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The 2023 impact report is produced in partnership by Children's Hospital of Richmond at VCU and Children's Hospital Foundation. Information in this report reflects data collected during the 2023 fiscal year (July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023).

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Elias Neujahr, MHA, MBA President

C.D. Anthony Herndon, MD

Surgeon-in-chief



Shari Barkin, MD, MSHS Physician-in-chief Chair, Department of Pediatrics



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Lauren Moore President and CEO Children's Hospital Foundation



Jeniece Roane, PhD, RN, NE-BC Vice president of operations



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Associate chief nursing officer

Matthew Schefft, DO, MSHA Associate chief quality and safety officer

A letter from Elias Neujahr

President, Children's Hospital of Richmond at VCU

Unstoppable momentum

It's been a banner year at Children's Hospital of Richmond at VCU, marking the opening of our new Children's Tower while celebrating our 103-year history of nurturing the champion in every child.

When we opened the Children's Tower, we set out to deliver on a multi-decade promise to our community, our kids and our teams to increase access to pediatric care while enhancing the patient experience in a completely kid-focused facility. We are proudly caring for more kids than ever. For some families that means receiving care close to home—and for others that means traveling past other children's hospitals for specialized care right here at the Children's Tower.

One of these families was the Piersons, whose 3-year-old daughter Maddie (pictured on cover with registered nurse, Jasmine Lawrence) moved on opening day into the pediatric bone marrow transplant unit of the Children's Tower. Maddie was one of the first patients in the country to receive a targeted treatment which successfully eliminated her rare and challenging form of leukemia.

CJ Sears came to the Children's Tower emergency department by way of a small community hospital following a fall in physical education class. After orthopaedic surgery and an overnight stay, he returned home to continue healing.

Undeniable impact

We saw tremendous growth in 2023—from caring for kids from 49 states and outside the U.S. to double-digit increases in patient volumes—and nearly doubling the number of pediatric programs ranked among the nation's best by U.S. News & World Report.

We're not done yet. Many exciting advancements are underway including the expansion of our Children's Tower, growth in our mental health programming, expansion of our heart center, new and innovative research opportunities and much more that will impact the lives of kids across Virginia, and beyond.

I invite you to read more to see the undeniable impact and unstoppable momentum of our teams and generous community. Thank you for being an important member of the CHoR family.





Welcoming Dr. Shari Barkin

Dr. Shari Barkin was drawn to CHoR in August 2022 to lead the team as physician-in-chief and chair of the Department of Pediatrics at VCU School of Medicine. The accomplished academic pediatrician and trailblazer saw the Children's Tower—and the smart, curious, compassionate and high-integrity people with whom she'd collaborate—as an opportunity she couldn't pass up.

"From my perspective, CHoR and the Department of Pediatrics are at an inflection point," said Dr. Barkin. "Not only have we opened this beautiful new space, but it symbolizes what we are promising to do for children in Richmond, the region and beyond."

When Dr. Barkin isn't seeing patients or guiding her team, she's investigating and addressing health disparities and challenging public health issues like obesity through clinical research. She sums up her motivating force as "doing good work with good people to make a positive difference in the world." We're grateful she's doing this at CHoR.

Children's Tower

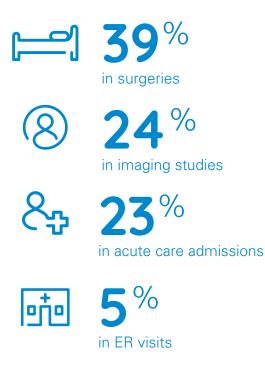
A decades-long dream of a completely kid-focused hospital in Richmond became a reality with the opening of the Children's Tower on April 30, 2023. During a time when hospitals across the country are shuttering pediatric units to make room for more adult beds, VCU Health and CHoR remain committed to providing the specialized care kids need in environments designed for them.

