seizure because his fever spiked too high too fast. Doctors and nurses responded immediately, carefully moving Jonnie to a private space for the care he needed.

"It's scary as a parent seeing your child like that," says Michelle. "Very calmly the doctor explained he's fine, he's having a seizure. We're monitoring him, don't worry."

As Jonnie began getting his awareness back, the doctor sat with Michelle to answer any questions and comfort her and Jonnie after the terrifying experience.

"She had so much patience with me and she was great with Jonnie," says Michelle. "It just made me realize what a great resource the Children's Hospital is," says Michelle. "It's always there for you."

SMILES CREATE BETTER FUTURES

DONORS WHO SUPPORT CHILD LIFE PROGRAMMING MAKE PLAY AND LEARNING ACCESSIBLE, SO KIDS IN HOSPITAL CAN PARTICIPATE IN IMPORTANT ACTIVITIES FOR GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT.

Child Life helps empower kids by teaching them about procedures they will experience in hospital. Music Therapy, holiday celebrations, the library and the playroom help distract kids from the tough times, and provide a chance for them to just be kids while in hospital.



The Pediatric Special Care Unit is a home-away-from-home for children with complex medical needs who require medical ventilation and often spend many months in hospital. The **Beanstalk Program** helps combat negative effects of long hospitalization by creating a warmer environment using music, a specialized play area, supportive seating, celebration of milestones and increasing the involvement of families in their child's daily care. Donors like you help make the hospital a happier place for these special kids and their families.



Sadly, mothers who deliver a premature baby are at an increased risk for post-partum depression and anxiety. The good news: reading to babies can help reduce a mother's anxiety and enhance the bonding process. So, with your support, the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) team created a special NICU literacy program with doctors, nurses and other healthcare team members reading to parents and their fragile newborns. You helped us give out special hand-sewn gift bags with a book inside, and provide a lending library cart of books. The magic of books with the comfort of care, because of you!



Even small things can have a big impact! Thanks to art-loving supporters, there's now a space to **display kids' artwork** outside the Child Life playroom. Art can be healing and displaying a child's art builds confidence. The art wall shows kids the hospital is designed for them and creates a sense of ownership and belonging.



Child Life Specialists and the Library Coordinator at HSC Children's created **grief and trauma resource boxes** for use in adult Intensive Care Unit (ICU) areas. These resources support the unique needs of kids who experience the loss of a loved one or have a caregiver needing intensive care. They include age-specific books, resource guides and caregiver handouts. Funds for these specialized materials were provided by generous donors – thank you!



ALY'S STORY

Aly spent the first 369 days of her life in HSC Children's Hospital. Born early at 24 weeks, she needed a ventilator to breathe, spent five months in Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) and battled sepsis three times. She developed chronic lung disease and needed a tracheostomy – a surgical procedure to place a tube for breathing through the front of her neck – and other procedures.

During that first long year, as she got stronger, the Child Life team helped Aly and her parents – Devan and Cristina – make positive memories through Music Therapy, play, and holiday celebrations. Cristina is deeply grateful for their support.

“Having those opportunities for development and growth and just trying to normalize an otherwise not pleasant situation really meant a lot to me,” says Cristina. **“(When donors fund this program,) it’s not just a toy that they’re giving, they’re giving a memory, they’re giving hope.”**



Aly will continue to need care from the team at HSC Children's as she grows, and the Child Life team will be there to support her and her family all the way.



1,836

PLAYROOM VISITS



16,655+

BOOKS, DVDS,
AND MAGAZINES
BORROWED



3,132+

MUSIC THERAPY
VISITS



5,020

LIBRARY CART VISITS
TO PATIENT ROOMS



244

GOOD DAY SHOWS
ON CHILDREN'S
HOSPITAL TV



545

PRIZES GIVEN OUT
ON CHILDREN'S
HOSPITAL TV



197

PATIENTS VISITED,
CALLED OR
TEXTED CHTV



CHRIM researchers study diabetes, vaccines, kidney disease, respiratory challenges, emergency medicine, oral health, and much more. Here are just a few examples of their efforts:

- Dr. Meghan Azad and her team identified a 3-4% relative reduction in preterm births in high-income countries worldwide during the first four months of COVID-19 lockdowns. Potential reasons may include fewer non-COVID infections and reduced air pollution.
- Drs. Halayko and Mookherjee are seeking to learn more about the respiratory health impacts of health pollutants, including e-cigarettes, cigarette smoke and cannabis smoke, bringing deeper understanding to the biology of breathing.
- The diabetes research team identified mental health as a key factor in improving quality of life for children with diabetes. As a result, a pilot intervention is underway to incorporate behavioural therapy into care plans for adolescents with type 2 diabetes.
- The neurodevelopment and rehabilitation research group facilitated a new partnership between the Rehabilitation Centre for Children and the Manitoba Centre for Health Policy, making it possible – for the first time – to conduct research on long-term health, social and educational outcomes for children with diagnoses such as cerebral palsy or autism.

