Kit | 5 years old | Olathe

For children. For families. For answers.

Children's Mercy Annual Report 2017

Children's Mercy
KANSAS CITY

Meet Kit: From Chemo to Kindergarten Thanks to Research and Personalized Medicine

Kit and her family cherish 'simple every day moments.'

Kit doesn't remember life without chemotherapy. For good reason.

The 5-year-old old just started kindergarten this fall after her first chemo-free summer in more than two years. Since age 3, Kit has endured more than 20 spinal taps, multiple blood transfusions, surgeries and dozens of hospital admissions. She spent 859 days undergoing chemotherapy at Children's Mercy and finished her final treatment on June 17.

"Kit received the best possible cancer care we could've imagined. Children's Mercy is a true gem we're so very lucky to have here," said Mary Kate Van Sickle, Kit's mom.

Still, parents Mary Kate and Corey stress that the journey has not been all roses. Open sores on Kit's little fingers and toes and detached nails were painful side effects of monthly chemotherapies she received via a chest port. Periodically, she had to undergo anesthetic for a lumbar puncture that injected chemo into her spinal fluid.

"Childhood cancer isn't just bald kids beaming down from billboards," Mary Kate said. "Simple, every day moments now aren't 'every day' to us. We cherish each one as part of Kit's healing."

Thankfully, scientific investigation and personalized medicine helped save Kit's life. Committed to finding answers for children and families, Children's Mercy will also never stop asking questions … questions like, "What if Kit and her family didn't have to lose that time while she struggled through heart-wrenching pain? What if childhood diseases like the acute lymphoblastic leukemia that invaded Kit's tiny body were eliminated and children didn't have to suffer at all? What if her family never had to say, 'She's still not out of the woods' and wonder and worry every single day?"

Photography by Allison French of Allison Corrin Photography | allisoncorrin.com

> **"Simple, every day moments now aren't 'every day' to us. We cherish each one as part of Kit's healing."**
>
> *Mary Kate Van Sickle*

Highlights: Fiscal Year '17

July

The Cardiac High Acuity Monitoring Program (CHAMP) was in the spotlight the entire year … first during a presentation at Microsoft's annual employee conference at Disney World in Orlando; in October as the winner of the American Nurses Credentialing Center's 2016 Magnet Prize, which provided $50,000 to further develop CHAMP; and in February as a recipient of Microsoft Corporation's 2017 Health Innovation Award.

Crib seizure pads and Bereavement Bears were voted as the top ideas at the first SPARK (Sparking Pediatric Advancement and Revolutionizing Kids' Health) Employee Innovation Bash, which showcased 23 innovative ideas submitted by Children's Mercy employees.

August

Children's Mercy Pediatric Intensive Care Unit earned a **Silver Beacon Award** from the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses.

September

Children's Mercy founders Alice Berry Graham and Katharine Berry Richardson were named members of the 2017 class of the Starr Women's Hall of Fame at the University of Missouri–Kansas City.

Children's Mercy KANSAS CITY

For children. For families. For answers.℠

A new marketing campaign was launched with the tagline, "For children. For families. For answers." It features what sets our hospital apart from all the rest.

October

inside Pediatrics
CHILDREN'S MERCY KANSAS CITY

The documentary "Inside Pediatrics" earned Children's Mercy a **second Emmy** award for outstanding programming from the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences. The episode titled "The Heart of Children's Mercy" followed the journeys of two heart transplant patients.

2016

Sports Medicine Center
CHILDREN'S MERCY KANSAS CITY

Ground was broken for the new Children's Mercy Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation Center that will be part of Sporting KC's National Soccer Training Center in western Wyandotte County.

Children's Mercy announced that it will join with **Olathe Medical Center** to expand pediatric services in the southwestern part of the metropolitan area.

REAL FOOD NICK AND JAKE'S HONEST DRINK

Nick & Jake's Fore the Kids Golf Tournament and the Auto Dealers Association donated two ambulances to the hospital.

November

HOOPS FORHOPEUSA

Hoops for Hope basketball tournament increased the number of participating high schools from three to six and raised $58,000 for Children's Mercy.

January

Children's Mercy and The University of Kansas Cancer Center announced **four endowed chair appointments** that will help make Kansas City a global pediatric research innovation hub. The endowed chairs, made possible by $10 million in philanthropic support, will focus on genomics, health outcomes, hematological malignancies and immunotherapy.

February

RED HOT NIGHT

The 2017 Red Hot Night Gala shattered previous records, raising more than **$2 million**.

March

The Joint Commission conducted triennial surveys for Kansas locations in March, followed by Missouri locations and Children's Mercy Home Care in May. Surveyors were highly complimentary of our facilities and extraordinary staff and our journey toward becoming a "**High Reliability Organization**."

2017

Made possible by donor-funding, Michael Artman, MD, (chief of Pediatrics) and Tom Curran, PhD, FRS, (head of the Children's Research Institute) were named as the **first Eminent Scholars in the 120-year history of Children's Mercy**.

Children's Mercy was named by the National Association for Business Resources as one of the "Nation's Best and Brightest in Wellness in 2016."

BEST AND BRIGHTEST® IN WELLNESS

April

Occupancy of the **new Professional Office Building** on the Adele Hall Campus began, as about 345 physicians, advanced-practice providers and other staff members moved into the 23rd Street facility.

The Ronald McDonald Family Room at Children's Mercy—the first of its kind in the world—celebrated 20 years of providing a place of respite for patient families.

Ronald McDonald House Charities® Kansas City

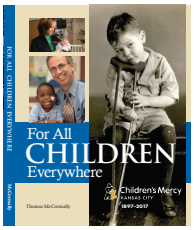
The Elizabeth J. Ferrell Fetal Health Center announced the official start of a Maternal Fetal Transport service, the only one of its kind in western Missouri and Kansas.

May

Children's Mercy announced its participation in the UMKC Health Sciences District, a collaboration unlike any other in the nation, combining the unique expertise and services of 10 partners to spur research and community outreach in service of the Kansas City region and beyond.

UMKC HEALTH SCIENCES DISTRICT
Healthier. Together.

June



For All Children Everywhere, the history of Children's Mercy, was published to coincide with the 120th anniversary of the founding of the hospital. In addition, "**The Children's Mercy Story**," a new historical display representing the 120-year legacy of the hospital, was unveiled on the Adele Hall Campus.

Passantino Golf Tournament celebrated 10 years of raising money for the Burn Unit.

DOMINIC L. PASSANTINO MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

U.S. News & World Report recognized Children's Mercy as one of the best children's hospitals in the country, **ranking Children's Mercy in all 10 pediatric specialties**.

BEST CHILDREN'S HOSPITALS
U.S.News & WORLD REPORT
RANKED IN 10 SPECIALTIES
2017-18

June

The eighth annual Big Slick Celebrity Weekend raised a record $1.75 million for the Cancer Center, bringing total donations to **$6.25 million** since the fundraiser began in 2010.

BIG Slick

Children's Mercy and Geary Community Hospital (GCH) announced plans to establish a pediatric specialty clinic on the GCH campus in Junction City, Kan., with a projected completion date of spring 2018.