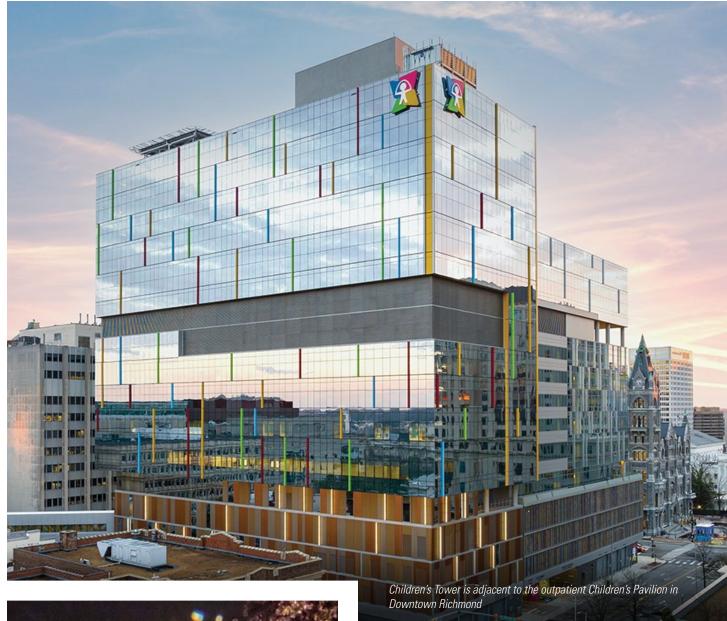
The Children's Tower is a full-service, comprehensive home for pediatric inpatient, emergency and trauma care. Kids are also cared for in pediatric-focused units for services once shared with adults—including cellular immunotherapies and epilepsy monitoring. With safety at the forefront, the tower layout promotes team collaboration and an approach to care that puts the patient and family at the center.

CC

Ashley Ferguson's daughter, Claire, has frequent stays at CHoR for her complex medical needs.

"In a world where there's so much negative going on, being part of this experience with hundreds of people who are coming together for something that's going to be a tremendous asset for Richmond and the surrounding community has been such a blessing," said Ferguson of being among the first families to experience care in the Children's Tower. In the first three months of operation, the Children's Tower supported increases of:







Goodnight lights

First responders from throughout the region flashed their vehicle lights on the streets below to help kids settle in for their first night in their new hospital rooms.

"The Children's Tower is truly a dream come true for our community, our families and our team members," Jeniece Roane, vice president of operations for CHoR said. "The goodnight lights celebration was an opportunity to show our children that there's a larger community rallying around them on opening night—and every night."

Built for kids. Built by you.

In 2019, Children's Hospital Foundation launched the \$100 million Built for Kids, Built by You capital campaign to support construction of the Children's Tower. Thousands of community members have supported our campaign through personal giving and advocacy. When it concludes, the campaign will account for nearly one quarter of the total cost of the facility. <text><text><text><text><text>

Children's Tower ribbon cutting

Government, hospital and foundation leaders join a CHoR patient in celebrating what the Children's Tower will mean for kids and families

Capital campaign timeline

2019



Current and former patients participate in the groundbreaking ceremony for the Children's Tower in June 2019.



Dr. Matt Schefft leads a tour through a cardboard mock-up of a patient room in 2019.



Donors Nate and Jamala Arland sign the final beam at the Topping Out Ceremony to commemorate the completion of the facility's steel structure in 2021.



VCU alums and supporters of the capital campaign Joey Stemmle (left) and Timmy Nguyen (right) take a hard hat tour of the Children's Tower's acute care unit in December 2021.



