

# MARY MCMAHON BUSCH NURSE TRAINING FUND



## YOUR GIVING AT WORK

Your gift to the Mary McMahon Busch Nurse Training Fund strengthens and reinforces clinical skills so nurses can deliver high-quality care for children with heart disease. This is key to building the specialized nurse workforce needed in the countries where Children's HeartLink works: Bangladesh, Brazil, China, India, Malaysia and Vietnam.

Nurses are often the closest members of the heart care team to a child and their family after heart surgery, making them well-positioned to deliver patient-centered, personalized care. Despite their value, academic training for nursing in many underserved countries does not adequately prepare them for a pediatric cardiac care setting.

Children's HeartLink training programs empower and promote nurses as key partners of multidisciplinary teams. Through our training programs, nurses improve their knowledge and technical and leadership skills to provide high-quality care and improve patient outcomes.



**A Children's HeartLink partner hospital in northwestern India, a severely underserved region, has reduced the mortality rate after pediatric heart surgery to 5.5%. They've focused on building a well-trained cardiac nursing team and are turning their attention to increasing specialization and advanced practices.**



### Parent and Caregiver Education Matters.

Kabil, born with congenital heart disease, had his heart repaired at the Children's HeartLink partner hospital in Coimbatore, India. When he was in the hospital, his father (on the left) had to go back to work on the farm. Kabil's uncle (second from the right) stayed at the hospital to help Kabil's mother care for the baby boy.

"Family support is key," says Dr. Vijay, with G. Kuppuswamy Naidu Memorial Hospital. "If somebody is sick, the entire family from both sides comes to help. It's the way things are done in India." Dr. Vijay says his pediatric heart program needs to continue to increase its focus on educating parents and caregivers on caring for a child after heart surgery.

**Children's HeartLink trains nurses on educating caregivers to provide the best possible care after heart surgery.**

**Support nurse training and education with a gift to the Mary McMahon Busch Nurse Training Fund today!**

Give at: [Childrensheartlink.org/NursingFund](https://Childrensheartlink.org/NursingFund)

## YOUR GIVING PROVIDES

### ONGOING, CURRICULUM-BASED NURSE TRAINING

**Parent Education Discharge Instructions (PEDI)** give caregivers the information and confidence they need to care for a child before and after heart surgery. Children's HeartLink trains nurses at partner hospitals in PEDI, who then share PEDI with more than 10,000 children and their families every year. PEDI, created by Children's HeartLink, is available as a resource for any health care team to download.

Published studies have shown nurses have a significant increase in knowledge after completing the PEDI program, and infections at the patient's surgical site decrease dramatically after nurses complete the program.

**The Nurse Residency Program (NRP)**, launched in 2014, empowers cardiac nurses in developing countries and enhances their skills. In 2022, Children's HeartLink developed a virtual NRP to give more nurses the opportunity to learn and improve care for their patients through video-based lectures and group meetings.

From February through December 2022, 32 nurses from four partner hospitals in India and one in Malaysia participated in NRP, engaging with our online materials over 2,500 times and with live sessions for 300 hours.

**Brazil's first postgraduate nursing course** in pediatric cardiac care was developed by nursing leaders at Hospital da Criança e Maternidade (HCM), a Children's HeartLink Center of Excellence, and is taught at FAMERP Medical University. Nurses from across the country attend the 18-month program, which is supported by Children's HeartLink and a multidisciplinary team of experts from HCM, including surgeons, cardiologists, intensivists, nurses and respiratory therapists. The course offers an in-depth overview of the diagnosis, treatment, management and long-term patient care.

### SUPPORT FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION

No matter what is happening in the world, children are being born with heart disease and need lifesaving care. With the support of volunteers and partners, the Children's HeartLink blended learning model of remote and in-person training has increased our reach, sustainability and impact. Training supported by Children's HeartLink reached 1535 nurses in our partner hospitals and across the world in 2022.

### HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

With a return to travel in 2022, one-on-one nurse training and mentorship resumed, including bedside teaching during training visits to partner hospitals.

In November 2022, over 50 nurses participated in the Pediatric Cardiac Society of India conference, with 93% of those evaluated reporting they felt fully prepared to practice what they had learned.

A partner hospital and medical volunteer team piloted the Nursing Educator Simulation Training (NEST) program using our blended learning model. The program is built to mentor nurses in infection prevention strategies through the introduction of nurse educators.

### ABOUT CHILDREN'S HEARTLINK

Children's HeartLink saves children's lives by transforming pediatric heart care in underserved parts of the world. The global nonprofit organization (NGO), partners medical volunteers from top teaching and research institutions with doctors, nurses and health care professionals in Bangladesh, Brazil, China, India, Malaysia and Vietnam to improve pediatric cardiac care programs. Since 1969, the organization has reached more than 1.5 million children.

## YOUR GIFT OF \$250 HELPS SPONSOR TRAINING FOR ONE NURSE WHO CARES FOR A PATIENT AROUND THE CLOCK AND IS A KEY LINK TO FAMILIES.



### ABOUT MARY MCMAHON BUSCH

The Mary McMahon Busch Nurse Training Fund was established in memory of Children's HeartLink board member Mary McMahon Busch. Mary was a cardiac nurse by training, and through her career became an admired and respected leader in the international cardiac device industry. She had an intimate understanding of the vital role nurses play as members of a cardiac team and she was a passionate supporter of our work.

*"Mary was a remarkable woman who certainly made a mark in her 56 years, and with this nurse training fund, her legacy will live on. We're grateful to her family for directing memorial gifts to support the advancement and empowerment of nurses, who are integral to our work."*

— Children's HeartLink President Jackie Boucher