



Your Impact on Research

Dear Friends,

Your support of the *Children's Fund* is helping to create a more diverse research community on the Stanford campus.

Funded in large part by *Children's Fund* gifts, the DRIVE (Diversity, Respect, and Inclusion are Vital for Excellence) in Research Pipeline Award program is intended to improve diversity of the maternal and child health research community through mentorship and training.

Diversity in research is a key component of innovation. By bringing new concepts and points of view to the table, diversity enhances the creative process and contributes to a culture of transformative scholarship.

Through the DRIVE program, underrepresented minorities and first generation or low-income Stanford undergraduates who are interested in biomedical research careers can receive stipends to work with established investigators.

This summer, the first 10 students supported by DRIVE paired up with faculty members to dive into maternal and child health-related projects. We look forward to the student presentations on August 25. To learn more, visit med.stanford.edu/mchri.

These students will have a profound impact as they progress in their research careers. **Thank you for making the DRIVE program possible!**

With gratitude,

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Arline and Pete Harman Professor and Chair, Department of Pediatrics
Director, Stanford Maternal and Child Health Research Institute
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Cover image: Your support of Packard Children's Hospital ensured that 6-year-old Caroline could undergo surgery to save her arm when osteosarcoma attacked her bone.

If you would like to be removed from our mailing list, please visit supportLPCH.org/Remove or call (650) 497-3161.



Your support of Packard Children's Hospital helped Caroline face surgery to save her arm from osteosarcoma. Thank you!

More Inside

Double Your Impact

Be a Lifeline for
Our Patients

Thank You for Scamper-ing
With Us!

You Helped Caroline Ring the Golden Bell

Six-year-old Caroline stepped up to the pole festooned with yellow, orange, and pink streamers and grabbed the rope attached to a very special golden bell.

As she pulled the cord and the bell clanged, her friends and family cheered. Caroline's mom, Shayna, and dad, Chris, grinned from ear to ear. This was an important milestone for their kindergartener. Months earlier, what had started out as a trip to urgent care for a possible broken bone had turned into a fight against cancer.



Double Your Impact

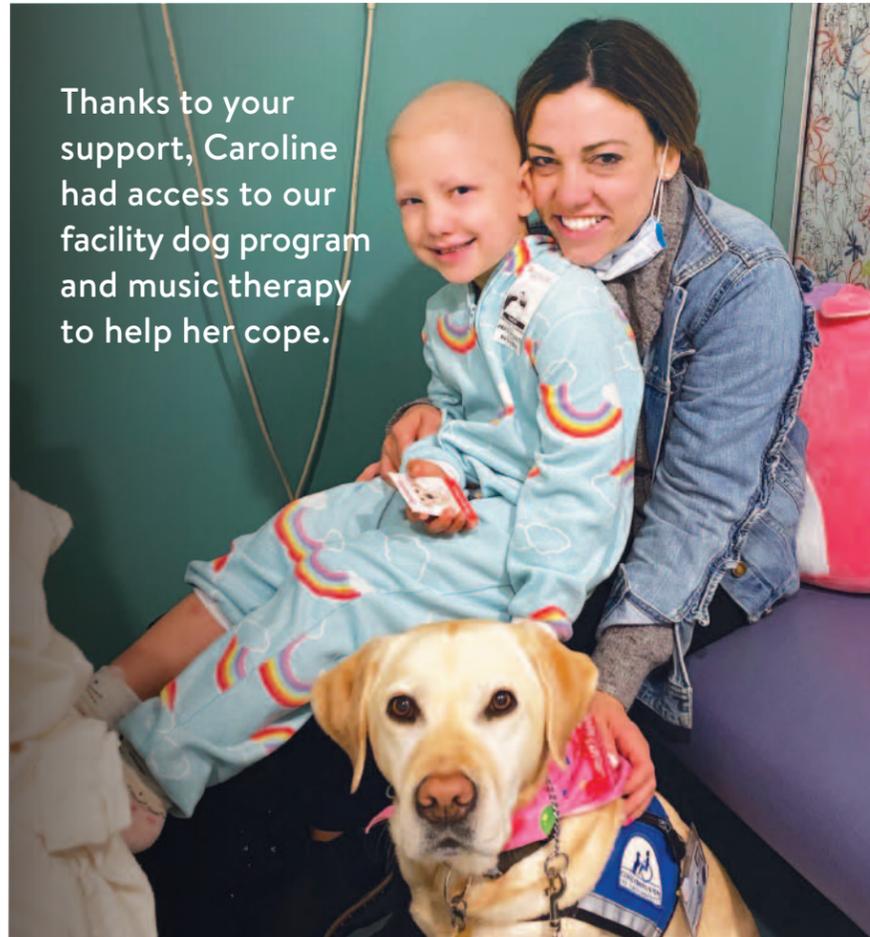
Did you know that many employers match their employees' charitable gifts?