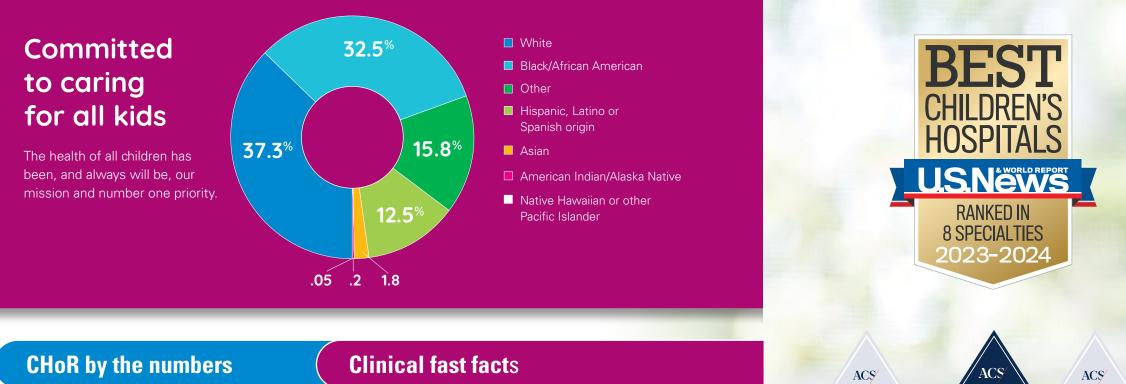
Members of Children's Hospital Foundation's Senior and Junior Boards tour a patient room at the Children's Tower opening celebration in March 2023.



2023



In April 2023, team members from Estes Express Lines delivered Squishmallows for the children who moved into the inpatient units on opening day as well as toys, games and other supplies to stock the tower's three playrooms.



191 beds	
53 specialties	

240 pediatric doctors

13 locations

60[%] Medicaid

Clinical	fast facts

395,111 outpatient visits **23,763** emergency department visits 514 traumas 8,524 admissions 5,142 surgeries



SURGICAL QUALITY

PARTNER

Trauma

Verified Trauma Center

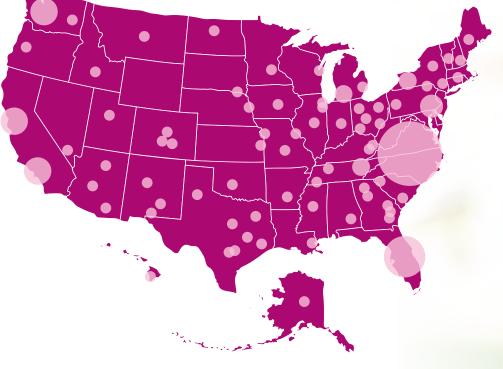


CSV



Families travel for care at CHoR

We saw patients from 49 states and even many international locations.













Honors and achievements

NATIONALLY RANKED.



U.S. News & World Report ranks CHoR among the nation's best hospitals for kids

U.S. News & World Report has named CHoR one of the nation's best hospitals for kids in eight out of 10 pediatric specialties—the most since the Best Children's Hospital rankings were established. Our continued advancement in these rankings speaks to the priority we place on delivering quality, safe and innovative care for children every day.

Top 10 in the region

We're also rated among the top 10 children's hospitals in the Mid-Atlantic region, including Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Washington, D.C. and West Virginia.



Generous community support through Children's Hospital Foundation has helped advance all of these nationally recognized programs, recruit outstanding clinicians and ensure exceptional care for kids.

Nephrology

- Unique team approach for the whole child and family
- Same or next day access and second opinions
- Dialysis options in the outpatient Children's Pavilion and at home
- Robust transplantation program
- Ninth time ranking among the best in the nation



Crossing country lines for Maydelin's life-saving kidney care at CHoR

Like most parents, 15-year-old Maydelin Juarez's mom, Consuelo, is willing to go to great lengths for her daughter's health—including visiting multiple hospitals and moving to a new country to find the right kidney transplant care.

CC.

From the day we arrived, we felt relief in our hearts seeing how everyone treated us so kindly. The doctor, nurses and social worker were all very attentive and gave us high hopes. Coming here was the best decision we could make. — *Consuelo*

Left, Maydelin Juarez with her nephrology team (from left) Emily White, NP, Jules Cook, RN and Timothy Bunchman, MD



Pulmonology

- Top 10 nationally ranked for cystic fibrosis outcomes
- Cystic Fibrosis Foundation accredited center
- State leader in asthma management with focus on asthma disparities
- Access to life-changing clinical trials and the latest therapies
- International leaders in pulmonary research

You Can Control Asthma Now (UCAN) Program helps keep kids in school and out of the hospital

UCAN's patient-centered, culturally sensitive, relationship-based care model empowers kids and families to lead active and healthy lives, even with asthma. The program has seen incredible success through case management, screening and follow-up of social needs, educational support and regular medical check-ins.