RESEARCH CREATES BETTER FUTURES

Research dedicated to the health and wellbeing of children is a critical component of child health. Thanks to donors like you, Children's Hospital Research Institute of Manitoba (CHRIM) – the research arm of Children's Hospital Foundation – is able to do this vital work, delivering the knowledge and understanding that is the foundation of care for sick and injured children in Manitoba and beyond.

History-making changes in child health are happening because of your continued support. In November 2022, a new CHRIM research theme was announced: Promoting Innovation in Mental Health through eHealth Excellence (PRIME). PRIME's goal is to help reduce wait times, provide supports, services and access to rural communities and reduce health system costs. eHealth technologies offer tremendous potential to increase the reach and impact of mental healthcare, while enhancing in-person services, tailored to community needs.



The PRIME research theme is fully funded at \$150,000 annually for the next three years thanks to the Sobey's Family of Support Child and Youth Mental Health initiative in partnership with the Foundation. We are grateful for Sobey's' incredible commitment to reducing the burdens of mental illness in Manitoba and potentially across the country.





KIDFISH



SALO FAMILY LIGHT SHOW



KIDFISH



KELLAN PRYOR MEMORIAL

CARING CREATES BETTER FUTURES

Kellan Pryor was born with a rare bone marrow disorder and passed away at four years old, after spending much of his short life at HSC Children’s. Kellan loved superheroes, and this year his family rallied together to honour him with a **superhero-themed social** in Crystal City and raise funds for sick and injured children. They raised over \$20,000, which will help families who need care at HSC Children’s.

Each winter in Selkirk, a hearty group of Manitobans head onto the Red River ice to support sick and injured children through the **KidFish Ice Derby**. Over the years, the KidFish crew has raised more than \$206,111 for on-unit playrooms and supports, so even kids with fragile immune systems can still just be kids in hospital. We could not have improved this vital programming without their commitment.

The **Salo Family Light Show** shone brighter than ever this holiday season! Thanks to their hard work, the generosity of their visitors, and their gracious neighbours, they raised over \$1,800. Even the Grinch was seen making a gift from the heart!



CAIN’S STORY

Cain has spent countless days on CK5, the cancer treatment ward at HSC Children’s: a biopsy, 29 weeks of intensive chemotherapy and surgeries to remove a tumour and replace his tibia bone with a donor bone. While this was incredibly hard on his body, the Child Life team helped ensure that Cain had a chance to enjoy just being a kid.

For Cain, that meant getting involved in CHTV – Children’s Hospital Television and their interactive live show hosted by Child Life specialists and Noname the sock puppet.

During his many stays at HSC Children’s, Cain was invited to appear on The Good Day Show and even created his own characters to join Noname.

“This was everything to Cain and it brought joy into his stays at the hospital,” says Danica, Cain’s mom. **“When he was on the show it was like he was himself again.”**

Cain, now age 9, is officially in remission, back home and thriving.



SHANIA'S STORY

Healthcare heroes help kids and families at HSC Children's Hospital every day, and the impact they make can last a lifetime. Public speaker and youth activist, Shania Pruden, says she wouldn't be the person she is today without the support of the hospital. At three years old, Shania had pneumonia and needed emergency care at HSC Children's. She spent weeks in hospital recovering, along with her mom and two siblings. The Pinaymootang First Nation family had recently moved to the city from Dauphin and was facing challenging times at home. Shania says staff at the hospital not only helped her heal, but spent time with her mom and provided resources she needed to move forward. Now Shania is in her twenties and has found her own way to give back as an advocate for mental health, sharing her story to help others.