Randall L. O'Donnell, PhD

Driven to find answers

Greetings, Nov. 2017

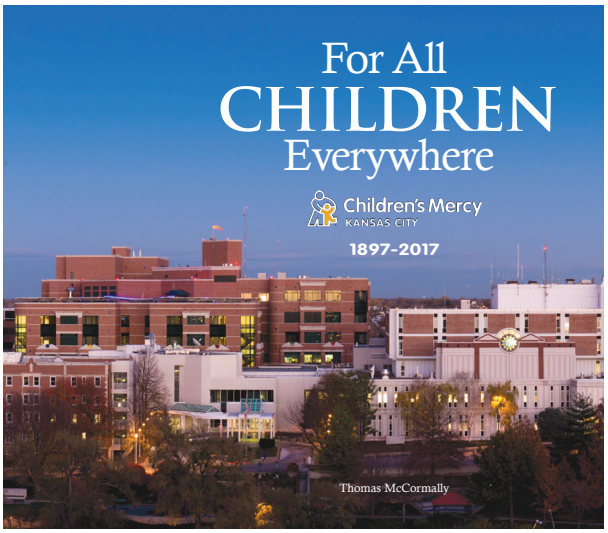
The good news about annual reports like this one is that they provide an opportunity to assess our progress. But sometimes, numbers alone can be a bit overwhelming:

- 500,000 patient visits.
- 20,000 surgeries.
- 200,000 emergency room visits.

While we report these, that's not where our focus is. Instead, Children's Mercy keeps its collective eyes on the individual children we serve. Consider Kit, the 5-year-old cancer survivor profiled on page 2. We look at each family and ask "How can we help you?" We seek answers one by one.

Fiscal Year 2017 was a remarkable year for Children's Mercy. This annual report brings you the highlights, shares some of the stories and displays the facts and figures. More than that, it seeks to portray the compassion and dedication of our staff, the gratitude we have for your amazing support and the commitment to a future of hope and healing.

This past year, we celebrated our 120th birthday. It was in June 1897 that our founders, Katharine Berry Richardson, a surgeon, and her older sister Alice Berry Graham, a dentist, picked up a sick little girl from the streets of Kansas City, took her to a rented bed in a women's hospital, and brought her back to health. You can read more about that story, and many others, in our new history book, "For All Children Everywhere."



Don't think of the book as an ending. With 120 years behind us, we're only getting started!

As we looked back, it became clear how these two remarkable women paved a way forward, a path we continue to follow more than a century later. Katharine was very much an innovator, pursuing alternative treatments when traditional medicine was not effective. She insisted we find a way to take care of all children–no matter their race or religion, their address or their financial situation. She stressed the importance of education for doctors and nurses and dreamed of the transformative power of medical research.

While we are a long way from 1897, the sisters' guiding spirit is still with us. Consider some highlights from 2017:

- New partnerships with Olathe Medical Center and Geary Community Hospital in Junction City, Kan., will allow us to reach even more children, more conveniently, than ever before.
- Tom Curran, PhD, the Executive Director of our Children's Research Institute, and Mike Artman, MD, Chief of Pediatrics at both the University of Missouri-Kansas City and the University of Kansas, were named our first Eminent Scholars, demonstrating an even stronger commitment to medical research and education.
- Our research efforts received boosts from the National Institutes of Health, from corporate sponsors and from philanthropists who endowed more chairs for world-class scientists.

- One of our most successful research efforts–the Cardiac High Acuity Monitoring Program, or CHAMP–not only helped keep some of our sickest patients safe at home with their parents instead of in the hospital between two crucial surgeries, it was also awarded a special 2016 Magnet Prize from the American Nurses Credentialing Center. CHAMP, with help from ANCC, Microsoft and the Claire Giannini Fund, is now spreading to children's hospitals across the country.
- During the most current year, Children's Mercy provided more than $172 million in charity care and unreimbursed costs, including a $144 million shortfall from Medicaid and other government programs. We also provided more than $10 million for community health programs.

None of these accomplishments would be possible without the strong support from our community. Almost from its beginning, Children's Mercy has enjoyed tremendous philanthropic support. "For All Children Everywhere" tells the stories of small children who gave their time, talent and treasures to help. Some of our early donors' grandchildren and great-children are continuing the tradition.

This past year was a record breaker for philanthropy, with more than $49 million donated to the hospital. Our Small Change–Big Difference campaign launched a birthday party program, providing children with an easy opportunity to give. Red Hot Night, our winter gala, shattered its previous records to raise more than $2 million on a cold February night. Just as summer was heating up, the Big Slick Celebrity Weekend brought in $1.75 million.

This kind of support is vital. All gifts allow Children's Mercy to be there for children and families that need us. We've recently launched our first-ever advertising campaign to remind people just how much we rely on their help, particularly in the uncertain times of health care reform and finance.

The Joint Commission made its accreditation visit to our hospitals in both Kansas and Missouri this year and offered high praise for our staff and facilities. U.S. News & World Report placed Children's Mercy in all 10 specialties as part of its Best Children's Hospitals rankings. Staff members were elevated to leadership positions in national medical and nursing organizations.

But, as I said, the numbers can be overwhelming, and only tell part of the story. We like to say that while being named one of the best is an honor, it means more to us to provide care, love and hope. That is a privilege.

One of the great pleasures of my job is meeting children and their families who come to us for help. We do what we do because of them. Here's a note we received when we asked families to share a bit of their stories for the history book.

"I love Children's Mercy for so many reasons. I love them because I felt I finally had someone fighting just as hard as I was to help my medically fragile child. I found a sense of belonging … I stopped fearing the future and started looking forward to watching my child grow."

It's a future we can all look forward to, because of you. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Randall L. O'Donnell, PhD
President and CEO

Board and Administration

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Mission

Improve the health and well-being of children by providing comprehensive, family-centered health care and committing to the highest level of clinical and psychosocial care, and to research, academic and service excellence.

Vision

To be a national and international leader recognized for advancing pediatric health and delivering optimal health outcomes through innovation and a high-value integrated system of care.

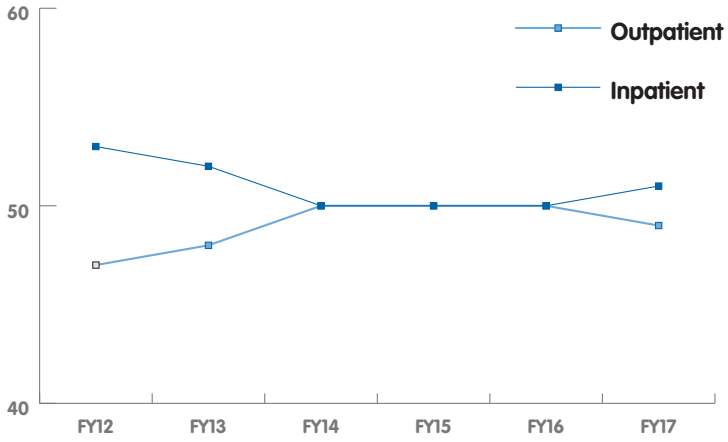
Facts and Financials

		FY 2017
Inpatient Care	Admissions	14,369
Patient Days	Average Length of Stay	6.1
	Average Daily Census	269.5
Outpatient Visits	Adele Hall Campus	177,950
	CM Kansas Specialty Center	55,055
	CM Northland Specialty Clinics	23,149
	CM East Specialty Clinics	10,069
	CM College Boulevard	23,480
	CM Blue Valley	3,913
	Primary Care Clinics	74,977
	Other	15,573
	Total Outpatient Visits	384,166
Emergency/Urgent Care Visits	CMH Emergency Room	67,362
	CM Kansas Emergency Room	41,987
	CM Blue Valley Urgent Care	24,621
	CM Northland Urgent Care	32,281
	CM East Urgent Care	34,061
	Total Emergency/Urgent Care Visits	200,312
Surgical Procedures	Inpatient	4,307
	Outpatient	15,856
Transports		5,415
Home Health Visits		4,433
Durable medical equipment deliveries		8,933
Telemedicine visits		1,011
Teleradiology		1,123
Full-time Employees		7,126
Volunteers		1,312
Medical Staff		766