92[%]

of parents missed 0 days of work due to caring for a sick child with asthma symptoms compared to 78% prior to enrolling

80%

of children avoided asthma-related urgent care visits altogether compared to only 28% prior to enrolling

78%

of children enrolled in the program missed 0 days of school related to asthma, compared to only 50% prior to enrolling

9%

of kids received 3 or more refills of albuterol (primary rescue medicine) compared to 63% prior to enrolling



Neurology & Neurosurgery

- Level 4 Epilepsy Center with dedicated pediatric epilepsy monitoring unit
- Advanced, minimally invasive treatment for common neurological conditions
- Research and clinical trials that attract children from across the globe
- Life-changing gene therapy for neuromuscular conditions

Children's Tower supports next generation gene modifying therapy research

Research participant helps advance care for Duchenne muscular dystrophy

Damarius White helped us mark an exciting milestone as the first patient admitted for a research study in the new Children's Tower. The 11-year-old baseball fanatic and his CHoR team are working together to discover the next generation of gene modifying therapy for Duchenne muscular dystrophy, or DMD. Damarius stayed in the hospital for two nights, but the research isn't done. Dr. Amy Harper and team continue to follow him closely to track his progress. Damarius has also been seeing our nephrology team over the years for elevated kidney levels, benefiting from coordinated care from two of our nationally ranked teams. *(photo of Damarius shown above)*

Gastroenterology & GI Surgery

- Unique neuro/gastro expertise in complex autonomic disorders
- Comprehensive feeding program and dietary support
- Specialized programs for acute and chronic conditions
- Numerous support groups for patients and families

Gretchen Gregor, now an 18-year-old college student, has been on a roller coaster with her health since she was in fifth grade. With a POTS diagnosis and Dr. Gisela Chelimsky and team by her side, Gretchen has endless possibilities in front of her.

(photo of Gretchen and her mom shown below)



Diabetes & Endocrinology

- Clinical trials and innovative therapies for diabetes treatment and prevention
- American Diabetes Association designated diabetes education program
- Comprehensive weight management care, including adolescent weight loss surgery
- Care for the entire child, including depression screening with follow-up and support groups
- Effective outpatient management with reduced hospital admissions for children with diabetes

Tackling diabetes early with teplizumab

High school sophomore and avid runner William Troutman has never had any symptoms of diabetes, yet he spent two weeks in our infusion clinic receiving medication to delay its onset. After his sister was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes, he was identified as a candidate for a new FDA-approved drug, TzieldTM (teplizumab). William traveled from his home in North Carolina to Richmond to be among the first in the country to receive it with Dr. Bryce Nelson at CHoR.







Cancer

- Clinical trials and gene therapy
- Stem cell transplantation, including CAR-T for refractory leukemia
- Psychosocial care for the whole family
- Affiliated with VCU Massey Comprehensive Cancer Center
- Dedicated cellular immunotherapies unit in new Children's Tower

Hematology and oncology services are supported by local children and families through the Anthem LemonAid fundraising event each July. (photo to left, Kyleigh Beasley and her family)





Neonatology

- Level 4, private-room NICU
- Prenatal/fetal complex care and neonatal continuing care programs
- Neonatal transport team providing ground and air transport for medically complex newborns
- Only hospital in the region to offer lifesaving ECMO for neonatal patients
- Sustained quality improvement supporting infection prevention and antibiotic stewardship

