



Gratitude Report 2025-2026



The
Children's
Hospital
Foundation
of Manitoba

YOU HELP KIDS LIKE 2025 CHAMPION CHILD JACK

Jack Johnson left a lasting impact during his year as Manitoba's Champion Child. He is a bright and determined child who loves collecting flags, flying kites and fishing. Born at just 26 weeks, at just over two pounds, Jack faced challenges from the start including hydrocephalus and the loss of his twin brother Jori after six days.



Before Jack's first birthday he needed seven lifesaving surgeries at HSC Children's Hospital. He now lives with cerebral palsy and uses mobility aids like walkers and canes. Despite these challenges, Jack's resilience shines and he approaches everything with an "I can do it" attitude.

In 2025 Jack stepped into his role as the Champion Child with courage. His story opened hearts across the province, reminding everyone that kids who need Manitoba's only children's hospital are never alone on their journey.

Beyond Jack and his family speaking at over 40 events, Jack had unique experiences in his Champion year, including raising his flag at Winnipeg City Hall for National Child Day, fishing with dedicated donor Ken Talbot, exploring the flags at the Manitoba Legislative Building with Manitoba Premier Wab Kinew and raising critical funds for child health research.

Thank you, Jack!



Jack flying Champion Flag at City Hall

DONORS INSPIRE INNOVATION AT MANITOBA'S ONLY CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

At Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba, innovation means more than breakthroughs in the lab. Innovation is in every new piece of equipment that speeds up a diagnosis or makes treatment safer and more comfortable, every Child Life program that eases a child's fear and provides comfort and distraction, and every research discovery that changes pediatric care. Your support makes innovation possible.

When kids like 2025 Champion Child Jack share their stories, we're reminded of the needs facing Manitoba's only children's hospital and how the leading-edge work being done every day at Children's Hospital Research Institute of Manitoba (CHRIM) can help.

"The research is important because the advances in treatment and medication provide the ability for children like Jack to survive. Then, the specialists at the hospital have that knowledge. Their expertise really helps us stay informed and calm because we know the best people are taking care of the situation."—Jack's Dad, Jason

Jack inspires us to do more, and as always donors like you are answering that call. Our generous community raised a transformational **\$13,527,465** in 2025-26! From the bottom of our hearts, thank you! Those funds are revitalizing spaces where families spend endless hours in treatment, making first-in-Canada projects to support Indigenous kids possible, funding the latest equipment, and fueling world-class research right here in Manitoba.

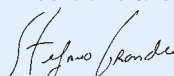
Children are our future, and we still need your help to make sure kids at our Children's Hospital continue to get the best care possible. Please help us #ContinueCaringForKids!

With gratitude,

LAURA MATLASHEWSKI
Chair



STEFANO GRANDE
President & CEO



A full list of donors in
2025-26 can be found at:
goodbear.ca/donors2025-26

SIX WAYS YOUR SUPPORT INSPIRED INNOVATION IN 2025-26

1 YOU'RE PROVIDING COMFORTING, COLOURFUL ENVIRONMENTS FOR KIDS FACING LONG HOSPITAL STAYS

Thanks to your generous support, construction is underway to revitalize patient rooms, treatment areas, and family spaces in CK5—the childhood cancer, blood disorders, and transplants ward at HSC Children's Hospital. This project will improve kids' care through reimagined spaces, upgraded equipment and technology, comfortable and modern furniture, and ongoing research into childhood cancer through CHRIM. Plus, we've invited local artists to bring colour and creativity to the spaces where kids spend so much time.



Pop-up CK5 room with Kal Barteski art

2 YOU'RE SUPPORTING RECONCILIATION IN HEALTH CARE

Work has begun, thanks to donor generosity, on the Indigenous Community Healing Space at HSC Children's—a landmark project that is fully Indigenous-led by Elders, Knowledge Keepers, and health care leaders, as well as children and families from Métis, Inuit, and First Nations communities in Manitoba.