COMMUNITIES CREATE BETTER FUTURES

Experienced baker **Angela Husmann**, President of Diva Delights, knows that the most amazing cookies start with the best possible ingredients: high-quality flour, fresh eggs, rich creamy butter and a touch of sugar. It's no surprise, then, that they chose to support HSC Children's with some of the best possible "ingredients" needed to provide amazing care for sick and injured children: patient lifts and tracks, mechanical lifts, a bladder scanner, and all-important vital signs monitors. Her willingness to invest in this crucial, practical equipment allows dedicated healthcare professionals to provide safe and efficient support for each patient in their care.

"We feel fortunate that HSC Children's has been there, providing quality care when our own kids needed it the most," says Angela. "We are happy to be able to continue to support such a vital resource in our province." The Foundation, in turn, is immensely grateful for the generous support of the Husmann family and people like them, who understand that the best equipment can transform child healthcare, one child at a time.



Big bear hugs to **Gymkyds Gymnastics Centre!** This amazing crew hosted a fundraising event with bear gymnastics, face painting, crafts, and much more! Over 1,000 kids visited, and they raised almost \$3,100 for families who need HSC Children's.



The **Popeyes Chicken Sandwich Combo promotion** in support of the Foundation raised more than \$10,000 for specialized tools in the Pediatric Epilepsy Monitoring Unit at HSC Children's. Huge thanks to Popeyes (and the chicken was delicious)!



2022 saw the return of many community fundraising events – including golf tournaments. The many generous golfers who support the Foundation on the links were especially happy!

Since 1987, **BMO Financial Group** and its employees have raised more than \$1.5 million for the Foundation, in support of specialized equipment, innovative programs and pediatric research. 2022 was a record-breaking year for the 31st annual Bear's Paw Golf Tournament, raising \$73,511.01. This tournament was the Foundation's largest virtual tournament in 2020 and 2021!



Every August for the past 26 years, dairy farmers and industry partners get together for a friendly game of golf that makes a big difference in their communities. As one of the beneficiaries, the Foundation is *moost* grateful for **Dairy Farmers of Manitoba** and their commitment to child health. They donated a record \$43,206.24 in 2022!

Gescan raised almost \$28,000 for kids at HSC Children's at the company's first golf tournament – part of their Canada's Children's Hospital Foundations (CCHF) commitment in action! – and the **Michael Wirth Annual Memorial Golf Tournament** supported excellence in cardiac care for kids, raising \$17,505. **Access Credit Union** hosted TWO charity golf tournaments this year, raising over \$112,500.



Thank you to all the volunteers, golfers and sponsors who choose to support Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba through their love of the game. You make better futures possible for sick and injured children in Manitoba and beyond.

KIDS CREATE BETTER FUTURES

IT'S WONDERFUL TO SEE KIDS HELPING KIDS THROUGH A VARIETY OF WAYS!

Siena was born with a hole in her heart, requiring open-heart surgery in another province. The teddy bear she was given to cuddle on the journey has been warming her heart ever since. Now a happy, healthy 11-year-old, Siena has started *i heart bear hugs* in hope of providing a teddy bear to every child who needs heart surgery. "I hope they feel loved," says Siena.

Talaina made and sold more than 70 gnome ornaments this holiday season, raising over \$300 for HSC Children's. **Ruby** has been fundraising through Ornaments for Owies since she was 2 years old; this year she donated \$310!

Big bear hugs to **Ms. Bacon's Grade 1/2 class** from Robert H. Smith School! The class was awarded funds through a Winnipeg Police Association Cool 2Be Kind grant to purchase books for the HSC Children's Library Program – very cool indeed!

Huge thanks to these kids and their families, friends, and neighbours for making, selling, and enjoying lots of delicious lemonade! **Alexandre, Arielle, Angeline** and **Aubrie**; **Friends of Lakelyn**; **Oli and Alex**; **Isia**; friends **Talaya, Kendel, Joy, Amelia** and **Norah**. Special thanks to **Caleb, Hazel,** and **Georgia** and mom **Jenaya** who had a pumpkin stand last fall to raise money for sick and injured kids. Outstanding!

Alexis made and sold Christmas ornaments, and she ended up raising \$1240!





EMMA'S STORY

At just six months old Emma was diagnosed with infantile spasms – a rare form of epilepsy – at HSC Children's Hospital Emergency. Guided by tests conducted in the Pediatric Epilepsy Monitoring Unit at HSC Children's, Emma, now 7, has undergone two major brain surgeries and has now been seizure free for over two years.

