SPRING 2018

Dear Friends,

Did you know that for every dollar you give to the Children’s Fund, more than one-third (35 cents) goes toward jumpstarting research into better care and cures led by some of pediatric medicine’s most innovative and brilliant scientists?

Because of you, faculty scholars and other clinical researchers receive funding from the Child Health Research Institute (CHRI) at Stanford University. You can think of CHRI as a venture capital firm that strategically invests in the research that will make an incredible impact on the field of children’s health.

Do you want to hear from some of the remarkable researchers your gifts support? Please join us on April 12-13 as CHRI hosts the Childx Symposium, where 17 CHRI-funded investigators and their industry peers will discuss the challenges and solutions they are advancing in maternal and children’s health.

Topics to be covered at this year’s event will include: Origins of Illness and Disability, Mental Health in Childhood, Literacy and Health, Solutions for Childhood Obesity, Implementation of New Genetic and Immunological Treatments, and Next-Generation Technologies for Chronic Illnesses.

For more details and to register, please visit childx.stanford.edu.

We hope to see you there, and to introduce you to some of the researchers you’ve helped through your generous gifts to the Children’s Fund!

Best wishes,

Mary B. Leonard, MD, MSCE
Arline and Pete Harman Professor and Chair, Department of Pediatrics
Director, Stanford Child Health Research Institute
Stanford School of Medicine

Adalyn Jay Physician-in-Chief,
Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital Stanford

Your Impact on Research

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Cover image: A lifelong Packard Children’s patient, Zariah says the hospital plays a vital role in her ability to do well in school, even when she faces medical challenges.

Zariah Stevenson, 16, shares what your support means to her.

More Inside:
How You Can Help
Save the Date: Summer Scamper is June 24, 2018
Your Feedback is Important

Thank You, From a Lifelong Packard Children’s Patient

Hello, my name is Zariah Stevenson. I am a junior at Menlo Atherton High School and a patient at Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital Stanford. The hospital is a very special place. And I should know. I’ve been a patient there for 15 years. I was diagnosed with sickle cell beta thalassemia at birth. My red blood cells, they turn into a crescent shape because they don’t get enough oxygen.
We’re Open!

On December 9, 2017, 91 patients were transferred to the NEW Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital Stanford.

The new building will allow us to care for more patients and families than ever before, in a setting that balances the most advanced technology and the deepest commitment to family-centered care. We are so excited that this building—a decade in the making—is open.

Now, we’d love to show you around!

If you would like to take a guided tour of the new hospital with a Children’s Fund team member, contact Sophie Emmerson at (650) 498-6168 or Sophie.Emmerson@lpfch.org.

CONTINUED FROM THE FRONT PAGE...

It causes me pain in my back, arms, and legs, especially when I do a lot of physical activity. I end up being admitted to the hospital late at night.

Sickle cell has impacted my life in many ways. For example, when I am hospitalized, my grades suffer, and when I return to school, my energy level is low. In the past, I haven’t felt included in school because I felt different with my condition.

I feel that Packard Children’s is a very good hospital because they care for me beyond my physical health and they show interest in personal things that I like. This past year I was admitted to the hospital for two weeks. The pain was more severe than ever, which meant I needed more medicine and I wouldn’t be able to do school work. I felt really nervous about school. But the doctors and nurses asked me to introduce myself in my favorite language, Korean. This showed me that they cared for me.

I’m glad to be at Packard Children’s and I think it’s a good hospital because they can definitely connect with you. And they just make me feel loved overall and not forgotten about. They have explained my condition to me through regular appointments. When I was hospitalized, they helped me cope with my condition through a Child Life Specialist.

When I returned to school, my grades were not so great, and I was very worried. Ms. Jeanne Kane from the Hospital Educational Advocacy Liaisons (HEAL) program came and talked with me about school. With my mom, she advocated at my school for my Individualized Education Plan to ensure I could get the help I needed, and as a result, I was able to get a case manager who helped me manage my class load.

I am now more confident, getting better grades, and I’ve joined my favorite sport, cheerleading.

I would like to thank Dr. Michael Jeng, nurse practitioner Judith Lea, and social worker Kerri Lowe for helping keep my health on track and supporting my family.

Thank you to anyone who has helped me, whether it was taking my blood, volunteering and bringing activities to my room, the pastoral staff who prayed for me, and the receptionist who greeted and knows me.

I also want to thank donors and those who support the hospital for giving me the opportunity to share my story. By sharing my story, I have learned that I am more than my condition. It helped bring awareness to sickle cell at my school, my church, and my community.

I am not shy to talk about my condition and I am thinking of becoming a nurse. Because when a nurse treated me like her own daughter, I felt more supported. Now I want to help others just like me.

How You Can Help

Your support gives patients like Zariah a welcoming place to turn to for care, and a team who will help advocate for children as they transition back into school and normal life. Make your best Children’s Fund gift in the enclosed envelope or at supportLPCH.org. Thank you!

Your Feedback is Important

We want to hear from you! What inspires you to give? How do you like to be updated about the hospital? What topics do you want to learn more about? Take our survey at supportLPCH.org/survey2018 by April 15 and let us know. Enter “18CFU” as your survey code.