Check with your Human Resources Department to see if your *Children's Fund* donation can be matched to give twice as much health and healing today.



Be a Lifeline for Our Patients

Our Monthly Giving Partners are lifelines who are there for our patients when they need it the most. Learn more at supportLPCH.org/Monthly.



Thanks to your support, Caroline had access to our facility dog program and music therapy to help her cope.

CONTINUED FROM THE FRONT PAGE...

In August 2020, Caroline told her parents her arm hurt. Eventually she stopped using it.

"When we took her to urgent care, then an orthopedic surgeon, we assumed it might be a fracture," says Shayna. "We were picking out cast colors and asking her if she liked pink or purple."

Then doctors at Valley Children's Hospital, near the family's home in Clovis, broke the news: There was a tumor, and it was aggressively attacking Caroline's bone. The family wondered how they could save her arm.

"We called doctors all across the country. **We were told that Caroline's best option was to undergo surgery at Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford**, just three hours from our home," says Shayna. "Dr. Avedian dealt with me crying over Zoom calls and my husband asking all the questions. Dr. Spunt was very hands-on and so supportive. She was absolutely instrumental at providing a second opinion."

A course of action

Orthopedist Raffi Avedian, MD, and oncologist Sheri Spunt, MD, MBA, often work closely with the team at Valley Children's and agreed with the diagnosis that Caroline had osteosarcoma, a type of bone cancer very rarely found in kids Caroline's age.

The plan was a collaboration between the two hospitals, with chemotherapy treatments at Valley Children's and surgery at Packard Children's to remove the tumor and save Caroline's arm. Her arm would have an expandable prosthesis—it would not grow to full-length nor have full mobility.

Help from friends—human and canine

Caroline had her best friend, a stuffed puppy, with her every step of the way. But before surgery, when there was a mention of a needle, Caroline was inconsolable. It was time for a real dog to take over!

"Donatella, Packard Children's surgery center facility dog, came and totally calmed her down when no one else could. She saved the morning," Shayna recalls. **Her family was grateful for the extra support. Without donors like you, Donatella's visit would not have been possible.**

Caroline's family focused on one day at a time. When they felt like it was all too much to bear, our community held them up.

"To be able to help others in times of need, whether financially or emotionally, every little thing matters. Having lived through it, I can really feel the impact it makes," Shayna says. **"Every dollar donated to the hospital makes a difference in patients' lives. Everything from child life specialists to comfortable beds for the parents. We will forever be grateful."**

Caroline's surgery was a success! And this spring, just after she turned 6, she rang the golden bell signifying her final chemo treatment and bright future.

Thank you for your support of the *Children's Fund* and patients like Caroline. Because of you, Caroline is dancing, playing tennis, and looking forward to starting first grade. ●

Want to Help More Kids Like Caroline?

Your *Children's Fund* gifts support groundbreaking research; compassionate, innovative care for children in our community, regardless of their families' financial circumstances; and important programs and services like our Teen Van. To bring hope and health to children, visit supportLPCH.org/ChildrensFund.



Thank You for Scamper-ing With Us!

You did it! You and nearly 1,000 other Scamper-ers helped us raise more than \$380,000 for children's health through our 2021 Virtual Summer Scamper. We hope you enjoyed our fun event on June 30, complete with a few surprises and giveaways!

We are grateful to teams like the Association of Auxiliaries, who raised more than \$45,000 for the Stanford Children's Health Teen Van in celebration of the van's 25th anniversary. They even threw a Scamper-themed birthday party (below)!

Visit SummerScamper.org for highlights.