"It's very important to give to the Children's Hospital because the Emergency Department is the first place you go in an emergency and without it I feel like some kids like Emma might not have gotten the help they needed," says Sarah, Emma's mom.

"Without donors, kids in Manitoba don't get the opportunity to have the special care they need. We're just thankful."

NETWORKS CREATE BETTER FUTURES

The Foundation is a member of **Canada's Children's Hospital Foundations**, which runs the Canadian branch of **Children's Miracle Network**, raising funds and awareness for children's hospitals like ours through fundraising partnerships with national organizations. All funds raised by corporate partners, their associates and customers in Manitoba, stay in Manitoba. Thank you!



Children's
Miracle Network®



DURACELL®



NORTHERN
REFLECTIONS

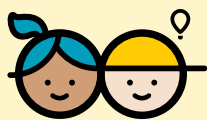
PARTYLITE®

RE/MAX®



Walmart*

CANADA'S
CHILDREN'S
HOSPITAL
FOUNDATIONS



Champions

Children's
Miracle Network

Every year, we select a champion to serve as the face of kids treated at HSC Children's. Keira, our 2022 Champion Child, spent the year sharing her exceptional story with thousands of people, encouraging support of child health through local events and CMN partner programs. We are so grateful for Keira and her family. *(Read more about Keira on the back cover.)*





WALMART

WALMART ONTARIO VISITS

For the first time in several years, our Champion Child Keira travelled to Dryden, Kenora, and Fort Frances to visit each Walmart and celebrate the support they provide HSC Children's. Keira got to meet and greet the Walmart teams in southwest Ontario who work so hard to raise critical funds in support of sick and injured kids.



RE/MAX

RE/MAX 30 YEARS OF PARTNERSHIP

RE/MAX real estate professionals lend support to valuable local initiatives, organizations and programs that make a profound difference in the care and quality of life for Canadians. They have contributed \$1.5 million dollars to the Foundation since the partnership began. 2022 marked RE/MAX's 30th year of partnership with Children's Miracle Network. What a legacy!



DAIRY QUEEN

DAIRY QUEEN MIRACLE TREAT DAY BACK IN ACTION

After two years of COVID challenges, Miracle Treat Day was in full swing this year. Proceeds from every Blizzard® Treat sale that day at all Dairy Queen locations in Manitoba benefited HSC Children's. DQ employees across the province decorated their stores, hosted parking lot parties, and dressed as their favourite Blizzard® Treat flavour. Thanks to the DQ team and communities across Manitoba, Miracle Treat Day raised almost \$130,000 in a single day!



EXTRA LIFE

EXTRA LIFE CELEBRATION

Every year, hundreds of gamers in Manitoba raise funds in support of the Foundation through the Extra Life program. Extra Lifers are devoted to making a difference in Manitoba through gaming, whether video games or board games. In 2022, the Extra Life gaming community hosted the first ever "Extra Life Winnipeg Wrap Up Party" to celebrate raising over \$580,000 since 2013!



TOGETHER WE CREATE BETTER FUTURES

Though gale-force spring winds blew the **Children's Hospital Foundation Golf Tournament** into the fall season, good-hearted golfers and sponsors alike made it worth the wait. The annual tournament raised an incredible \$264,000, in partnership with **Keeping Kenzi Close**, a charity founded by Corinne and Kris Kopansky in memory of their daughter, Kenzi.

We are grateful beyond measure for the dedicated volunteers that help make our Signature events possible. Their determination, creativity and boundless generosity directly benefit sick and injured children in Manitoba and beyond.

2022 Golf Tournament Committee

Corinne Kopansky – Chair
 Kent Bannister
 John DiQuinzio
 Vlad Dumitrescu
 Holly Glew
 Juice Lambert
 Tony Martone
 Scott McDonald
 Perry Miller
 Tom Walus
 Pat Werestiuk

2022 Gala Committee

Alanna Babakhanians – Chair
 Marina Clay
 Lainie Filkow
 Laura Fitzpatrick
 Sam Globerman
 Karin Holmes
 Lisa Holmes
 Ashley Holtmann
 Christa Mottola
 Carmen Provinciano
 Nadia Singh
 Shima Talebi
 Lacey Terwin



The **Ice Crystal Gala** was sweeter than ever this year, as we welcomed guests, sponsors, and volunteers back for a candy-coated family event, raising more than \$650,711 to help kids like Emma (story on page 3). The evening was a whirlwind of fun, with bouncy castles, glitter tattoos, a table full of candies, sweet treats, and so much more.