Celebrating the start of construction on the Indigenous Community Healing Space

This is the first Indigenous healing space designed specifically for kids and their families in a children's hospital in Canada, placing Manitoba at the forefront of reconciliation in health care.

3

YOU MAKE SURE HEALTH CARE TEAMS HAVE INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY AND TOOLS

Donors help make sure frontline teams have the cutting-edge equipment they need to provide kids with the best care possible. In 2025-26, your support helped purchase more than **\$4 million** in equipment including items like vein finders, ophthalmology lasers, a mini C-arm X-ray machine for Children’s Emergency, and an ENT CO₂ surgical laser to make ear, nose and throat procedures faster and safer.

Plus, thanks to you, remote monitored bed technology is expanding at HSC Children’s so all 100 inpatient beds will be compatible with remote monitored equipment. This includes 18 new monitors for spaces like the emergency department and the neonatal and pediatric intensive care units.

Leading technology also allows the best and brightest working at CHRIM to unlock the mysteries of childhood illness, like the ChemiDoc machine that lets scientists “see” inside cells, and the Dual Energy X-ray Absorptiometry (DXA) scanner, with updated programming, allowing scientists to assess body composition in children to discover relationships with clinical outcomes like asthma and cardio-metabolic health.



YOU HELP MAKE KIDS SMILE BY SUPPORTING AN EARLY START FOR ORAL HEALTH

The Healthy Smile Happy Child (HSHC) initiative at CHRIM is celebrating 25 years of helping kids and families get an early start on oral health. Founded in 2000 and led by internationally recognized expert Dr. Bob Schroth, the community-based program focuses on preventing Early Childhood Caries, also known as childhood tooth decay or cavities.

Through culturally grounded outreach, education, and strong partnerships, HSHC reaches approximately 5,000 community members and 150 health professionals every year. The program continues to play a vital role in reducing barriers to care and setting children on a lifelong path to healthy smiles.



Healthy Smile Happy Child volunteers show kids how to brush their teeth at Teddy Bears' Picnic

5

YOU'RE HELPING IMPROVE CARE AT CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL EMERGENCY

Thanks to your support, construction to revitalize Children's Emergency—improving patient and staff experience and safety—is set to begin in late 2026. Because of you, children and families will benefit from better care experiences and enhanced clinical capacity when they need it most as well as specialized research focused on emergency care through CHRIM.

The project has expanded through extensive clinical consultations to ensure the department fully meets the complex and evolving needs of the children and families we serve. The total project will now include critical enhancements to expand mental health capacity and support.

6

YOU MAKE THE SEASON OF GIVING MORE MEANINGFUL

Your support inspired hope for families in hospital over the holidays by raising a record **\$737,346** during the season of giving, including matching gifts from Qualico and anonymous donors on Giving Tuesday, and matching gifts from the Talbot Family Foundation, Ken and Peggy Talbot, and the K+P Talbot Community Fund at Dr. Goodbear's Holiday Give-a-thon and throughout the holiday season.



Ken Talbot at Dr. Goodbear's Holiday Give-a-thon

YOU INSPIRE INNOVATION AT MANITOBA'S ONLY CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL



233
BEDS



4,958
SURGERIES



6,637
ADMISSIONS AND
TRANSFERS-IN



76,848
CLINIC
VISITS



132,251
CHILDREN CARED
FOR IN HOSPITAL



43,413
EMERGENCY VISITS
45% 0-4 years old,
average of 119 per day



2,356
EMERGENCY MENTAL
HEALTH VISITS

55%+

KIDS LIVE
OUTSIDE
WINNIPEG

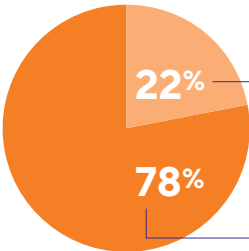
UP TO 70%

KIDS FROM
INDIGENOUS
COMMUNITIES

22% required admissions

YOUR DONATIONS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

FUNDS RAISED



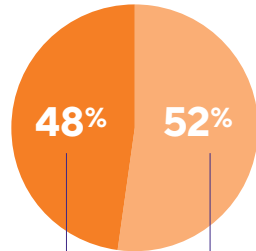
EVENTS

Including Children's Miracle Network, Canada's Children's Hospital Foundations, Ice Crystal Gala, Children's Hospital Foundation Golf Tournament, Dr. Goodbear's Holiday Give-a-thon and more