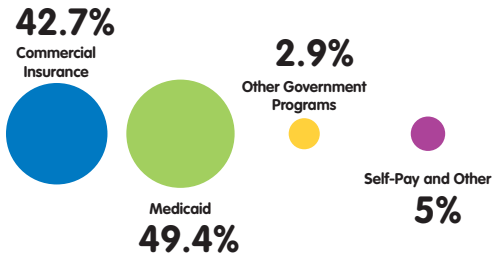
SOURCES OF REVENUE	FY 2017
Patient Care Services	1,239,542,437
Externally Funded Research	15,425,530
Other Public Support	21,502,781
Other Revenue	31,615,272
TOTAL	1,308,086,019

USES OF REVENUE	
Salaries & Benefits	764,173,641
Supplies & Other Expenses	427,365,276
Depreciation & Interest	69,584,462
TOTAL	1,261,123,378
Non-Profit Margin (used for reinvestment in mission)	46,962,641

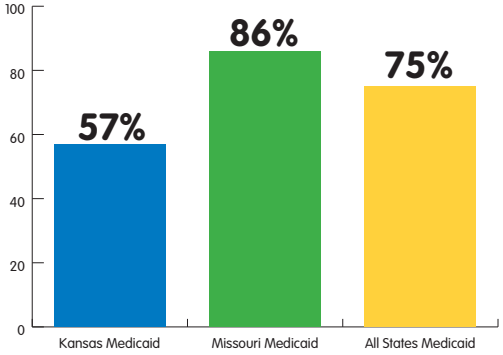
Outpatient revenue and Inpatient nearly equal



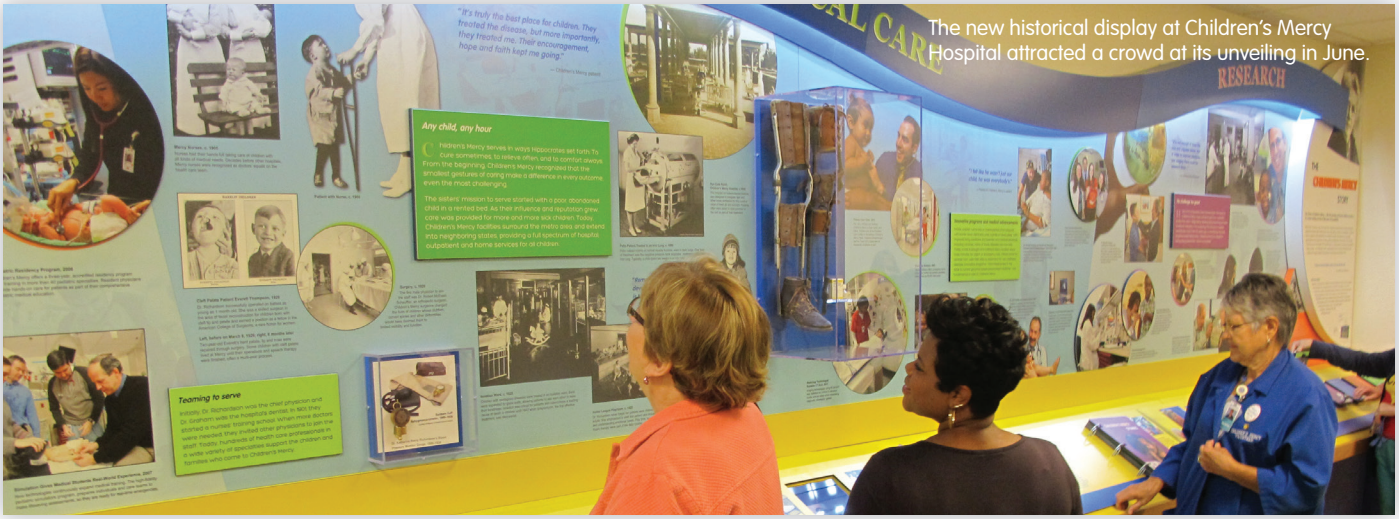
Who Pays the Bills



Medicaid Payment as a Percent of Cost



History points the way toward the future



The new historical display at Children's Mercy Hospital attracted a crowd at its unveiling in June.

There is an old saying that those who don't remember the past are doomed to repeat it. At Children's Mercy, we believe if we remember the past we'll be *lucky* and repeat it.

A history of innovation, compassion, love and caring were highlighted in 2017 as Children's Mercy celebrated the 120th anniversary of its founding. What began with two sisters caring for a single little girl in a rented bed in a dilapidated, dusty women's hospital has grown into a globally recognized leader in pediatric medicine.

Major events to mark the 120th birthday:

- Founding sisters Alice Berry Graham, a dentist, and Katharine Berry Richardson, a surgeon, were inducted into the Starr Women's Hall of Fame at the University of Missouri–Kansas City.
- A new historical display, complete with photos and artifacts, opened on the Adele Hall Campus.
- "For All Children Everywhere," a coffee-table book chronicling 12 decades of Children's Mercy history was published.

In addition to 120 years of Children's Mercy, history also took center stage as the hospital marked: the 50th anniversary of our continuing medical education symposium, Clinical Advances in Pediatrics; the 30th anniversary of opening what has grown to become Children's Mercy Hospital Kansas; the 10 years since the opening of Children's Mercy West; and five years since the opening of Children's Mercy East.

The story of Children's Mercy–like all good children's stories–is one of hope, troubles and, ultimately, triumph. In "For All Children Everywhere"–available at Children's Mercy Gift Shops and online at childrensmercy.org/book and Amazon–it is described this way:

"This is a love story … It is about love given to children and parents. And love given by doctors and nurses and all kinds of people who make this children's hospital go … In these pages you will find the love of a community which, despite changing times and hard times, embraced this idea and did not let the sisters' dream die."

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Patients with impaired vision (often caused by gonorrhea, according to hospital records) received care through the support of the Lucerne Club for the Blind in the 1910s. Play has always been a part of care at Children's Mercy.

Dedicated researchers + YOU = new frontiers in pediatric medicine

Dr. Steven Leeder, who led development of GOLDILOKS, and Dr. Susan Abdel-Rahman, who led a team that built a decision-support tool for the program's first drug, Busulfan.

Children's Mercy research and innovations, and the private investments that make them possible, are changing the world.

Children, particularly those with rare diseases, have been a neglected population in medical research.

- The National Institutes of Health dedicates only five percent of its annual extramural research budget to pediatric research.
- Federal agencies like the NIH provided only 44 percent of the $86 billion spent on basic research in 2015, according to the National Science Foundation. That's a drop from 70 percent throughout the 1960s and '70s and 61 percent as recently as 2004.

That's why private investment in children's health, and research in particular, is critical. As a leading pediatric teaching hospital that receives generous support from the community, Children's Mercy is in a unique position to improve the future for children … today.

Our drive to find answers for children and their families motivated us to create the Children's Research Institute where we are assembling many of the world's best and brightest researchers whose sole focus is serving the needs of children.

Tom Curran, PhD, FRS, Executive Director, Chief Scientific Officer and The Donald J. Hall Eminent Scholar in Pediatric Research, joined the Institute in February 2016.

"One of the great things about coming to Kansas City is it is such a great family- and community-based environment, and there is a great tradition of philanthropic support for Children's Mercy. For research, that is critical," said Dr. Curran. "When you study a rare pediatric disease, you have trouble getting grants because the number of patients involved is small. When you argue the impact on patients and families is enormous, that doesn't cut it when it comes to the competitive grant process. So it's essential to fund the initial research process with philanthropic dollars. I call those golden dollars because they allow us to work on the most important opportunities for our kids."

