



Children's National

The Impact of Your Philanthropy

Founders Auxiliary Board | September 2023

Thank you for building stronger, healthier futures for children. Your spirit of service and dedication to patients at Children's National Hospital propels world-class research and funds critical programs.

We present this report with deep gratitude for all you do to champion pediatric health now and for generations to come. The following are highlights from 2023:



Light Up the Season

Light Up the Season spread cheer for the sixth year. Decorator Tom Kehoe helped eight patients create one-of-a-kind holiday displays, which were featured in the lobby of the Four Seasons Hotel Washington, D.C., throughout December. The event, led by board members Blair Giannini and Kate Mulcahy, raised more than \$140,000 through sponsorships, holiday market donations and Teddy Bear Teas.

Proceeds benefit patients like Dottie, whose family attended the kick-off party to see her creation. **"The whole night was magical," says Angie, Dottie's mom. "We truly appreciate our Children's National family and everything they do for kids like Dottie."**



A Vintage Affair

A Vintage Affair made a triumphant return on March 4 after a three-year hiatus due to the pandemic. The event, led by board members Chandrani Ghosh, Juliette Raffensperger and Charlotte Safos, raised \$1.14 million, helping Children's National provide world-class, compassionate care to patients.

More than 550 guests gathered at Washington National Cathedral for A Vintage Affair, One Enchanted Evening, to fuel the board's annual grants and major gift programs. Wine enthusiasts also raised their paddles, donating more than \$94,000 to our school telehealth program DC STARS. The program supports more than 2,000 students in Washington, D.C., schools with behavioral and mental health care.

"We are immensely grateful to board members for highlighting the DC STARS Program," says Shireen Atabaki, M.D., M.P.H., associate medical director of Telemedicine and medical director of Informatics at Children's National. **"Your investment helps our team provide young people access to the mental health support they need."**



Powering Change through Grants and Gifts

The board's annual grants and major gifts programs continues to bring hope and healing to patients.

The ICU Moving program, which received one of the board's FY23 grants, empowers patients in our pediatric and cardiac intensive care units through adaptive seating. By using these devices, our physical and occupational therapists are able to get patients out of bed and on the road to recovery faster.

"With these chairs, patients have been able to play with toys, engage with family and even spend time in our Bunny Mellon Healing Garden," says Andrea Carruth, OTD, OTR, occupational therapy team lead. **"It has not only positively impacted their physical health but their mental health, as well."**

The board's FY23 grants and gifts awarded a total of \$251,383.63 to 18 projects, including another aimed at obesity, which now affects 20 percent of children. Virtual nutrition counseling gave families with kids ages 1 through 6 access to a dietician during well visits at Children's National Shepherd Park. **"It has been such an important intervention given the current obesity crisis,"** says Susma Vaidya, M.D., M.P.H. The pilot was popular with patient families and pediatric providers. Dr. Vaidya expects the clinic to continue integrating a dietician into visits, as possible.



Additional Philanthropic Impact

The Board's philanthropy brings joy and healing to patients in ways big and small. Board members:



Raised **\$22,375** through the 2022 Race for Every Child



Committed **\$150,000 to Seacrest Studios**, our state-of-the-art multimedia broadcast studio



Hosted holiday **gift wrapping** at Dr. Bear's Holiday Toy Shoppe for patient families



Supported **three community fundraisers**, including the Washington Design Center Holiday Fête and **two shopping fundraisers**

Our Gratitude

Your generosity improves how our hospital cares for kids. It creates research and educational opportunities that transform their lives. It enables more families to get the care and support they need. On behalf of the staff, faculty and the families we serve, please accept our heartfelt gratitude.