Because of you, the annual holiday campaign was one for the record books. A record-breaking \$560,000 was raised for HSC Children's Emergency Department and other vital projects through donations large and small. Special thanks to the **Transolutions Truck Centre Family** and the **Talbot Family Foundation** for matching gifts to the campaign! More than \$230,000 was raised on Giving Tuesday in November, from donors all over the province and **Qualico**, who TRIPLED the value of each gift made that day. The **Children's Hospital Foundation Guild of Manitoba** continues to fund critical projects for sick and injured kids through their many endeavours, including the Under the Tuscan Sun Dinner, the Parisienne Fashion Show and Luncheon, Sew4Kids and the Nearly New Shop. Our hearts are full!



SPECIAL PEOPLE CREATE BETTER FUTURES

RUTH KETTNER

Ruth worked in the HSC Children's Child Life Department from 1970 to 1987 and became director in 1971. She passed away in February 2023 at age 99. Ruth helped pioneer many programs to support families in hospital including CHTV and medical puppets to teach kids about what they will experience in hospital. Her legacy continues to make a life-changing difference for sick and injured children, each and every day.



Several years ago, Ruth's family created an endowment fund in her name that will help further educate and inspire those involved with the Child Life Department. Endowments like this help provide a stable and ongoing source of income in support of vital research, specialized equipment and innovative programs like Child Life. We are truly grateful for each and every fund, every donation and every donor.

PETIT FAMILY

With honour and gratitude, we thank the Petit family for their dedication to helping kids like Éveline. Éveline Petit was born with kidney disease and has needed specialized care at HSC Children's. This year, to celebrate Éveline's successful kidney transplant from dad Marquis, her grandfather, JP, and her family created an event called Cycle4Eveline to raise funds for her care and for Nephrology at HSC Children's. JP planned to cycle 1,350 km total, from Winnipeg to Kidney Springs, SD.

Tragically, JP passed away as a result of an accident during his ride. The family generously donated \$18,876 raised through JP's ride and memorial gifts, knowing the impact it would have.

"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 makes them feel they're not alone when their world has just been turned upside down." – Candice and Marquis, grateful parents.



BOOK MARKET IS BACK!

After a two-year hiatus during COVID-19 years, the Children's Hospital Book Market once again had readers from all over the province lining up to fill their bookshelves, raising funds to help sick and injured kids. Established in 1961, the Book Market is the longest-running volunteer-organized event in support of the Foundation. Dedicated volunteers sort, price, pack, move, set up and sell the books for two sales each year. For the Fall 2022 sale, moving the donated books required 87 pallets on four 53-foot semitrailers – incredible! Big bear hugs to EBD Enterprises Inc. and RS Express Ltd. for stepping up to transport these pallets and pallets of books, and to our community for their unflinching enthusiasm for this special project.



THANK YOU KEIRA!



Keira Davlut, our 2022 Champion Child, was born with craniosynostosis, a disorder where the plates of the skull fuse too early, not giving the brain enough space to fully develop. Keira returned to HSC Children's for several surgeries, with her first at just 9 months old. Although she continues to have some vision impairment, today Keira is a happy and healthy 12-year-old.

As an ambassador, Keira spent the last year speaking on behalf of 140,000 other children who need the Children's Hospital each year. She attended more than 40 events to share her story, showcase the amazing work and research being done in Manitoba, and encourage others to support the #GiveBetterFutures campaign.

But Keira did more than talk! She and her family raised \$17,117.44 through her fundraising page, a virtual auction, quiz night, and garage sale. Keira presented this gift to the Child Life team to help these specialists further support patients' development when medical situations arise. The money will help fund special activities designed to promote child development and ensure kids still get to be kids when in hospital.

"When I've been helped at Children's Hospital through surgeries and specialists, I also always felt safe and happy because the Child Life program was there for me with fun things to do," says Keira. **"I want to help other kids who need to be in the hospital to have that great support from Child Life Specialists and enjoy things like music therapy and CHTV."**

From the bottom of our hearts we thank Keira for everything she has done over the past year as our Champion Child.



Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba
533A-715 McDermot, Winnipeg, MB R3E 1M6
(204) 204-594-5323 or 1-866-953-KIDS (5437)

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