The Children's Research Institute is creating research environment where no boundaries exist between science and medicine. In the quest to find answers to pediatric medicine's most challenging questions, we are collaborating with physicians, scientists, academic colleagues, philanthropic partners and world-class institutions in our community and around the world. This summer, The University of Kansas Cancer Center announced the renewal of its National Cancer Institute designation and the approval of Children's Mercy as an official consortium partner. Children's Mercy joins existing consortium partners, the Stowers Institute for Medical Research and the University of Kansas.

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>
> *– Tom Curran, PhD*

Here are a few Children's Mercy research projects currently changing the lives of children and families in our community and beyond.

Clinical Pharmacology and GOLDILOKS
The Children's Mercy Clinical Pharmacology program and GOLDILOKS are an excellent example of precision medicine and translational research in action.

GOLDILOKS (**G**enomic and **O**ntogeny-**L**inked **D**ose **I**ndividualization and c**L**inical **O**ptimization for **K**id**S**) is a research program designed to ensure that children receive the precise dose of medicine they need, when they need it. This research is funded by a $3.5 million grant from the National Institutes of Health, as well as a grant from the Sarli Family Foundation.

CHAMP (Cardiac High Acuity Monitoring Program)
CHAMP uses an innovative PC tablet-based application that automates and simplifies at-home monitoring for children born with single-ventricle heart defect and their families. Developed by Children's Mercy researchers, the CHAMP App is the first of its kind for home interstage monitoring. The app allows parents and the medical team to track everything from the child's oxygen saturation levels to nutritional status.

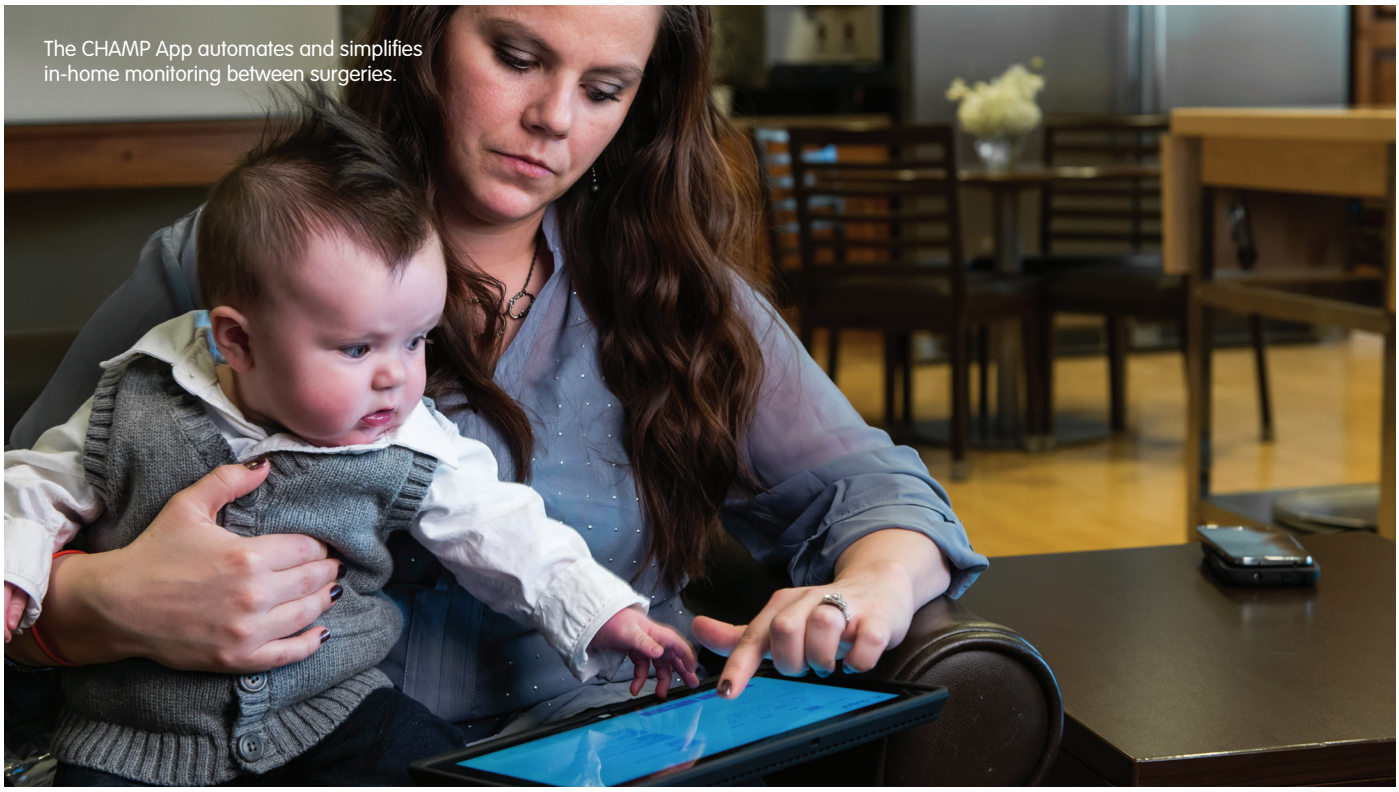
Children's Mercy has funding to provide national distribution for 400 Surface tablets, which would cover 800 patients a year for the typical six-month monitoring periods between the two critical surgeries for babies with hypoplastic left heart syndrome. This is made possible through two lead grants from the Claire Giannini Fund.

Bronchopulmonary Disorders (BPD)
The Donald Thibeault Neonatal Laboratories and the Center for Infant Pulmonary Disorders at Children's Mercy has funding from the National institutes of Health, as well as the Cooper Connor Endowed Fund for Pulmonary Research, to examine the mechanisms by which sepsis in babies contributes to BPD using animal models.

The ability to study BPD from a clinical, translational and basic science perspective is a strength of neonatology at Children's Mercy.

The Mercy TAPE
The Mercy TAPE (**TA**king the guesswork out of **P**ediatric weight **E**stimation) is a medical device developed by Children's Mercy researchers that, when wrapped around a child's arm, provides accurate weight estimates for children ages 2 months to 16 years. Predicting weight accurately is important to determine appropriate medication dosage, fluid volumes for resuscitation, breathing tube sizes and more.

The Mercy TAPE has practical applications for emergency rooms and rescue squads and is improving the health care and lives of children in less developed settings where scales are not available. Support from The Bresky Foundation helps Children's Mercy distribute The Mercy Tape to health care providers around the world.



The CHAMP App automates and simplifies in-home monitoring between surgeries.

Center for Community Connections helps address family social needs

It's not as though the problem isn't clear. A home with mold sabotages asthma treatment, a child can't be on a ventilator in a home with no electricity, keeping clinic appointments is tough without transportation, and it's hard to adhere to medication schedules in the midst of being evicted.

It's just that health care teams don't always have the resources needed to address the stressful living situations patients' families are facing and their effect on a child's treatment plan.

But for patients of the Children's Mercy Clinics on Broadway, help is at hand, thanks to the new Children's Mercy Center for Community Connections.

"Some patients' social needs are overwhelming to a point that it interferes with access to care and adherence to treatment," said Jeffrey Colvin, MD, JD, Beacon Clinic Physician and the CCC's Medical Director. "It's difficult for a family to follow a treatment plan when they're worried about where they're going to sleep that night."