PROGRAMS

Including individual and community giving

FUNDS GRANTED



HOSPITAL
EQUIPMENT
& CARE
PROGRAMS

LEARNING
& RESEARCH

YOU HELP KIDS LIKE JACOB

Jacob was born with cleft lip and palate and will need treatment at Children’s Hospital as he grows. So far, he’s had three surgeries—two for his lip and one for his palate.

As he gets older, Jacob will be supported by specialists with many more procedures for areas like his teeth, gums, lips, and nose. Jacob’s family is grateful for the amazing team that’s been with them every step of the way.

Now three years old, Jacob is thriving and loves playing at the park, riding his electric mini car, swimming, and roaring like a dinosaur.



“By sharing our journey, we hope to motivate others to support Children’s Hospital because donations can make a real difference in the lives of children and families in need of care.” – Jacob’s mom, Joanna

Families who share their health journeys help support the 140,000 kids who need HSC Children’s each year, and countless more who benefit from life-saving research at CHRIM. If you have a story to share, please connect with us at goodbear.ca/shareyourstory.



YOU INSPIRE INNOVATION IN CHILD HEALTH RESEARCH

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF MANITOBA (CHRIM)



400+
RESEARCHERS



30+ RESEARCH
AREAS OF FOCUS



\$27M+ ANNUAL
FUNDING AWARDS



3,700+ FAMILIES
ENROLLED IN RESEARCH STUDIES



75 ACTIVE STUDIES IN THE
RESEARCH SUPPORT UNIT

Your generosity makes the work of CHRIM possible – directly fueling breakthroughs in child health. Plus, your support helps investigators secure external funding, multiplying the impact of every dollar you give.

Through the Foundation's granting program, in 2025-2026, 10 grants totaling \$499,785 were awarded to CHRIM researchers, including how Gestational Diabetes in mothers affects insulin in babies (Drs. Christine Ducette and Peter Thompson), rates of childhood and adolescent obesity and how new medicines may help (Dr. Shweta Mital), and surveying doctors and parents about the use of medical cannabis in children with autism (Dr. Lauren Kelly).



"Research is how we move medicine forward to provide the best screening, prevention, and treatment practices to keep Manitoba children living their best healthiest lives."

– Dr. Brandy Wicklow,
Interim Co-CEO CHRIM

Let's make breakthroughs possible!

Photo credit: Jonathan Wilson, University of Manitoba

YOU HELP KIDS LIKE ELLA

At just three years old, Ella was diagnosed with leukemia. During her treatment, Ella needed many areas of care in Children's like the Pediatric Day Unit and Children's Emergency Department. She spent the most time in CK5—the childhood cancer, blood disorders, and transplants ward—where children and their families face the most challenging time of their lives.

Ella's family is grateful for the childhood cancer researchers at CHRIM, who are working to improve treatment and care for kids like Ella.



"It does mean a lot that there are people actively researching, coming up with new treatment plans, maybe more effective treatment plans."
– Ella's grateful mom, Camille

Thanks to donor generosity PROMISE (Pediatric Research in Oncology in Manitoba: Innovation, Science, Excellence), a research theme at CHRIM, is reimagining the ways to perform childhood cancer research. PROMISE brings together a tightly connected group of scientists, clinicians, and families to collaborate in unlocking the mysteries of childhood cancer.



YOUR TIME MAKES INNOVATION POSSIBLE

MARKING A MEANINGFUL MILESTONE: 65 YEARS OF BOOK MARKET

Thanks to dedicated volunteers and supporters like you, the Children's Hospital Book Market celebrated 65 years of fundraising for families. This beloved community event is the longest-running volunteer-organized event in support of the Foundation and has raised over \$10 million since it was established in 1961.