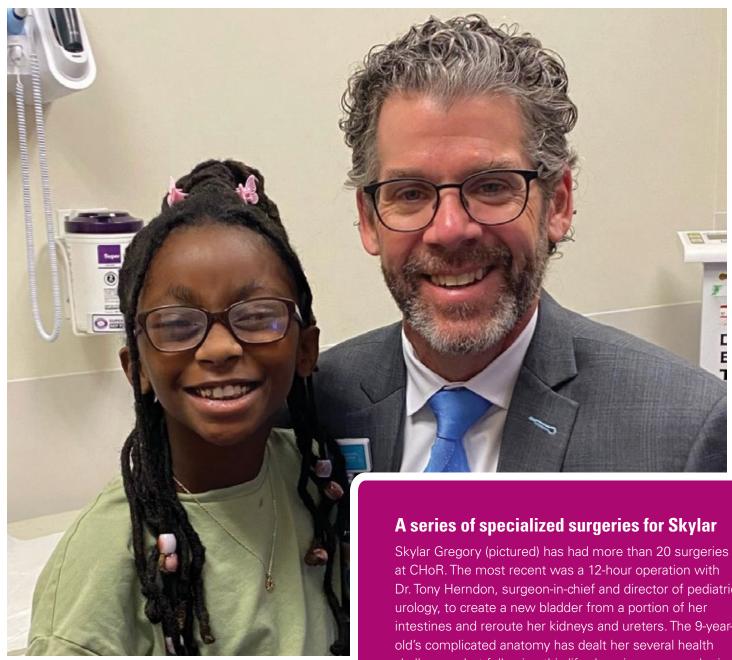
Starting celebrations early

When families come to CHoR for the most advanced care for their premature and critically ill newborns, they get a dose of lighthearted love too. The team takes extra measures to spread joy in the NICU, from celebrating holidays to cheering on our favorite basketball team-Go Rams!









Urology

- Advanced robotics program for minimally invasive surgeries
- Site of national registry for children with prenatal hydronephrosis, supporting research into effective treatment development
- Expanding and improving access to specialty urologic care
- Excellent outcomes including zero surgical revisions in the past three years

Dr. Tony Herndon, surgeon-in-chief and director of pediatric intestines and reroute her kidneys and ureters. The 9-yearchallenges, but following this life-changing surgery she is feeling better than ever, has improved confidence and is thriving in school

National leader in prenatal hydronephrosis

CHoR is the lead site, with Dr. Tony Herndon as principal investigator, for the Society for Fetal Urology Multicenter Prenatal Hydronephrosis Registry. The registry serves as a foundation to better understand and develop best practices for the evaluation and management of this condition.

Quality and safety

When families bring their children to CHoR, they're trusting we will provide the best and safest care possible, and we're committed to making sure that's exactly what they get. This is evident in procedure success rates, low infection levels and processes in place to ensure high-quality care—many of which contributed to our Best Children's Hospitals rankings.



Following the ERAS guidelines used by top children's hospitals nationwide, we help patients reduce pain, manage fluids and improve clinical outcomes after a variety of surgeries. Getting out of bed, moving around and returning to a normal diet help the body improve function, reduce blood clots and return home more quickly and safely.



Clinical guidelines

Experts from specialties across CHoR develop clinical guidelines based on their combined expertise and reviewed evidence. These workflows and suggested best practices are accessible by clinicians throughout CHoR and beyond to improve care and shorten hospital stays for kids.



We care for kids with complex medical conditions that can put them at risk for sepsis, a serious and potentially deadly blood infection. As a member of Improving Sepsis Outcomes, a national collaborative for pediatric sepsis, we remain up to date on the latest screening processes and treatment procedures which we can customize to meet patients' specific needs. For example, an alert system in our ED helps our clinicians swiftly identify children at risk for sepsis and begin timely treatment.



Environments and protocols designed for safe, quality care also support a positive experience for patients and families.



Research and education

Child Health Research Institute

Discovering new drugs, participating in clinical trials and ensuring equitable care are among the many ways research at CHoR is leading to improved health and a better future for our children.

