125 Years of Caring
Thank you for giving our kids a chance to be kids.

Your Giving:

• Made a year-long celebration possible for Children’s Hospital (p. 2)
• Gave hope to families when they needed it most (p. 4)
• Helped tens of thousands of kids receive the care they deserve (p. 4)
• Inspired others to make a difference (p. 5)
• Gave Lejla the chance to say “I love you” (p. 6)

CJ,
cancer patient
(and local superhero)
A 125-Year Tradition of Caring for Every Child

More than 125 years ago, the Pittsburgh community came together to establish the region’s only children’s hospital, and in the time since, community members like you have continued to invest in this special institution.

So this past year, we celebrated. With your support, we marked this milestone 125th anniversary with a year-long, community-wide celebration. And thanks to you, we raised more than $22 million to support Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC!

Your investment in Children’s Hospital means that our kids receive the very best care available — care grounded in advanced research and exceptional training, care that focuses on healing the whole family, care that gives our kids the very best chance to make a full recovery so that they can get back to just being kids.

You are the reason we have much to celebrate. Without you, we wouldn’t have 125 years of caring to commemorate — nor a world of possibility ahead of us. Thank you for making such a difference.

During Children’s year-long anniversary celebration:

- 150 generous corporate partners committed their support to help make the 125th anniversary year celebration a success
- More than 400 kids and adults shared their stories through Children’s Giving Booth
- 2,500 walkers came out to support the first-ever Walk for Children’s
- Nearly 1,000 guests dressed in their finest black-tie attire and danced the night away at the It’s About Time! gala

In total, more than $22 million has been raised during the 125th anniversary year to support Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC.

DID YOU KNOW?

June 4, 2015

Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh Foundation hosts a kick-off event to launch the 125th anniversary campaign. Held in the hospital’s Eat’n Park Atrium, the kick-off welcomes patient families, staff, and community leaders, including State Senator Jay Costa, State Senator Wayne Fontana, Allegheny County Executive Rich Fitzgerald, and Pittsburgh Mayor Bill Peduto.

May 25, 2016

Patient Champion Medal Ceremony

Children’s Foundation holds a medal ceremony in the hospital’s Eat’n Park Atrium to honor patients. Hosted by retired Pittsburgh Steeler Brett Keisel, the event celebrates the tremendous resiliency of the many kids seen at Children’s Hospital.

June 4, 2016

Walk for Children’s

To close out this special anniversary year, families, caregivers, corporate partners, and other community supporters participate in the first-ever Walk for Children’s held at Flagstaff Hill in Schenley Park. More than 2,500 walkers participate in the event, which raises more than $611,000!

June 4, 2015

Children’s Giving Booth Debuts

Children’s Foundation debuts the Giving Booth, an interactive mobile story kiosk that travels to events throughout the region. The Giving Booth is an opportunity for people of all ages to share a story from their childhood about what it means to be a kid, or to share an experience they had at Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC. You can see those stories at givetochildrens.org.

October 2, 2015

It’s About Time! Black-tie Gala

Hundreds of friends of Children’s Hospital attend It’s About Time at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center. With honorary chair Joe Manganiello and many other notable Pittsburgh leaders in attendance, the gala is both a successful fundraiser and a fun way to celebrate 125 Years of Caring!
A Family Committed to Healing Little Hearts

Nothing can fully prepare parents for the news that their child is sick. For first-time parents Rich and Chelsea, that news came when their baby Teresa was only 2 weeks old.

Born a healthy nine pounds, Teresa entered the world with little sign of illness. But at her second routine well-child visit, Teresa’s pediatrician worried that something was terribly wrong. Teresa had lost weight and her breathing was erratic. The pediatrician advised Rich and Chelsea to take their infant daughter to the Emergency Department at Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC.

At Children’s Hospital, physicians diagnosed Teresa with a rare congenital heart condition. Teresa would need to have three open heart surgeries before her third birthday.