We're so grateful for the volunteers who gave their time and talent to make anything possible for kids in hospital! Thank you to every single person who showed up to help at events like Teddy Bears' Picnic and Children's Hospital Book Market, to our dedicated event committees planning and executing unforgettable experiences, and to the Children's Hospital Foundation Board sharing expertise and working to further our mission.



Volunteers are the heart of our organization, and the Children's Hospital Guild of Manitoba is creating a lasting legacy of caring. Our deepest gratitude goes to the Guild members who organize fundraisers like the annual Fashion Show and Luncheon, craft meaningful comfort items for families in hospital with Sew4Kids, run the Nearly New Shop, and continue to find creative and compelling ways to #ContinueCaringForKids.



DONORS INSPIRE INNOVATION BY SHARING THEIR STORIES

We're so grateful for the many ways donors support children in hospital, including by opening up about their own inspiration to give.

TWO FAMILIES, ONE HOPE FOR CHILDREN WITH RARE DISEASES EVERYWHERE

Two families with no previous connection to Manitoba, the Blanch family of Edmonton and the Wasmund family of Vancouver, are closer to finding answers about a rare condition affecting their kids thanks to groundbreaking research at CHRIM.

At CHRIM, Dr. Paul Marcogliese is leading innovative, globally recognized work on KAT6A and KAT6B syndromes, which can lead to symptoms like intellectual disability, developmental delays and more.

Both Audrey Blanch and Heather Wasmund live with KAT6 syndrome and have their own unique set of symptoms. Dr. Marcogliese's work may bring the Blanch and Wasmund families closer to answers, which in turn provides them with hope.

A LIFETIME OF CARING AND A LOVING GIFT

Sharon Torgerson was a devoted mother, daughter, wife, and nurse. We were honoured to receive a bequest in Sharon's will to help us continue caring for the children.

In her husband Glen's words: "Sharon had a big place in her heart for those who were sick, vulnerable, or less fortunate than she was. She would be happy to know that her donation will be used to help and support children and families."





YOU INSPIRE INNOVATION IN COMFORT PROGRAMS FOR KIDS

Because of you, kids in hospital still get to be kids. Child Life programs rely 100% on donor funding. The Child Life team provides purposeful and fun opportunities for distraction and play, constantly finding new ways to engage and interest kids during difficult times.



3,310

**PLAYROOM
VISITS**



19,317

**BOOKS AND DVDS
BORROWED**



4,212

**GOOD DAY SHOWS
ON CHILDREN'S
HOSPITAL TV (CHTV)**



2,868

**MUSIC THERAPIST
INTERACTIONS WITH
PATIENTS & SIBLINGS**



867

**PRIZES GIVEN
OUT ON CHTV**



144

**PATIENTS WHO
CALLED OR
TEXTED CHTV**



4,212

**LIBRARY CART
VISITS TO
PATIENT ROOMS**



310

**PATIENTS
AS GUESTS ON
THE GOOD DAY
SHOW**



840

**THERAPEUTIC GAMING
AND TECHNOLOGY
SUPPORT SPECIALIST
PATIENT VISITS**

Big bear hugs to everyone who helped kids in hospital celebrate special moments in 2025-26! Players from CFL teams stopped by with the Grey Cup; the Winnipeg Blue Bombers, Winnipeg Jets, Winnipeg Mayor Scott Gillingham, and Winnipeg Ghostbusters stopped by in December to spread some holiday cheer; KidFish brought balloons and other treats during their annual Valentine's Day visit; Heather's Pretty Parties characters made magic for kids and so many more.



“Children are using technology in their everyday lives and being able to provide them therapeutic gaming and technology in hospital, thanks to donors, is beneficial to their emotional and physical wellbeing.”
 – Sherry Treichel, Child Life Specialist

OUR COMMUNITY INSPIRES INNOVATION

We're thankful to be part of a national network of partners that support local children's hospitals each year. Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba is one of 13 foundations that are part of Canada's Children's Hospital Foundations (CCHF). CCHF also is a proud member of Children's Miracle Network (CMN) in Canada, which raises funds and awareness for children's hospitals across North America. All funds raised through our partners in Manitoba stay in Manitoba.