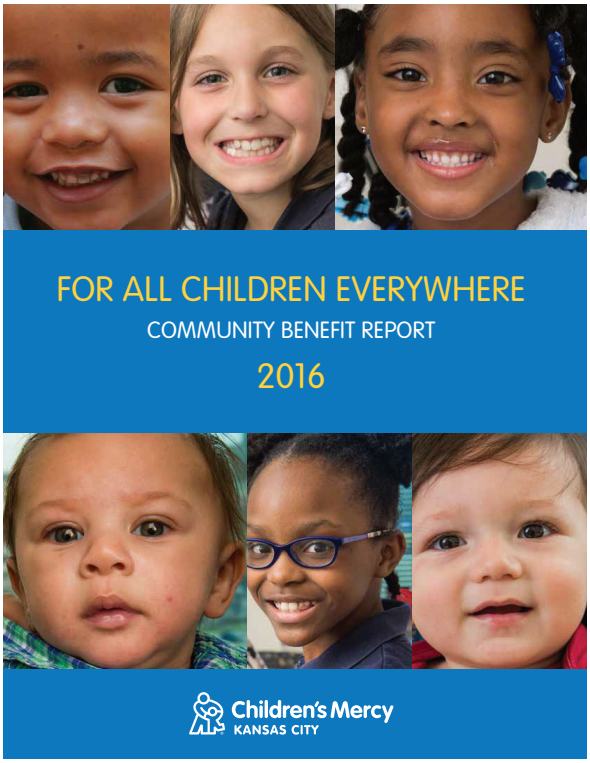
Dr. Colvin and Heather Brungardt, MSW, LCSW, Senior Administrative Director for Psychosocial Services, proposed the CCC as a way to address the social issues that impede patient health outcomes. It serves a growing number of families referred from the clinics at Children's Mercy Broadway.

There are three full-time social workers helping families navigate both Children's Mercy services and resources in the community.

The connections they make go beyond agency names and phone numbers on a list. It's intensive case management. The social workers strive to understand and help resolve the multiple barriers families are experiencing, so that health and wellness for the entire family can be achieved.

Many of the services families need have on-site presence. Families can meet with an attorney and paralegals from Kansas Legal Services, pick up car seats, bike helmets and gun locks, or meet with a behavioral health therapist. Sites for Children's Mercy home visiting programs, Healthy Families and Teams for Infants Endangered by Substance Abuse (TIES), are nearby.

"The CCC is the physical space that connects families to their communities. Through collaboration with the Kansas City Care Clinic, community care workers are on-site and embedded in the Broadway Primary Care Clinic to help Missouri HealthNet Home patients' families navigate health and social services where they live," Brungardt said.



The Center for Community Connections is just one example of the service of Children's Mercy in partnership with the community. More details are provided in the Community Benefit Report available online at childrensmercy.org.

> **"Some patients' social needs are overwhelming to a point that it interferes with access to care and adherence to treatment. It's difficult for a family to follow a treatment plan when they're worried about where they're going to sleep that night."**
>
> *Jeffrey Colvin, MD, JD, Beacon Clinic Physician and the CCC's Medical Director*

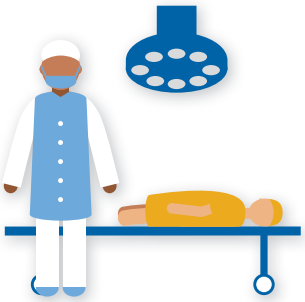
Community Benefit exceeds $215 million

As a nonprofit pediatric hospital, our bottom line is kids—this means that any positive hospital margins are reinvested into the health and well-being of children. Translating that work into numbers isn't easy, but in Fiscal Year 2016 (the most recent year for which numbers are available), Children's Mercy recorded more than $215 million in "community benefit" activities—that is, activities we conducted as a hospital that went beyond caring for patients and made an impact on our community at large.

100 residents enrolled in pediatric residency program.

99 clinical fellows trained in **32** subspecialties.

465 medical students trained in pediatric medicine.

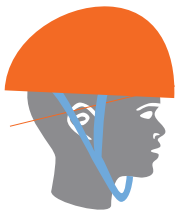


More than **1,400** nursing students participated in clinical rotations.

More than **100** social work, pharmacy, dentistry, child life, music therapy and other students participated in practicums, internships or rotations.

More than **70** families received Home Environmental Health Assessments.

151 families benefited from close to **4,000** encounters through the TIES and Healthy Families Children's Mercy home-based support programs.



500 children and teens received free bike helmets and were individually fit.

1,180 car or booster seats provided.

188 portable cribs provided for safe sleep.

Participation in **38** health fairs across the region.

Children's Mercy staff participate in over **60** local and state-level nonprofit boards, governmental agencies and advisory committees.

More than **1,000** families received transportation assistance from the Family Support Fund.

75 individuals received health-related legal advice from the Medical-Legal Partnership.

More than **41** researchers received internal support for their investigations.

More than **300** high school students participated in workforce development efforts that provide youth with experiences that introduce them to health careers.

With thanks and appreciation

With 120 years of generous community support, Children's Mercy has continually grown and elevated care to become one of the nation's top-ranked pediatric medical centers. Thank you for sharing our concern for the health and well-being of children. You make it possible to provide expert care for every single child who comes through our doors, regardless of a family's ability to pay.

The following lists recognize and honor Children's Mercy donors whose giving totalled $10,000 or more in calendar year 2017, our many volunteers who give so generously of their time, and our Legacy Honor Roll members whose gifts help protect the future of pediatric health care. Due to space constraints, we could not list here the name of every generous person or organization who supports children and families with gifts of time and treasure. Please know every gift makes a difference in the lives of so many here and around the world. We are humbled by your caring hearts and grateful for your support. Thank you.

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You share your love in our clothing closet, gift shop, resource library, patient rooms and playrooms. You greet families and kids at our information desk; apply professional skills, like data entry, to keep the hospital operating efficiently; rock with and read to our babies; coordinate craft projects for kids whose days are mostly spent in their rooms; show up at 6 a.m. to make sure families find their way to Same Day Surgery; clean toys and wagons; advocate for patients; listen to worried parents; find just the right toy to comfort a child; expertly staff fundraising events that support our mission; help bring our art, music and pet therapy programs to life; and perform countless small acts of kindness that have an enormously comforting impact on parents, caregivers and kids.

