2024 ANNUAL REPORT

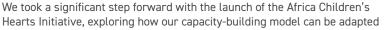


2024 ANNUAL REPORT



Dear Friends,

We come together because every child deserves a chance to have a healthy heart. Congenital heart disease (CHD) is the most common birth defect, yet 9 in 10 children born with CHD lack access to the care they need and deserve. This year, we made remarkable strides addressing the need—progress made possible by support from our donors, volunteers and partners.



for low-resource environments. Thanks to your generous support, we are working with integrity—building trusted relationships with local leaders and pediatric cardiac professionals and leveraging the expertise of our Centers of Excellence and medical volunteers to create a training roadmap for regions like Angola, Ghana and Namibia where there is a significant need for support.

In Brazil, we welcomed our fifth partner hospital, expanding access to lifesaving heart care in a country where the need remains high. A team from Heart Institute at Cincinnati Children's Hospital, Cincinnati, Ohio, USA also joined our volunteer network, strengthening our ability to train and mentor clinicians. Children's HeartLink Centers of Excellence continue to lead, hosting trainings and conferences that support other pediatric cardiac care teams to provide the best care possible to children born with CHD.

As Dr. Veluswamy, CEO of G. Kuppuswamy Naidu Memorial Hospital a Children's HeartLink partner in Coimbatore, India, so powerfully stated, "We are addressing a group of people. They don't have a voice. We have to be the voice of the people who cannot talk."

We are committed to being that voice, advocating for children with CHD on the global stage. For the first time, we hosted a side event at the World Health Assembly (WHA), engaging governments and global health leaders to elevate CHD as a critical health priority. A new resolution on maternal and child health was introduced, recognizing—for the first time—the importance of addressing congenital anomalies, including CHD, to meet global health goals.

Our dedication to innovation also led us to explore virtual reality for pediatric cardiac training, expanding learning opportunities using technology. By embracing new approaches, we strengthen the expertise of medical teams worldwide, ensuring more children receive the quality care they desperately need to survive and thrive.

In 2024, Children's HeartLink partner hospitals reached 213,000 children. These are children who now have a chance at a healthier future because of the partnerships, training and advocacy you help make possible.

None of our successes would be possible without the generosity of our Children's HeartLink community. Your support, especially through flexible funding, ensures we can be responsive, innovative and impactful in our efforts. Our dedicated staff works tirelessly behind the scenes to build partnerships and shape programs, making every dollar count toward saving lives.

We are all advocates for children born with CHD. Together, we continue to create a world where every child—no matter where they are born—has access to high-quality heart care. Thank you for commitment to our mission and work.

achi Bouche

Jackie Boucher, President, Children's HeartLink



OUR NUMBERS















REAL LIVES. REAL CHANGE.

At 14, a once-active girl who loved to dance and play suddenly developed a fever. Her parents immediately sensed something was wrong. After tests, she was diagnosed with Ebstein anomaly, a severe form of CHD that requires surgery. Her family was filled with fear and helplessness, unsure of where to turn next.

Then, they were referred to G. Kuppuswamy Naidu Memorial (GKNM) Hospital, a Children's HeartLink partner in Coimbatore, India. The skilled medical team at GKNM Hospital assessed her condition and performed heart surgery that would change her life. Thanks to the expertise and support of the GKNM team, the surgery was a success. Today, she's back in school, dancing again and spending time with friends.

In many low-resource environments around the world, delayed diagnoses, poor affordability and a lack of specialized expertise can lead to preventable deaths. But through Children's HeartLink partnerships, hospitals like GKNM are overcoming these challenges and providing children like this young girl with life-saving heart care.

As Dr. Joseph Dearani, Chair of Cardiac Surgery at Mayo Clinic and a Children's HeartLink medical volunteer, said, "They [GKNM Hospital] have positively influenced the care of children and young adults with congenital heart disease in ways that were just unimaginable 10 years ago."

Dr. Raju Vijayakumar, a cardiac surgeon at GKNM Hospital, reflected on his role in this transformation: "Getting the opportunity to work with the superheroes of congenital heart surgery in the best of the world and come back and reproduce the same result with the limited resources. It makes me feel very happy. I made an impact on somebody's life."



Watch this heart warrior's story here: childrensheartlink.org/stories/teenage-heart-warrior "Thank you for looking after me so well. Thank you for giving me the courage. Let others like me also receive the same care as me." - heart warrior

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Advocating for Children with CHD at the 77th World Health Assembly

Children's HeartLink traveled to Geneva, Switzerland to join 2024 World Health Assembly (WHA) events, meet with governments and raise the profile of CHD. We hosted our first WHA side event, urged governments to take action to ensure life-long care for all people living with CHD and cheered the passage of a new Maternal and Child Health Resolution that for the first time calls out the needs to address congenital anomalies like CHD in order to achieve Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. The voices of our supporters amplify our advocacy efforts, ensuring governments prioritize care for children with CHD worldwide.