A 5-year, \$2.1M grant from Children's Hospital Foundation supported establishing the Child Health Research Institute in July 2020. The goals were to improve the infrastructure researchers need to pursue their studies, better inform VCU and the research community of CHoR's commitment to research, and invest in early-stage projects that will lead to bigger external grants. In three years, a \$722,975 investment has led to \$4,423,818 in external grant funding for a more wide-reaching positive impact on children's health at the bedside, home, school and greater community.

This running start provides great promise for the years to come.

Teaching, Encouragement, Exercise, Nutrition and Support

TEENS is a National Institutes of Health funded research program studying how best to involve parents in their teens' weight loss journeys. Enrollees participate in weekly group sessions for four months, receive a YMCA membership and participate in a cooking class—all at no cost to them. The TEENS program has partnered with 212 families in Central Virginia to advance the field of overweight and obesity management, so we can offer effective treatments here at CHoR and recommend them to other hospitals across the nation.



Leading the effort in muscular dystrophy research

The Center for Inherited Muscle Research (CIMR) at CHoR brings together a collaborative team of clinical and research experts to pursue a new frontier in diagnosing and treating genetic disorders of the muscle.

As one of very few sites in the U.S. offering the full bench-to-bedside spectrum for muscular dystrophy, CIMR is uniquely positioned to leverage existing excellence in patient care and research to quicken the pace of discovery.

Since 2017, the neuromuscular clinic has been designated as a Muscular Dystrophy Association Care Center, a distinction awarded to only 150 hospitals that are helping to advance clinical care and medical research. This distinction, coupled with the collaborative, multidisciplinary approach to clinical care draws patients from all over the world.

Training the next generation of pediatric physicians

We're proud to be part of an academic medical center, offering the best care for kids today and educating future pediatricians and pediatric specialists. When trainees come to CHoR, they're immersed in all aspects of pediatric medicine, from primary care to level I trauma and innovative research.

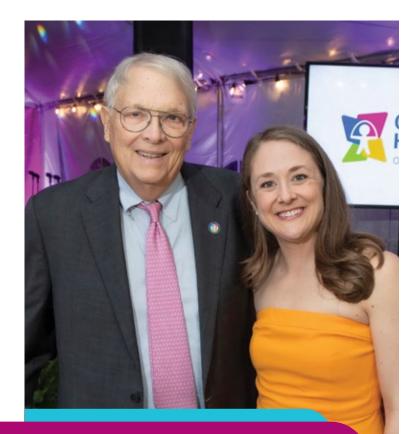
Medical education at CHoR: Fast facts

- Largest pediatric residency program in Virginia
- Diverse team of residents, fellows and faculty mentors across pediatric subspecialties
- Unique two-week residency rotation schedule promotes trainee wellbeing through work-life balance
- Integrated internal medicine-pediatrics residency program offers depth of expertise in each discipline
- Fellowship programs provide advanced training in 14 specialty areas of pediatric research and practice



In 2023, the CIMR team served patients from 26 states and 6 countries.





Philanthropy

A letter from Lauren Moore

President and CEO, Children's Hospital Foundation

2023 was a momentous year. Look to the Richmond City skyline and you'll see the Children's Tower, our new inpatient hospital that was decades in the making. Inside that tower and our other locations, you will find pediatric specialists of all disciplines, including eight nationally ranked specialties, caring for more children than ever before.

Thanks to the thousands of individuals, businesses and organizations who gave generously this year, our Foundation celebrated its most successful fundraising year in history, enabling us to continue growing, innovating and advancing the care we provide and the number of kids we help. As we approach the conclusion of our \$100 million capital campaign for the Children's Tower, we have our sights set on what comes next, including building out additional spaces in the tower, investing in research and bringing new pediatric specialists and programs to our region.

Thank you for being our partners in ensuring our hospital will continue to be there to meet kids' needs and help protect the magic of childhood.