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| Austin Dearth | Elizabeth Deckert | Margaret DeGoler | Karla del Angel | Maria Delgado | Emily Dema | Nicole Demarco | Aubree Dennis | Pamela Dennis | Melley Destahun | Margaret Devero-Beil | Mary Diaz | Marcail Dickerman | Cecilia Diego | Kevin Dillard | Andy Diorio | Courtney Dixon | Cassidy Doran | Danielle Dorner | Mackenzie Doty | Mary Dover | Michelle Dover | Jennifer Draper | Jane Druten | Cheryl Duckett | Katherine Duffy | Jerry Dumars | Ann Dunford | Lisa Dunleavy | Daniel Durrie | Elaine Duvall | Ruth Dwyer | Jordan Eberhardy | Heidi Eckart | Melissa Eckhoff | Breanna Edgley | Jason Edwards | Megan Edwards | Madison Eiberger | Osasere Eke | Gary Eldridge | Margaret Eliason | Lucas Elwood | Jill Embry | Erik Enderlin | Jim Engle | Gina Engleman | Wendy Erickson | Jordan Eriksen | Amelia Ernstmann | Patricia Erwin | Kathryn Evan | Sarah Evans | Emily Everhart | Nancy Falk | Sabrina Fannin-Hughes | Kristin Farlin | Kathy Farrell | Ruth Feld | Ashley Ferraiuolo | Aubre Ferrell | Erin Ferris | Michael Feuerborn | Tegan Feuerborn | Courtney Finegan | Robert Finuf III | Morgan Fischer | Kylie Fisher | Madeline Fitzgerald | Kathryn Fix | Janice Flanagan | Steve Flones | Kathleen Flora | Leslie Flores | Veronica Flowers-Fleming | Margaret Foley | Melissa Foley | Anne Foster | Jack Foster | Julia Foster | Julie Foster | Elizabeth Fountain | Alexandra Fowler | Elizabeth Fowler | Myrna Fraise | Catherine Frame | Shelby Frans | Odille Fraser | Meghan Freeman | Friends of Children's Mercy Northland | Mary Allyson Fry | Jayne Frye | Jonathan Frye | Carol Fryer | Julia Fugate | Tami Funk | David Gaab | Jason Gahr | Kathleen Galati | Terrence Gallagher | Alejandra Garcia Brenes | Brittany Garcia | Marguerite Gardner | Astra Garner | Erika Garner | David Garrett | Vickie Garrett | Barbara Gebauer | Leslie Gedminas | Summer Gernon | Katharine Gerson | Bradley Getman | Jill Getman | Claire Gibbs | Lauren Gibbs | Natalie Gibbs | Tim Gibbs | Josie Giefer | Deborah Gilbert | Amanda Giles | Mary Gillett | Isleen Gimenez Wilson | David Ginther | Landon Ginther | LaShelle Ginther | Joanna Glaze | Michael Glennon | William Glenski | Hannah Glidewell | Cassie Glotta | Celeste Gogel | June Golden | Candace Goldsby | Kristin Goodwin | Sarah Gorn | Mary Jo Goulding | Todd Grable | Ian Graham | Riley Graves | Chelsea Green | Desirae Green | Rashay Green | Robert Green | Robert Greene | Teresa Greene | Anneliese Grewing | Brynn Griffin | Morgan Griffin | Timothy Grimes | Shannon Grine | Roberta Grogan | Gary Groninger | Paige Gross | Ellyn Gunya | Jodie Gurley | Asia Guthrie | Scott Guthrie | James Gwinn | Fiori Habtemichael | Emily Hafner | Walenmeyer Hailey | Randi Haith | Julie Hakan | Lindsie Hale | Brooke Hall | Kamill Hall | Gary 'TG' Hamm | Tarese Hammes | Hands & Hearts for Children Auxiliary | Susan Hanford | Ashley Hang | William Hanlin | Crystal Hanna | James Hanson | James Harbison | Brenda Harden | Kara Harmon | Elizabeth Harper | Sally Harter | Mya Hartz | Kyle Hassenstab | Miranda Hasty | Katherine Hatesohl | Saralyn Hayes | Traci Hayes | Georgiane Hayhow | Kiree Haynes | Catherine Haynes | Matthew Hedrick | Molly Hedrick | Hannah Hefner | Daniel Heinzman | Alison Heisler | Brady Hempel | Brandon Henderson | Susan Hendon | Gail Hendrix | Anita Hensley | Neila Henson | Sylvia Hernandez | Sherri Herren

| Rebecca Herring | Maryam Hersi | Jamie Hicks | Ryan Hicks | Regina Higgins | Johanna Hild | Nora Hildreth | Andrew Hill | Robert Hill | Susan Hillman | Sandy Hills | Kori Hines | Hanh Ho | Nicolette Hocter | Kaitlin Hoff | Karen Holcomb | William Holmes | Brent Holzapfel | Pamela Hon | Tanna Hooks | Alexis Hoover | Jennifer Hopper | Louise Horner | Rachel Horvat | Billie Jean Hoskins | Elaine Hostetler | Thomas Hostetler | Mia Hotze | Christa Hower | Tammy Hubbard | Lindsey Huckeby | Ashley Huggins-Bowlin | Katherine Hughes | Mary Hughes | Ryan Hughes | Bernie Huhn | Elise Huntley | Krista Hurd | Kaylee Hurt | Katelyn Hutchens | Kim Hutton | Whitnee Ice | Ann Isenberg | Ashley Jackson | Suzanne Jackson | Allison Jacobsen | Sol Jacobsen | Brooke Jacobson | Catherine Jacobson | Gayle Jagoda | Marianne James | Heith Janke | Matthew Janssen | Tara Jarvis | Matthew Jellinek | Nikki Jennings | Diane Johnson | Jennifer Johnson | Kati Johnson | Steven Johnson | Lily Johnston | Abigail Jones | Lee Jones | Courtney Jones | Jonathan Jones | Laura Jones | Linda Jones | Melinda Jones | Melissa Jones | Nancy Jones | Raven Jones | Stephen Jones | Teresa Jones | Theresa Jones | Florencia Jordan | Robin Jordan | Janice Judy | Juliana Jurden | Caroline Kain | Jordyn Kaiser | Mary Kancel | Margaret Karnes | Amanda Kearns | Nancy Keene | Debbie Keighley | Candie Keith | Gail Kellam | Beth Kellenberger | Dianne Keller | Ted Keller | Jill Kells | Cari Kelly | Susan Kelne | Isabel Kemp | Aaron Kendall | Colleen Kennedy | Jennifer Kern | Kristin Kerns | Emily Kessler | Brian Key | Kelly Key | Amy Kierzek | Marianne Kilroy | Mary Kilroy | Elizabeth Kimsey | Matt Kimsey | Meghan Kindel | Jeffrey Kinney | Joann Kinney | Phillip Kinney | Henry Kircher | Jerri Kirk | Melanie Kizine | Molly Kleinwolterink | Kathleen Knehans | Mary Knighton | Kathy Knopke | Kayla Koenig | Mark Kommers | Nancy Koons | Brittany Koss | Joyce Koufer | Joyce Kronmueller | Anthony Krutzkmap | John Kuhn | Jessica Ladd | Jessica Laddish | Steffani Ladzinski | Lois Lakey | Frances Lancaster | Molli Land | Brandi Lane | Anthony Lang | Ashley Lange | Cathy Larrabee | Jeannette Larson | Quang Le | Jin Hee Lee | Julia Lee | John LeGrotte | Sarah Lehman | Jennifer Leibold | Cory LeMoine | Michele Lenderman | Boyd Leonhardt | Grace Lesniewski | Frances Lester | Parker Levi | Mary Jo Lewis | Doris Loftus | Carol Logan | Gary Lohman | Katy Lonergan | Jackie Loneski | Alivya Long | Timothy Longobardo | Ashley Lopez | Mary Lubeski | Fannie Ludewig | Nancy Ludwig | Jake Lynn | Stephanie Macdonald | Margret Mace | Patricia Mach | Marisa Macias | Nina Mackey | Jason Magallanes | Teresa Magill | Kaycee Mahone | Kyla Mahone | Amanda Malec | Brenda Maloney | McKenzie Manning | Elizabeth Mansell | Elizabeth Marder | Richard Marien | Carolyn Markey | Lisa Marquis | Alexandria Marron | Ann Marshall | Hailey Marshall | Marlo Martin | Patricia Martin | Jessica Martinez | Jacqueline Massman | Katherine Matson | Caleb Maupin | Sarah Maxey | Nathan May | Emily Mayfield | Susan Mayfield | Kallen Mazeitis | Kyra McCarty | Edward McCay | Brooke McDonald | Alexandria McDowell | Evan McDowell | Kylie McElroy | Brooke McGrath | Thomas McGrath | Steven McGreal | Bridget McGuire | Ryan McHenry | Austyn McIntyre | Brian McKee | Julianna McKee | Jane McKinney | Sarah McKittrick | Karen McLeese | Douglas McNair | Caroline McVay | Lauren Meacham | Anna Meagher | Yada Meas | Imelda Medina | David Medley | Shannan Mehler | Lauren Melchior | Cynthia Mense | Elizabeth Horn | Mercy Ambassadors | Emily Merrill | Tess Merriman | Anthony Meyer | Robert Meyer | Erin Michaelis | Marianne Michaels | Bethany Michels | Kathy Mihulka | Jason Milbradt | Danyell Miller | Jennifer Miller | Kenny Miller | Paige Miller | Ashleigh Milne | Thomas Minges | Angela Mings | Jennifer Mitchell | Tonya Mitchell | Jonathan Modisett | Alyssa Monson | Catherine Montgomery | Angela Moore | Justin Moore | Marissa Moore | Mary Moore | Paige Moore | Deborah Moreno | Connie Morgan | Dianne Morley | Babs Morris | Betsy Morris | Elizabeth Morris | Shelbie Morris | Janie Morrison | Mitch Morse | Thomas Mueller | Julie Mulhern | Cindy Muller | Hollee Muller | Rhianna Munoz | Betj Munter | Kristina Murdock | Yadira Murguia | Constance Murphy | Kathleen Murphy | Mira Murray | Megan Murray | Shea Myer | Abigail Myrick | Omid Nabavizadeh | Jennifer Nagel | Claire Nameth | Heather Nana | Dana Naughton | Rachael Neihart | Maegan Nelson | Shelly Nemeth | Mike Neuburger | Mitchell Neunuebel | Kristina Newbury | Susan Nickell | Jane Nicolay | Deborah Niemann | Virginia Nies | Nicholas Nordstrom | Charles Nulton | Channary Ny | Ellen Ochampaugh | Melissa O'Connell | Marsha O'Connor | Karen O'Donnell | Kristin O'Halloran | Pamela Olander | Paige O'Leary | Betty Oleen | Emily O'Meara | Jane Opsahl | Kent Packard | Ryan Page | Nancy Palmer | Matthias Panuco | Ki'shai' Parrish | Olivia Passafiume | Virginia Patrizi | Nikki Pealer | Bridget Pederson | Ashley Pena | Megan Pence | Beth Pener | Michael Pennel | Braden Perry | Jessica Peters | Viola Peters | Tabitha Peterson | Jim Pfeffer | Kate Pflughaupt | Ansara Piebengg | April Pierce | Randal Pierce | Shamona Pledger | Jessica Porter | Marty Postlethwait | Kayla Powell | Lucinda Powell | Stephanie Pratt | Helen Prevost | Angela Price | Elizabeth Pruett | Paxton Pruneau | Kirsten Pryde | Melissa Ptacek | Laura Purcell | Noreen Purcell | Julie Quickel | Madhumitha Rajagopal | Dinuka Rajapakse | Lauren Ralph | Jessica Randolph | Kari Rawley | Diane Rayburn | Elizabeth Rayl | Melinda Raymond | Emily Ready | Eryn Realmuto-Prevedel | Jamie Reed | Shana Reed | Meaghan Reidy | Beverly Rein | Amy Reinert | Caroline Reintjes | Mary Reintjes | Kylie Rellihan | Ryan Remington | Lesliann Renner | Karan Rice | Shannon Rice | Bradley Richardson | Bill Riek | Cortney Riesberg | Mary Ring | Teresa Rives | Hailey Roach | Shirley Roberts | Tameakia Robinson | Melissa Rock | Hollianne Roderick | Janice Roeder | Roseanne Rohrbach | Jana Rojas | Margaret Rooney | Brooke Rosel | Rachel Rosenberg | Susan Rosenthal | Ann Rosenwasser | Blaire Ross | Sally Ross | Hannah Roste | Phyllis Roufa | Charyl Rubin | Karrie Ruhl | Debi Russell | Paul Russell | Lauren Ryan | Anhar Sabri | Brenda Saenz | Teresa Salazar | Azia Salbego | Ziryan Salihparkhy | Jackie Sallaz | Jose Samayoa | Jennifer Sanchez | Raul Sanchez | Yenifer Sanchez | Barbette Sanders | Brenda Satterlee | Kristen Saucerman | Taylor Saucerman | Shaun Savage | Nancy Sayler | Rachel Schaff | Jeffrey Scherzer | Susan Scherzer| Marsha Schieber | Tracy Schinzel | Carolyn Schmidt | Annie Schmucker | Samantha Schnabel | Samantha Schneider | Julie Schnurbusch | Samantha Schraml | Beverly Schuepbach | Barbara Schuster | Savannah Schwab | Dom Scott | Kellie Seaman | Toube Searles | Lana Seise | Kacy Seitz | Alyssa Seitzer | Lea Sergiacomi | Allison Sernett | Jennifer Sernett | Ann Shadburn | Robert Shadburn | Lisa Shadid | Mayura Shah | Patsy Shawver | Connie Shay | Kevin Shea | Tina Shea | Spencer Shearer | Cynthia Shedor | Donna Sheehy | Shefali Shirali | Haeme Shong | Breanna Shrable | Maria Shull | Alexandra Sifers | Linda Sigler | Jessica Silvey | Kathryn Simpson | Timothy