Donate now to support our global advocacy initiatives: childrensheartlink.org/donate



THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

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Children's Heartlink Centers of Excellence: SHARING KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERTISE

Children's HeartLink Centers of Excellence are paving the way for transformative pediatric heart care in low- and middle-income countries by serving as hubs for training and innovation. In June, Amrita Hospital in Kochi, India—one of our Centers of Excellence—hosted a pivotal training for clinicians from India and Vietnam.

Surgeons and perfusionists from several partner hospitals gathered to learn advanced techniques in complex neonatal surgery, with a focus on unifocalization. Led by Dr. Mohan Reddy and perfusionist Clinton Jones from the University of California San Francisco, this training highlighted the critical role of Centers of Excellence in elevating standards of care and sharing expertise across borders.

Thanks to donor generosity, hospitals like Amrita are not only providing world-class care to children with congenital heart disease but also empowering a new generation of specialists to save lives in their regions. This ripple effect of knowledge and skill sharing is creating a better tomorrow.

OUR STORIES

Investing in the Future: AFRICA CHILDREN'S HEART INITIATIVE

Children's HeartLink launched the Africa Children's Heart Initiative, a bold step toward building sustainable pediatric cardiac care in Angola, Ghana and Namibia. This effort addresses critical gaps in care for the 500,000 children born with congenital heart disease annually in Africa, where 90% lack access to appropriate treatment. By leveraging the expertise of Children's HeartLink Centers of Excellence in Brazil and India, along with U.S. and U.K.-based partners, this initiative aims to transform the future of heart care for children in low-resource settings.

With a phased, four-pronged approach, the initiative will focus on developing clinical capacity, fostering cross-country collaboration, advancing health policy advocacy and amplifying patient and family voices. By exploring and adapting the Children's HeartLink model for these countries, our three-year goal is to create a sustainable roadmap for pediatric cardiac care and training. This visionary work is only possible thanks to the generosity of our supporters, who are investing in a future where no child with CHD goes without the care they need.



READ MORE AT: <u>childrensheartlink.org/global-impact/</u> global-advocacy/africa-childrens-hearts-initiative/





Expanding Impact in Brazil: NEW PARTNERSHIP

In November, Children's HeartLink welcomed Instituto Nacional de Cardiologia (INC) in Rio de Janeiro as our fifth hospital partner in Brazil. Partnering with the new medical volunteer team from Cincinnati Children's Heart Institute, INC will expand its capacity to treat children with CHD. This condition affects 28,000 children annually in Brazil, with 85% of of them lacking access to lifesaving care.

With the support from Medtronic Foundation, we were able to launch this partnership that will enhance training, improve outcomes and influence pediatric cardiac care nationwide.

With our community of supporters, we will carry this partnership and others forward to a future where all children have access to high-quality care no matter where they live.

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READ MORE AT: childrensheartlink.org/institutonacional-de-cardiologia-partnership-with-cincinnatichildrens-announcement/

Enhancing Pediatric Heart Care: THE POWER OF PARTNERSHIP

Children's HeartLink facilitated an impactful volunteer hospital visit in May that brought together medical professionals from our partner hospital National Heart Foundation and Research Institute in Bangladesh with their volunteer hospital team at Leeds Children's Hospital in the UK. The two teams began working with each other in 2022. This collaboration showcases the power of partnerships and the generosity of our supporters, who make such impactful exchanges possible.



Training and Knowledge-Sharing in Malaysia: CREATING LASTING IMPACT

Children's HeartLink partner hospital Sultan Idris Shah Hospital kicked off 2024 by hosting medical volunteers from Birmingham Children's Hospital, UK. During the training visit in Sepang, Malaysia, the teams performed surgeries on children born with congenital heart disease, conducted interventional catheterization labs and hosted workshops. The visit culminated in a symposium attended by 100 healthcare professionals, amplifying the reach of this learning opportunity.

Malaysia faces a critical shortage of pediatric cardiac programs, leaving many of the 3,000 children requiring heart surgery annually without access to timely care. With donor support, we are empowering local providers to strengthen diagnostic and treatment capabilities, reducing waiting lists and saving lives. Our commitment, paired with the dedication of our partner hospitals, ensures every resource is maximized to create the greatest impact—bringing us closer to a future where no child with CHD goes without care.



OUR STORIES



Improvements in Vietnam: IMPLEMENTING IMPACTFUL PROCESS

In October, National Children's Hospital (NCH) in Hanoi trained with volunteers from University of California San Francisco (UCSF) on advanced surgical techniques and pediatric echocardiography. The visit also featured junior physician-led case discussions and nurse-to-nurse teaching on complex heart defects. During the visit, the teams celebrated progress made by NCH, as the hospital successfully implemented an operating room to intensive care unit handover process, they observed while visiting UCSF in 2023.