(Left, Lauren Zaller Moore with Coley Wortham, chairman of the Children's Hospital Foundation Board of Directors, at the Children's Tower opening celebration)



\$1.1 million raised through Children's Miracle Network

Hospitals' partners and programs



Spirit Halloween

(Above) CHoR's child life team celebrated a \$164,140 donation from Spirit Halloween raised through the company's annual Spirit of Children campaign.





Words & Wisdom

(Below) New York Times-bestselling author Beth Macy (center) was the featured speaker at Words & Wisdom presented by Spurrier Group, an annual fundraiser planned and organized by the Senior Board of Children's Hospital Foundation.



Hyundai Hope on Wheels

Donor impact

Children's Hospital Foundation works to maximize philanthropic impact in children's health at Children's Hospital of Richmond at VCU, driving excellence in patient care, education and research.

By the numbers

\$ \$25.97 million raised 12,811 gifts **7,765** donors



Giving together

Susan Russell and Barrie McDowell, pictured at Children's Hospital Foundation's Annual Ball made a joint donation to the Built for Kids, Built by You capital campaign to support the Children's Tower emergency department.

\$894,000 raised by the Junior Board of Children's Hospital Foundation through the 59th Annual Ball to support the Built for Kids, Built by You capital campaign

予 \$1 million

donation from The Saunders Family Foundation to establish the Victoria B. and Paul H. Saunders Chair in Pediatric Orthopaedics

(Left) Dr. Elizabeth Krieger assists a patient during a handprint ceremony celebrating the \$200,000 young investigator grant from the Hyundai Hope on Wheels program to support Dr. Krieger's research.

Capital Square

(Below) Team members from Capital Square, which is a Vision Partner in Children's Hospital Foundation's Corporate Champions program, delivered toys during CHoR's annual holiday in-kind donation drive for child life.



\$1 million

anonymous donation to establish a Pilot Scholars Program at Virginia Treatment Center for Children



Community outreach, partnerships and advocacy

From community partnerships and public health initiatives—to advocating for children's health at our nation's capital—we reach outside the walls of our hospitals and clinics to improve the health of children throughout the commonwealth.

Health in schools

CHoR specialists collaborate with schools to address kids' health needs, such as hydration, simple illnesses, COVID-19, obesity or mental health, in their daily environments.

Telehealth

When kids have a rash, stomachache or other nonemergency medical situation at school, parents are often asked to pick them up and come back with a doctor's note. A partnership with Henrico County Public Schools allows the school nurse to coordinate a telehealth appointment with a CHoR pediatrician and parents to participate on their phone or computer, wherever they are—keeping kids in school and parents at work when possible.

Project ADAM

Through a program called Project ADAM, a team at CHoR helps schools ensure they're prepared to care for students, faculty, staff and visitors who may experience a sudden cardiac arrest. CHoR is the first and only Project ADAM affiliate in Virginia, working with 28 counties across Virginia and designating six schools as "heart safe" in 2023.

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When you consider 20 percent of a community is in its schools most days during educational time, sports and other extracurricular activities—many lives can be saved through access to AEDs and proper education and practice to address these medical emergencies when they arise.

— Dr. John Phillips, Project ADAM medical director at CHoR

Medical-Legal Partnership

Pending evictions, rodent infestations, custody battles and other issues at home can have serious consequences on children's health. Medical-Legal Partnership-Richmond provides free legal advice and representation for eligible low income and underserved patients and families.

Virginia Children's Care Network

At CHoR, we're committed not only to the kids and families who come through our doors, but to engaging our community to enrich the health and lives of all children. Virginia Children's Care Network is a clinically integrated network supported by CHoR and managed by community pediatricians from across the region. Its mission is to improve the health of Virginia's children by improving access to medical services, coordinating care, enhancing communication and professional satisfaction and expanding opportunities for quality, safety, research and education. To date, nearly 170 pediatric providers from both large and small practices have joined VCCN, impacting 100,000 kids and counting across the commonwealth.

Family Resource Center

The Family Resource Center in our Children's Pavilion connects families with services to help secure food, housing, transportation and other resources to support their health and wellbeing.