Simpson | Amanda Sipes | Cynthia Sitomer | Laresa Slater | Kathryn Slaughter | Cara Smith | Cathryn Smith | Erin Smith | Hermazene Smith | Joyce Smith | Leslie Smith | Mindy Smith | Tyler Smith | Brenda Sniezek | Travis Sorenson | Bailey Sosa | Katherine Sosna | Wendy Southard | Paul Spearman | Cheyana Spiller | Kristyn Spiller | Vicki Spruill | Allison Spunaugler | Allison Spurck | Lottie Staggs | Dana Stahl | Erin Stahl | Mary Stang | Allyn Starr | Rick Stasi | Shelley Staton | Judy Steadman | Christopher Steeler | Dustin Stenseth | Kim Stephenson | Deborah Stepp | Hannah Stevens | Wanda Stipek | Rainey Stoll | Susan Stolwyk | Benjamin Story | Angela Stout | Sara Stoutenborough | Jennifer Stradinger | Vicki Strickland | Matthew Studer | Amy Sullivan | Darcy Sullivan | Sara Sullivan | Marie Summers | Cheryl Sunday | Joan Supica | Judy Swanson | Mark Swanson | Katherine Swatek | Matthew Swigert | Emma Tapko | Brooke Taylor | Diane Taylor | Kylie Taylor | Marion Taylor | Jensen Tedrow | Laken Tedrow | Theresa Textor | Tina Thayer | Sarah Thies | Brandi Thomas | Darla Thomas | Nia Thomas | Lucy Tidwell | Dennis Tighe | Ann Tinsman | Lisette Tischner | Krista Tolsdorf | Marcy Toni | Marcia Tonkin | Melanie Traynham | Constance Treffer | Marjorie Trinkl | Lauren Trippel | Carly Troupe | Kerri Troye | Aimee Truetken | Nancy Truitt | Michael Turman | Sarah Turner | Sheila Vallee | Drew Van Dee | Norha Vargas Garcia | Susan Vargason | Blanca Vasquez | Isabella Victor | David Villa Galvan | Ivan Villagrana-Fraire | Melissa Villalobos | Cory Vineyard | Connor Vinnage | Andrea Vogan | Brandi Vollmer | Jill VonFanger | Annmarie Wagar | Erika Wagner | Kathleen Wagstaff | Kathryn Wald | CJ Walker | Debra Walker | Mary Walker | Paige Walsh | Linda Walsworth-McLerran | Ann Walter | Kim Walters | Benjamin Warner | Richard Warwick | Annie Washburn | William Wasserman | Alexa Watters | Abbi Watts | Paige Wedel | Mary Weed | Yamelly Weida | Morgan Weiler | Christine Weinhold | Sandy Welch | Katherine Wells | Karen Weltner | Dylan Wendt | Rebecca Westbrook | Hannah Westfall | Catherine Westin | Holly Whetstine | Breanna White | Lynette White | Rachel White | Sabra Wiegers | Megan Wilcox | Margie Wiley | Suzanne Willey | Amy Williams | Laurie Williams | Susan Williams | Dawn Wilson | Hannah Wilson | James Wilson | Jan Wilson | Molly Winegar | Emily Wingerter | Kimberly Wisdom | Jessica Wise | Hailey Wisemore | Andrea Witczak | Spencer Wittmeyer | Mary Woltkamp | Thomas Woltkamp | Kimberly Wong | Darryl Woods | Mary Woody | Alexa Wright | Cheri Wright | Kathleen Wright | Noah Wright | Ruby Wright | Amy Wurst | Jason Wyssmann | Sarah Wyssmann | Matthew Yablonovsky | Carey Yale | Rebecca Yang | Corynn Yarkosky | D'AnthonyYearby | Julie Yoder | Rachel York | AY Young | Jeffrey Young | Jenny Young | Taryn Young | Jennifer Zahabi | Christina Zahid | Brett Zarger | Megan Zarger | Patricia Zender | Jordan Zerr | Lauren Ziegler | Derek Zinser

