Your Impact on Research

This summer Mary Leonard, MD, MSCE, (pictured above) became the new Adalyn Jay Physician-In-Chief at Packard Children’s and the chair of pediatrics at Stanford University School of Medicine. She succeeds Hugh O’Brodovich, MD, who retired in June after serving in these positions for eight years.

One very important thing has remained constant as the baton passed from Dr. O’Brodovich to Dr. Leonard: your wonderful support has played and will continue to play a crucial role in moving child health research forward.

Did you know?
• Every year, more than one-third of your Children’s Fund donations are allocated to pediatric research.
• During Dr. O’Brodovich’s tenure, donors like you provided more than $21 million in grants for innovative research in child and maternal health.
• You are making exciting new discoveries possible in food allergies, brain tumors, and other diseases. Our researchers are even evaluating text messaging as a way to help children with celiac disease.

With your continued support and Dr. Leonard’s leadership, we will move research even further toward better treatments and cures for children and expectant mothers.

Thank you so much for your ongoing partnership—and the impact you are making on children’s health!

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Photography, courtesy of the Miranda family
Cover image: Isabel Miranda cheered for her brother Robert at the 2016 Summer Scamper 5k, 10k, and kids’ fun run on June 19.

You Helped Isabel Find Her Voice
“Go Robert!” shouted 12-year-old Isabel Miranda as her older brother sprinted across the finish line. That morning at Summer Scamper, Robert outran 2,619 other racers to take third place in the 5k.

This hearty cheer from Isabel means more than you might guess. Just a few years ago, she could barely speak. Today, with your support, she has made incredible progress.

As a baby, Isabel was diagnosed at Packard Children’s with

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Upcoming: An evening celebrating Circles of Leadership donors
Thursday, September 15
Tacolicious, Palo Alto

Our annual Circles of Leadership event honors donors who give $1,000 or more each year to support our patients.

This year, we are excited to introduce you to Susan Kinnebrew, MHA, CCLS, director of Child Life and Integrative Therapies. Susan will showcase services you’ve helped provide that make children and their families feel better from the moment they walk into the hospital.

You will also hear from 12-year-old Sameer Reddy and his mom, Ranjina. Sameer was diagnosed with acute lymphocytic leukemia at 2 years old. He almost didn’t survive. But thanks to his amazing spirit and your support, Sameer pulled through. Together, they will share his story and say thank you.

Contact Lauren Goekey at lauren.goekey@lpch.org or (650) 736-8280 for more details.

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Twelve-year-old Isabel has thrived, thanks to the lifelong care you have made possible at Packard Children’s.

CONTINUED FROM THE FRONT PAGE...

a rare form of epilepsy called Infantile Spasms. The seizure disorder primarily affects babies within their first year of life and is diagnosed in about 2,500 children throughout the U.S. each year.

Children with this disorder often also face developmental disabilities and autism. For Isabel, our hospital has provided the vital care she needs, spanning six specialties, including neurology, which has helped her control a new type of seizure that arrived when she reached puberty. Additionally, Isabel receives physical, occupational, and speech therapy each week.

“Isabel has come so far,” says Robert. “When she was much younger, she had trouble speaking, and most of the time only my parents and I could understand her. Isabel has spent hours upon hours in speech therapy for years, and now the difference is unbelievable. Everyone can understand her, and she is now working on speaking in complete thoughts, which would have been impossible when she began.”

Expressing Herself, Inspiring Others

But Isabel’s absolute favorite therapy? Music therapy. She spends at least four hours each month exploring musical instruments and expressing herself through songs and sounds.

“Packard Children’s has done so much for my sister, and we have relied on the hospital for her care for her entire life,” Robert adds.

In turn, Robert, 16, a nationally ranked high school runner, has put his talent to work fundraising through Summer Stamper and other activities to support and expand music therapy at the hospital.

“To me, it was a clear decision to not only give back to Packard Children’s, but to help establish a music therapy program that would make a difference for children in need, like my sister.”

Credit Isabel as his inspiration, this year Robert was not only a top finisher at Stamper, but also a top fundraiser.

“I’ve seen how tough it is to fight a condition, and I’ve seen all the struggles Isabel has gone through over the years,” Robert says. “I have nothing but the utmost respect and love for Isabel and for the other patients and families at Packard Children’s.”

To the families of patients— and to donors like you— Robert offers these encouraging words: “Your love and support make all the difference.”

How You Can Help

Your support makes a life-changing difference every day for patients like Isabel. Make your best gift today in the enclosed envelope or at supportLPCH.org. Thank you!

What Will Your Brick Say?

Until November 15, 2016, you can donate a personalized brick to line a pathway outside our hospital’s new expansion. Don’t miss this rare opportunity to honor a loved one or celebrate a patient or caregiver.

Visit supportLPCH.org/bricks to donate your brick now. Limited number available.