Over the course of the next three years, the family spent weeks at a time at Children’s as specialists worked to treat Teresa’s failing heart. But as difficult as it was for Rich and Chelsea to watch their baby girl endure the many tests, procedures, and surgeries that her condition necessitated, they found solace in the attentive care provided by the staff at Children’s.

“It is the scariest thing in the world to hand your baby over to others,” Chelsea recalls, “but everyone at Children’s is wonderful. The physicians and nurses treat so many people, but they make us feel special every time we’re there.”

The past three years were not without their sleepless nights and tear-filled days for the young family, but together, they made it through. Today, Teresa is a thriving preschooler and her parents are forever grateful for Children’s.

So with a boundlessly energetic 3-year-old Teresa at their feet, Rich and Chelsea are giving back to the institution they credit with saving their only child’s life. Through Teresa’s Hope for Hearts, a nonprofit organization they launched to help families coping with heart disease, Rich and Chelsea have raised more than $10,000 to benefit the cardiology program at Children’s.

Rich and Chelsea also joined Children’s Trust, a group of local leaders focused on pooling resources to invest in promising research at Children’s.

And just this past June, the family again worked to raise funds for the hospital when they recruited a Teresa’s Hope for Hearts team to participate in Walk for Children’s.

Rich and Chelsea looked at their smiling 3-year-old as she laughed and played along the Walk for Children’s route, and they remembered why they fundraise for Children’s. They do it to support kids like Teresa who aren’t yet able to walk for themselves. They do it to acknowledge the many Children’s physicians and staff who made an impossibly scary situation seem a little more manageable. They do it to help the tens of thousands of other families equally unprepared to hear the news that their child has heart disease.

They do it for their Teresa, the beautiful little girl who makes them grateful for every single day.

Determined to give families a place to turn when they need help most, Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC established the Center for Rare Disease Therapy in 2014. Consisting of international specialists with expertise in a range of pediatric subspecialties, the Center was developed to lead the way in the treatment of children with rare conditions. And that sometimes means working across teams to develop entirely new therapies to treat diseases for which no standard of care exists.

Jerry Vockley, MD, PhD, director, Center for Rare Disease Therapy and chief, Children’s Division of Medical Genetics, explains, “There are no barriers between specialties in the Center. If there is an important aspect of care that’s outside the primary physician’s area of expertise, there will be no hesitation about bringing in the best person to meet that need. So families can feel comfortable that, no matter what type of care their child needs, he or she will get it.”

This year, your investment in the 125th anniversary campaign will allow the Center for Rare Disease Therapy at Children’s to expand to reach more patients and families than ever before. In the months ahead, the Center will use a portion of the campaign funding generated through your support to: 1) Hire a new Care Coordinator to act as the “face” of the Center — a trained genetic counselor who families can contact directly when they have questions about navigating a child’s care or need help understanding their child’s diagnosis, 2) Fund promising research projects that have the potential to better the lives of kids battling rare disease, and 3) Host the 5th Annual Translational Medicine in the Plain Populations, a conference planned for the summer of 2017. The conference is designed to help physicians and researchers improve care for Pennsylvania’s Amish and Mennonite communities who are disproportionately affected by rare disease.

“Community support enables us to do truly innovative work,” Dr. Vockley shares. “Our vision remains a world in which every child has access to the individualized treatment he or she needs to live the fullest life possible.” Your contributions this anniversary year help to support this significant vision. Thank you for helping to bring hope to those who need it most.

### Lives You’ve Touched

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In this special anniversary year your contributions helped to support:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>19,864</strong> Surgical Procedures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1,255</strong> NICU Admissions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>324,047</strong> Outpatient Visits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>119</strong> Total Transplants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>21,303</strong> Inpatient Visits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>135,601</strong> Emergency and Express Care Visits</td>
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</tbody>
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### Giving Hope to Families Desperately Seeking Answers

Jerry Vockley, MD, PhD
Director, Center for Rare Disease Therapy
Chief, Division of Medical Genetics

Imagine learning that your child has a condition for which there is no known treatment. For families with a child diagnosed with a rare disease, this is often the case — making it feel like there is simply no place to turn.