YOU bring hope to life!

Your love for our community's children grows stronger and stronger. In another record-breaking display of generosity this year, you helped support every aspect of the compassionate care our children and families receive here. You are our donors, volunteers, grateful families and champions. And we are so very grateful for you. Here's just a glimpse of our year-end love tally:

- 76,164 gifts of time by hours = 18 percent more than last year
- $49.5M new commitments = 13 percent over goal and 8 percent more than last year
- 18,503 gifts = 20 percent more than last year
- 16 new endowed funds = 12 percent increase from last year
- 5 new endowed chair positions
- $3M in employee giving
- $130,100 in scholarships for 84 of our nurses and allied health professionals
- Volunteer services, special events, foundations/ corporations, annual fund and gift planning all surpassed fiscal year goals!

"The best part is what these numbers represent … working together to make a real difference for kids. Because of you, we were able to make quite an impact on the health of kids this year. As the saying goes, when you replace 'I' with 'WE,' even 'ILLNESS' becomes 'WELLNESS.' Thank you!"

Jenea Oliver, PhD, Vice President of Philanthropy at Children's Mercy

Honorary Co-Chairs Rick and Cathy Baier and Brett and Becky Gordon, and Event Co-Chairs John Brandmeyer and Stacie Prosser celebrate after the announcement of the more than $2 million raised at the 13th Annual Red Hot Night Gala.

The 2017 Big Slick Celebrity Weekend raised a record-breaking $1,753,179 for the Children's Mercy Cancer Center. Total donations are now more than $6 million since the fundraiser began in 2010. Event co-founder and co-host Rob Riggle noted, "Children's Mercy is a research hospital with global reach."

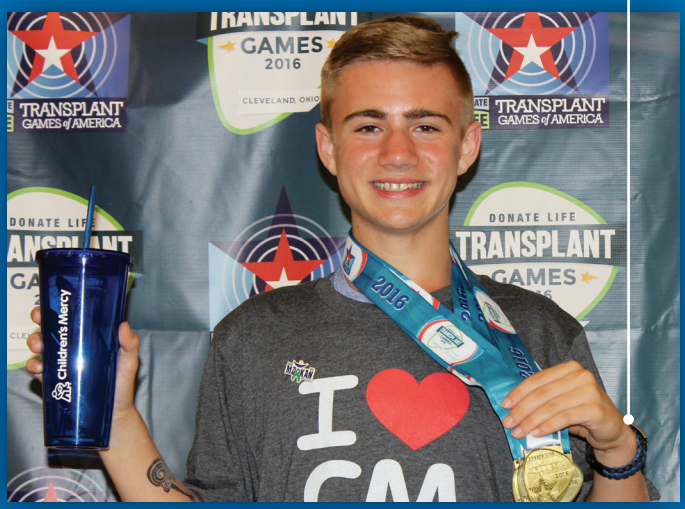
Left: Baby Aubrey is baptized while on life support. Right: Mom, Heather, with Aubrey after her eight-hour heart surgery so rare it doesn't even have a name. The surgery was performed by about 35 Children's Mercy staff members. Heather said: "They had the vision to dream it, the courage to do it, and the leadership and skill for it to be successful." Aubrey is now on the road to good health, and the family has made a significant donation in honor of those here who saved Aubrey's life.

Chiefs player DJ Alexander, who hosted a toy drive for Children's Mercy last holiday season, also came to the hospital to spend time with patients on 4 Henson.

Known for her beautiful, loving spirit, Yvonne Craig is this year's Children's Mercy Volunteer of the Year. Since 2001, she has given more than 1,800 hours. Most recently, she was instrumental in implementing a successful wayfinding trial to help the hospital improve efficiencies.

Montie and Marge Tripp's grandson, Brendan, received a liver transplant at Children's Mercy when he was 10 years old. Today, Brendan is thriving. Here, he shows off his six medals from the Donate Life Transplant Games of America. The Tripp family expresses their gratitude for Children's Mercy by creating nursing scholarships; supporting the chaplaincy program, building expansions and equipment upgrades; and funding the James F. Daniel Endowed Chair in Liver Care–a major giving commitment to help make advances in liver care.

When we were running low on markers and asked for the community's help on Facebook, the response was incredible! Within a day, we had received 200 boxes of markers with even more delivered throughout the week. Generous support comes to us through time, donations and even art supplies!



This year our community lost a special man and community leader. James B. Nutter Sr. was a friend to our children through his lifelong dedication to Children's Mercy. Mr. Nutter's commitment began with his mother, Sybil Silkwood Nutter, who, as a child, performed neighborhood plays to benefit the hospital. The Nutters also helped make possible the construction of Children's Mercy East in Independence, Mo.

The 2017 Nursing Scholarship Awards Breakfast honored 84 nurses through a variety of donor-provided scholarships, including 11 new scholarships, some of which were established by Children's Mercy employees.

Starting this year, Children's Mercy is recognizing donors who give at least $1,000 annually through a program called Kaleidoscope of Care. Membership is open to individuals, families, companies and foundations who give traditionally or through in-kind gifts.

A new Children's Mercy pediatric specialty clinic at Geary Community Hospital in Junction City to serve Geary County and the surrounding Flint Hills region would not be possible without generous donor support from the Geary Community Healthcare Foundation, Bob and Theresa Bramlage and the R-2, B-4 Bramlage Family Foundation.

Children's Mercy made history this year by honoring our first two Eminent Scholars since our founding. Michael Artman, MD, (left) and Tom Curran, PhD, FRS, (third from left) are congratulated here by Keith Pence and Margi Pence of the Hall Family Foundation. A formal investiture ceremony celebrated two visionary civic leaders, Joyce C. and Donald J. Hall, father and son from KC's iconic Hall family–whose philanthropy has fueled Children's Mercy progress for more than half a century.

Taking a big step toward making KC a premier global pediatric research innovation hub, Children's Mercy and The University of Kansas Cancer Center kicked off 2017 announcing endowed chair appointments that will help eliminate childhood diseases around the world. Made possible by $10 million in philanthropic support from four individual donors and four foundations, including unique gift matches from Donald J. Hall and the Hall Family Foundation, these Children's Mercy leadership positions will have joint University of Kansas (KU) faculty appointments.

Give Hope.
Give Joy.
Give Mercy.

We care for every child who comes through our doors. For 120 years, generous donors and volunteers just like you have made that mission possible. Give mercy this holiday season, and know that we give thanks for you.

Visit **GiveMercyKC.org** to see how you can make a difference. #GiveMercyKC

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