



UPMC Children's heart patient, Coleson

Philanthropic Priorities at UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh

The Heart Institute

The Heart Institute at UPMC Children's Hospital cares for the tiniest of hearts to hearts that have lived a lifetime. At UPMC Children's, every heart patient receives care that is recognized among the best in the country — care that is informed by scientific discovery, translated by top researchers, and delivered by a renowned group of doctors, surgeons, and therapists. Among the many reasons families come to Pittsburgh for their child's heart care, the Heart Institute regularly performs among the top percentile of pediatric programs in the United States, with outstanding surgical outcomes, skillful specialty services, high numbers of complex cases, and a robust, collaborative, and experienced team to make this all happen. The team is already #2 in the country, but they are striving to do even more for children with heart disease. **Philanthropic investment in the Heart Institute at UPMC Children's will help to reimagine innovative, patient-centered cardiology care, recruit the best and brightest minds in the field, and expand to serve those in need — from newborn babies to the most complex cases.**

Pediatric Research

Research is essential to the future of pediatric health care, especially at a top hospital like UPMC Children's. It expands ideas, pushes boundaries, and solves questions that could save children's lives. It develops the most effective methods and tools to prevent, diagnose, treat, and cure illnesses. Cutting-edge research can mean that no child lives with a disease without the hope of a cure. UPMC Children's is considered a leader in pediatric research, and yet there are so many more questions to be answered. **Philanthropic investment in pediatric research will help to drive scientific discovery, fuel innovation in healthcare delivery and training, and grow talented teams to inspire collaborative, life-changing research.**

Child Life Department

At UPMC Children's Hospital, the Child Life Department supports and heals the spirit. From preparing for procedures and explaining reasons behind pokes and prods, to soothing through play and calming worries through song, Child Life serves each patient uniquely to ensure they feel confident and comfortable during their healthcare journey. Child Life is not reimbursable through insurance, yet it is considered one of the most valuable services the hospital offers. **Philanthropic investment in Child Life will help to generate engaging programming, make existing services even better, and serve even more patients and families.**

Raising the Bar

This fall, Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh Foundation launched Raising the Bar, a series that invites conversations about how philanthropy raises the bar for children.

You can learn more and watch past events at givetochildrens.org/raisingthebar.

Clinical Social Work

In a hospital setting like UPMC Children's – one serving urban, suburban, and rural families from western Pennsylvania to around the globe – patient families face a variety of challenges, stress, and anxiety. With the pandemic and its effects, this has only been heightened. UPMC Children's 38 social workers are in high demand at the 313-bed main hospital campus, Emergency Department, and outpatient clinics, and philanthropy helps to fuel their non-reimbursable, but critical, work. Every year, the clinical social work team serves tens of thousands of patient families and delivers over \$300,000 in financial assistance thanks to philanthropy. **Philanthropic investment in clinical social work will help to support the non-reimbursable but necessary services the team provides, serve more families, and unlock critical resources to support those families in their time of greatest need.**

Whole Child Wellness Clinic

Many children with developmental and behavioral health needs often experience a difficult journey toward wellness due to services that are fragmented or inaccessible. UPMC Children's partnered with renowned UPMC Behavioral Health Services to launch a behavioral health medical home pilot for children and adolescents, Whole Child Wellness Clinic. This clinic is the first of its kind in the United States, and if proven effective, could revolutionize how to care for behavioral health in children, minimize stigma, and lessen the burden on families. As a pilot, Whole Child Wellness Clinic is largely supported by philanthropy. **Philanthropic investment in Whole Child Wellness Clinic will fuel the 3-year pilot to evaluate care quality and feasibility toward expanding and sustaining this innovative concept.**

Initiatives for Type 1 Diabetes

Nearly 200,000 children, and counting, are diagnosed with type 1 diabetes (T1D). It's a disease that instantly changes what day-to-day life looks like – requiring monitoring blood sugar levels, insulin injections and/or pumps, regular checkups to ensure the disease is regulated, and more. Because T1D demands rapid adjustments, many children with T1D and their families struggle to reach and maintain healthy blood sugar levels. If blood sugar levels are not managed, children are at risk for serious complications and even death, and at present, there is no cure. There are many initiatives and research projects at UPMC Children's seeking to improve care for children with T1D – two of which are the Diabetes Wraparound Project, which is helping to address disease management for high-risk children with T1D today, and Gene Therapy Research in the lab of George K. Gittes, MD, which is seeking to provide a long-term, more permanent treatment option – or even cure. **Philanthropic investment in the Diabetes Wraparound Project and Gene Therapy Research will help to keep children healthy today while advancing promising long-term solutions, and even a cure, that could be just around the corner for tomorrow.**

Children's Hospital Fund

The Children's Hospital Fund is UPMC Children's unrestricted philanthropic resource. Support for this fund has always been crucial, and it especially important now. **Philanthropic investment in the Children's Hospital Fund provides confidence in resources to adapt to new protocols and methods of care, while continuing to serve children and families with minimal interruption, advancing life-saving scientific discovery, and ensuring compassionate, patient-centered programs are always available to those who need them.**

Join us in imagining what the next generation of pediatric healthcare can look like, and what we can accomplish for children together.

Thank you for your consideration and support of UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh. If you have questions or would like more information, please call 412-692-3900 and ask to speak with a gift officer.