View partners who support Manitoba's only children's hospital at goodbear.ca/CMN.



The Extra Life Winnipeg Guild revamped an amazing event, Extra Life North, with Extra Lifers travelling from as far as Ottawa and Florida to attend two days of gaming tournaments to raise funds for Manitoba's only children's hospital.



Costco raised \$313,351 thanks to extremely generous members and corporate support. The top cashier, Heather, collected nearly \$15,000 at her till alone!



Great Canadian Oil Change had a record-breaking year, raising \$22,742 by fostering amazing team spirit, decorating their shops with window art and CMN balloons, and offering coupons to those who donated.



The Brick raised \$141,083 in 2025 – an amazing year of staff going above and beyond and decorating their stores in honour of 2025 Champion Child, Jack.

GENEROUS LOCAL PARTNERS AND COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS MAKE INNOVATION POSSIBLE FOR KIDS WHO NEED TREATMENT AND CARE

Highlights from 2025-26 include:



Khalsa Aid Manitoba hosted a meaningful 10km walk and donated \$10,000.



Bear Music Fest brought together local musicians like Sierra Noble and raised \$2,500.



Manitoba Maharlika Lodge's annual Oktoberfest raised their steins to raise \$5,500.



Canada Cycles for Kids donated \$75,000 towards life-saving equipment.



Adventure Power Products collected over \$5,000 during their Santa's Off-Road Express photo event.



#KidsHelpingKids made an impact with projects led by youth, including Maxy and Nico who sold plants and veggies and raised \$3,035.



Brandon Area Community Foundation has generously supported kids in hospital for five consecutive years with a total of \$165,000, and in 2025 gave \$50,000 towards reimagining CK5.



Hyundai Hope on Wheels made a generous \$100,000 donation and celebrated with a handprint ceremony, plus Winnipeg Hyundai donated an additional \$25,000.

To every partner and community champion who continues to ask their networks, organizations and supporters for donations to support kids who need HSC Children's Hospital: thank you!

YOU INSPIRE INNOVATION THROUGH MEMORABLE MOMENTS

Supporters showed up ready to rally for kids in hospital at the Foundation's signature events. Thanks to your generosity, we raised a record-breaking **\$2.5 million** while also coming together as a community and making lasting memories.



Families, kids, and their favourite stuffy friends had tons of fun at the 36th annual Teddy Bears' Picnic and thanks to your generous support, the event raised **\$229,372**.



Golfers spent a tee-rific day out on the links and took their game to the next level by raising **\$216,138** at the Foundation Golf Tournament.



Ice Crystal Gala's Island Vibes adventure flew us all south for a warm and wonderful night that brought in **\$1.9 million** for families who need Manitoba's only children's hospital.



Dr. Goodbear's Holiday Give-a-Thon brought families and supporters together to raise more than **\$212,000** – thanks to the generosity of our donors and the incredible matching support from the Talbot Family Foundation, Ken and Peggy Talbot, and the K + P Talbot Community Fund.

BEAR HUGS TO THESE INNOVATIVE AWARD-WINNING SUPPORTERS AND TEAM MEMBERS!



The Better Futures Campaign Cabinet received the Outstanding Philanthropic Group Award from the Association of Fundraising Professionals Manitoba Chapter after raising an unprecedented \$112 million in support of child health in Manitoba.



Children First Canada recognized past Manitoba Champion, Janessa, nationally with the Guiding Light Award and the Association of Fundraising Professionals Manitoba Chapter gave her 2025's Outstanding Youth in Philanthropy Award.



The Winnipeg Mayor's Volunteer Service Awards celebrated the heartfelt work of Corinne Kopansky, Committee Chair for the Foundation Golf Tournament and founder of Keeping Kenzi Close.



LET'S MAKE
ANYTHING POSSIBLE



Support child health
care and child health
research today at
goodbear.ca.



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