This partnership has made great progress since it began in 2017. The contributions we receive from supporters fuel the growth of our partners in Vietnam so they can implement practices like this to improve outcomes for children with heart disease.

WAYS TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Community support plays a vital role in ensuring all children have access to high-quality heart care, a fundamental human right. Here's how you can get involved:

- Sign the Call to Action on Addressing the Global Burden of congenital heart disease. childrensheartlink.org/sign4chd/
- Become a sponsor of the Global Gathering on November 15, 2025, or attend as a guest to learn more about our mission. <u>childrensheartlink.org/sponsor</u>
- Support our nonprofit with a donation. Your contributions fuel our transformative work. childrensheartlink.org/donate
- Learn more about congenital heart disease, the most common birth defect and the birth defect that causes the most infant deaths. childrensheartlink.org/stories/teenage-heart-warrior
- Share a story that embodies the essence of our mission. childrensheartlink.org/LisVideo
- Host a fundraiser online or in your home and introduce friends, family and colleagues to Children's HeartLink's work.
 <u>childrensheartlink.org/get-involved/host-a-fundraiser/</u>

Please contact <u>Erin Bursch</u> with inquiries regarding estate gifts, hosting an in-person event or for assistance in structuring your next gift.

Statements of Financial Position

Statements of Financial Position	2024	2023
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$1,852,005	\$2,583,563
Pledges and grants receivable, current, less allowance for doubtful accounts	500,996	17,600
Other receivables	1,267	
Investments	-	498,698
Prepaid expenses	35,103	74,736
Total current assets	2,389,371	3,174,597
Property and equipment	130,587	128,907
Other assets	216,772	331,627
Pledges and grants receivable, net of current portion and net present value discount	-	12,061
Right-of-use assets, net		337,908
Total other assets	216,772	343,688
Total assets	\$2,736,730	\$3,647,192
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Current liabilities		
Accounts payable	\$57,527	\$48,242
Accrued payroll and other liabilities	26,755	54,348
Other accrued expenses	18,791	19,609
Deferred revenue	-	97,128
Current portion of operating lease obligations		3,315
Total current liabilities	\$103,073	\$222,644
Long-term liabilities		0.077
Operating lease obligations, net of current portion	-	9,043
Total long-term liabilities	-	9,043
Total liabilities	\$103,073	\$231,687
Net assets		
Without donor restrictions	50.0/0	
Undesignated	73,868	1,616,995
Board-designated	152,200	152,200
Total without donor restrictions	226,068	1,769,19
With donor restrictions	2,407,589	1,646,310
Total net assets	2,633,657	3,415,505
Total liabilities and net assets	\$2,736,730	\$3,647,192

Statements of Activities Year Ended

Statements of Activities Year Ended						
June 30, 2024 & 2023	2024			2023		
	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
SUPPORT						
Operating Support						
Contributions and grants	\$212,807	\$1,780,139	\$1,992,946	\$1,408,479	\$2,211,565	\$3,620,044
Special event sponsorships and donations, Net of Direct Benefits to Donor (\$200,730 & 149,093 In 2024 & 2023, Respectively)	572,036	-	572,036	397,620		397,620
In-kind contributions	648,920	-	648,920	541,290	-	541,290
Total Support	1,433,763	1,780,139	3,213,902	2,347,389	2,211,565	4,558,954
REVENUE						
Other income Net assets released from restriction	75,451	-	75,451	16,498	-	16,498
Satisfaction of purpose restrictions Expiration of time restrictions	895,082 123,778	(895,082) (123,778)	-	689,622 277,409	(689,622) (277,409)	-
Total support and revenue	2,528,074	761,279	3,289,353	3,330,918	1,244,534	4,575,452
OPERATING EXPENSES						
Program services	2,844,694	-	2,844,694	2,264,250	-	2,264,250
Supporting services General and administrative Fundraising	580,207 646,300	-	580,207 646,300	536,945 694,832	-	536,945 694,832
Total operating expenses	4,071,201	-	4,071,201	3,496,027	-	3,496,027
Change in net assets	(1,543,127)	761,279	(781,848)	(165,109)	1,244,534	1,079,425
Net assets, beginning of year	1,769,195	1,646,310	3,415,505	1,934,304	401,776	2,336,080
Net assets, end of year	\$226,068	\$2,407,589	\$2,633,657	\$1,769,195	\$1,646,310	\$3,415,505

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Thank you to our community of supporters. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of contributions made during 2024. If you notice any oversights or inaccuracies, please contact the Development Office at (952) 928-4860, ext. 25. We appreciate your understanding as we strive to maintain accurate records.

As a Minnesota-based tax-exempt NGO with 501(c)(3) nonprofit status, Children's HeartLink relies 100% on donations and grants from individuals, organizations and foundations to support our mission.