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Gifts Like Yours Help to Support Innovative Therapies — This is Lejla’s Story

When a nurse in their local children’s hospital pulled Amanda and Adnan into a small hospital room to discuss their 18-month-old daughter’s condition, the worried parents knew immediately that something was seriously wrong.

Amanda and Adnan’s baby girl, Lejla, was battling a double ear infection and strep throat accompanied by a strange red rash. After an examination, doctors still weren’t quite sure what was wrong with little Lejla, so they ordered an MRI. The family prayed for good news.

But the moment the family was ushered into a private room in that busy hospital corridor, Amanda and Adnan’s hearts sank. In the seconds that followed, their lives changed forever as they learned that their baby girl had diffuse intrinsic pontine glioma (DIPG), an aggressive and difficult-to-treat brain cancer for which there is no known cure.

The next several hours, days, and weeks were a blur as the family met with teams of physicians, nurses and social workers at the pediatric hospital near their home in Minneapolis. Lejla had a biopsy followed by six weeks of radiation and three rounds of chemotherapy — a difficult course of treatment for an adult to bear, let alone a tiny toddler.

Lejla handled treatment well, but, given the type of cancer, Amanda and Adnan knew they needed to do more if Lejla was to have any chance at all. So when Lejla’s oncologists suggested a groundbreaking vaccine clinical trial at Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC, Lejla’s parents went to work researching the therapy.

Developed by Children’s Hospital neurosurgeon and researcher Dr. Ian Pollack, the pioneering vaccine-based treatment for childhood gliomas uses a protein-based vaccine to trigger the child’s own immune system to target and fight off the tumor cells. After learning that Lejla could participate in the immunotherapy trial, the family began making arrangements for their first visit to Children’s.

That initial phase of the trial wasn’t easy on the family: every three weeks, they flew from Minneapolis to Pittsburgh for Children’s neuro-oncology team to examine Lejla’s progress and administer her vaccine injection. Yet even in the beginning, Lejla seemed to do well on the vaccine.

Now in the second phase of the trial with injections administered once every six weeks, Lejla continues to do well. She just finished her 13th vaccine injection in June 2016, and her most recent MRI revealed that the tumor remains stable — great news for a child with Lejla’s diagnosis.

Lejla has reached significant developmental milestones on the vaccine. Before starting the trial, Lejla wasn’t able to walk unassisted, she avoided socialization with anyone other than her parents, and she couldn’t say any words. Now 15 months post-diagnosis, Lejla can walk (and even run with her new leg braces), she easily engages with others, and she recently started preschool.

And earlier this spring Lejla reached another special milestone. Just before Mother’s Day, 2-year-old Lejla gave her mom a gift Amanda won’t soon forget. With a determination her parents have come to expect from their little girl, Lejla summoned the muscle control she needed to tell her mommy “I love you” for the very first time.

Lejla’s physicians don’t yet know what the future holds for Lejla, but, for the time being, her parents are enjoying every moment that they get to spend with their little girl. Every new milestone, every hug, every naughty act is something to treasure. Your investment in Children’s this anniversary year helps to fund innovative therapies like Children’s glioma vaccine trial. Thank you for giving so generously of yourself to help make “I love you” moments possible for families like Lejla’s.

Your generosity accomplishes so much.

As we reflect on what has been an amazing 125th anniversary year for Children’s and look to the years ahead, we are reminded that we’ve come this far thanks to you. For all that you’ve done to better the lives of the kids and families we serve — to give them the opportunity to live the sort of lives most of us take for granted — we thank you. Gifts like yours help to build a better tomorrow, today.
THANK YOU
Together, we Give Kids A Chance To Be Kids.

125 Years of Caring was generously sponsored by

PNC

givetochildrens.org