



India

Children's HeartLink's partnerships in India go back almost 20 years, and include our first Center of Excellence and regional training partner. This long-term commitment is realized in the 51,000 children who received life-changing care just last year alone. Our approach is built around sustainable health systems strengthening, with a focus on increasing clinical and administrative capacity, and supporting advanced medical education. Our investment in India, direct and in-kind, has surpassed US \$4 million. Children's HeartLink's commitment to India's developing pediatric cardiac care infrastructure is strong and will remain so until all children have the care they deserve.

Partner Hospitals

Amrita Institute of Medical Sciences
 Children's HeartLink Center of Excellence
 Kochi
Partner since 2000
 Children Served* (2016): 9,876

**Narayana Hrudayalaya
 Institute of Cardiac Sciences**
 Children's HeartLink Center of Excellence
 Bangalore
Partner since 2002
 Children Served* (2016): 15,569

**Postgraduate Institute of Medical
 Education and Research**
 Chandigarh
Partner since 2012
 Children Served* (2016): 18,000

**Rabindranath Tagore International
 Institute of Cardiac Sciences**
 Kolkata
Partner since 2015
 Children Served* (2016): 12,717

Volunteer training partners

- Boston Children's Hospital
- Children's Hospitals and Clinics of Minnesota
- Lucile Packard Children's Hospital at Stanford University

*based on clinic visits



The Need

- 1 out of 100 babies is born with congenital heart disease
- 250,000 babies are born with congenital heart disease each year
- 32,000 children under the age of 5 died from congenital heart disease in 2016
- There are fewer than 50 pediatric cardiac surgeons in India
- 1.65 million youth are living with congenital heart disease

Our Vision

Our vision is a world in which all children have access to the cardiac care they need. In India, our goal is to develop twelve Children's HeartLink Centers of Excellence by 2030. To achieve this, we are establishing long-lasting partnerships with local stakeholders — including providers, clinic administrators and government officials — to increase awareness of the need for pediatric cardiac care. Our focus is on building clinical and organizational skills, and ensuring access to the highest quality pediatric cardiac care for all children in need.

Congenital Heart Disease

Every year around the world, 1 in 100 children is born with a birth defect within the structure of their heart. This condition is called congenital heart disease. By 2030, it is estimated that congenital anomalies will be among the top five causes of child death. Cardiac anomalies are the most common of all birth defects, and 70% of them are surgically correctable. These children can live full, productive lives if they get skilled care. Unfortunately, 90% of children with heart disease live in regions of the world without access to pediatric cardiac care; far too many of them will die preventable deaths.

Children's HeartLink

Since 1969 Children's HeartLink has been dedicated to caring for children with heart disease. We invest in long-term, multi-phase partnerships to ensure greater access to pediatric cardiac care. Thanks to our expanding team of medical volunteers, over 5,000 local doctors, nurses and technicians are now more equipped to care for children with heart disease. On an annual basis, over 96,000 children receive care at our partner hospitals and programs around the world. Our goal is to develop 50 Children's HeartLink Centers of Excellence by 2030.

We can't change the incidence of congenital heart disease. But with your help, we can reach more children who need lifesaving care.



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Children's HeartLink Partner Hospitals in India

Amrita Institute of Medical Sciences

Amrita Institute of Medical Sciences (AIMS) was designated Children's HeartLink's first Center of Excellence in 2012. In 2014, AIMS was awarded the BMJ Award India for Quality Improvement in Healthcare for achieving dramatic reductions in infections and mortality. AIMS is a national and regional leader in pediatric cardiac training, with both a nursing certification program and a pediatric cardiac intensivist, anesthesia and surgery fellowship, and an active research and publication record. Their commitment to community service and charity care is paramount in ensuring access to the children of Kochi and southwest India.



Dr. R. Krishna Kumar, clinical professor and head of AIMS department of pediatric cardiology

Narayana Hrudayalaya Institute of Cardiac Sciences

Narayana Hrudayalaya Institute of Cardiac Sciences (NHICS), located in Bangalore in southern India, is one of two Children's HeartLink Centers of Excellence in India. This program sees 1,500 – 2,000 kids each month, with two-thirds of their

caseload being new patients. Key to their success is their dedication to nursing education and leadership. Their current goals include developing a three-month hospital-based diploma program in pediatric critical care for nurses, and training other providers in their 32-center network in parent education discharge instructions in order to reduce post-procedure infection and consequent readmissions.

Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research

Children's HeartLink's partnership with Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER) is our first in northwestern India, a severely underserved region. PGIMER's pediatric cardiac program has grown considerably in the past several years, doubling their open heart surgical capacity since 2012. Together with Boston Children's Hospital as their mentor team, they are focusing on increasing specialization and advanced practices, while simultaneously implementing a hospital-wide infection prevention program. With increasing capacity and improved outcomes, PGIMER is on track to be designated a Center of Excellence in 2021.

Rabindranath Tagore International Institute of Cardiac Sciences

Rabindranath Tagore International Institute of Cardiac Sciences (RTIICS) is Children's HeartLink's newest partner in India, serving Kolkata and the surrounding region. Our partnership focus includes improving their multidisciplinary approach to pediatric cardiac care, growing patient volume, and addressing health workforce retention through nursing empowerment and community pediatrician training. Children's Hospitals and Clinics of Minnesota is the primary volunteer mentor team for RTIICS.

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