Supporting our families

We're grateful for the dozens of organizations, such as RMHC, ASK and Connor's Heroes, that offer families support to complement the care they receive at CHoR.

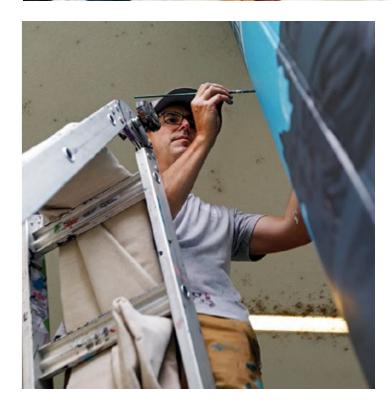
RMHC

There's nothing more important than the comfort of family. Ronald McDonald House Charities® of Richmond provides our CHoR families with hot meals, snacks, rejuvenating activities, childcare in the Children's Pavilion Sibling Center and overnight accommodations so they can focus on what's most important—their kids.

ASK Childhood Cancer Foundation & Connor's Heroes

These non-profits give financial, educational, emotional and day-to-day support to families facing cancer. Whether in the clinical setting or community, the ASK and Connor's Heroes teams understand the stresses that come with a cancer diagnosis and step in to help—often before families even realize they need it.









first patient

The first patient to move into the Children's Tower was 12-year-old Cheyenne Snell, who was awaiting surgery for a brain tumor.

Leave Your Mark

Richmond-based artist Matt Lively painted whimsical animals doing outlandish activitiesas suggested by patients and the community—on pillars across the Sky Terrace to raise funds for the Children's Tower.



Creating magic in the hospital

Patients and caregivers enjoy a show in the bright and cheerful performance space, which invites normalcy and fun through dance performances, puppet shows, magicians and more.

Partnering to advance care for kids

Children's Hospital Foundation supporters Kathie and Steve Markel visited with Dr. Shari Barkin (right) at a welcome event showcasing Dr. Barkin's vision shortly after she joined the CHoR team as physicianin-chief and chair of the Department of Pediatrics at VCU School of Medicine.





Dogs on Call

Our furry friends from the Dogs on Call therapy dog program took a break from visiting patients to join us for our Children's Tower community block party.

Unstoppable care for kids

With more than a city block dedicated to caring for kids in downtown Richmond and satellite locations throughout Central and Northern Virginia, we provide compassionate, convenient and specialized care for every pediatric need.

Care for kids Adolescent medicine Allergy and immunology Anesthesiology Assistive technology Audiology Burn Cardiology Cardiothoracic surgery Child protection Critical care medicine Dentistry Developmental pediatrics Emergency medicine Endocrinology and metabolism Feeding Fetal cardiology Gastroenterology and nutrition General pediatrics Genetics Hematology and oncology Hospital medicine Infectious diseases Lactation Neonatal medicine Nephrology Neurology Neurosurgery Occupational therapy Ophthalmology Orthopaedics Otolaryngology (ENT) Palliative/supportive care Physical medicine and rehabilitation Physical therapy Plastic and reconstructive surgery Poison center Psychiatry Psychology Pulmonary medicine Radiology Rheumatology Sleep medicine Speech therapy Sports medicine Surgery Toxicology Transplant surgery Trauma Urology

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Multispecialty

clinics Anorectal malformations Asthma (UCAN) Autonomic Bariatric surgery Cancer predisposition Cerebral palsy Cleft lip and palate Concussion/TBI Craniofacial Craniosynostosis Eosinophilic esophagitis International adoption Neonatal continuing care Neurofibromatosis Neuromuscular PANDAS/PANS Solid tumor Spasticity Spina bifida Thyroid cancer Turner syndrome Vascular malformations Weight management

Inpatient units

Acute Care Pediatrics Cellular Immunotherapies Epilepsy Monitoring Evans-Haynes Burn Center Mental Health/Virginia Treatment Center for Children Neonatal Intensive Care Pediatric Intensive Care Transitional Care



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