



## Your Impact on Research

### Dear Friends,

As you may know, when you support the *Children's Fund*, you uphold three important pillars of child and maternal health in our community and beyond: providing care for all families, regardless of their financial circumstances; sustaining vital family and community programs (as seen in this issue's feature story about pet therapy); and enabling life-changing research.

That third pillar is embodied in the Stanford Maternal and Child Health Research Institute, also known as MCHRI. **The entire MCHRI community is dedicated to playing a leadership role locally and globally to promote maternal and child health.** It is important to me that you know exactly what your *Children's Fund* gifts support:

- Because of you, Fernando Mendoza, MD, MPH, a professor of pediatrics, and his colleagues in the Division of General Pediatrics and the Stanford Immigration Policy Lab were able to conduct research into the health and well-being of children in immigrant families.
- Anisha Patel, MD, an associate professor of pediatrics, was able to study the cost of promoting access to clean fresh drinking water in schools as an obesity prevention strategy.
- And many other studies only possible because of generous donors like you. **You can learn more about exciting research on our website, [med.stanford.edu/mchri](http://med.stanford.edu/mchri).**

Thank you for your support of the *Children's Fund*—and by extension MCHRI. You are making a tangible difference in the lives of mothers and children in our community and beyond.

With gratitude,

Mary B. Leonard, MD, MSCE  
Arline and Pete Harman Professor and Chair, Department of Pediatrics  
Director, Stanford Maternal and Child Health Research Institute  
Stanford School of Medicine  
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Thanks to your support, facility dog Donnie could comfort Hadley before she went into surgery.

### More Inside:

How You Can Help More  
Children Benefit From  
Pet Therapy

Thank You for Scamper-ing  
With Us

Creating Your Legacy

## You Give Kids a Paws-itive Experience

Six-year-old Hadley has a special friend she looks forward to seeing during her visits to Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford: Donatella, a 3-year-old Labrador retriever.

Donatella, affectionately known as "Donnie," and her canine colleagues are part of the Packard Paws Facility Dog Program, providing pet assisted therapy for patients, their families, and care team members at our hospital.

CONTINUED INSIDE...



## Creating Your Legacy

Learn more about putting a gift in your will.

Want to ensure that we can always provide extraordinary care for children like Hadley? Include a gift to the *Children's Fund* in your will.

To learn more, visit [supportLPCH.org/GiftPlanning](http://supportLPCH.org/GiftPlanning) or contact us at [GiftPlanning@lpfch.org](mailto:GiftPlanning@lpfch.org).



Child life specialist Molly Pearson, CCLS, CFLE, and Packard Paws facility dog Donnie.



Facility dog Donnie shows Hadley how she takes her "medicine."

### CONTINUED FROM THE FRONT PAGE...

"The dogs enhance children's experience in the midst of treatment," says Susan Kinnebrew, MHA, CCLS, director of the Child Life and Creative Arts Department. "And not only that, they provide incredible therapeutic value to parents and staff as well."

Packard Paws is the vision of Donnie's handler, child life specialist Molly Pearson, CCLS, CFLE, and physician assistant Alyssa Giacalone, PA-C.

In January 2018, a 3-year-old black Labrador retriever named Echo became Packard Children's first facility dog and was quickly joined by 5-year-old Labradoodle, Sonya. Canine Companions for Independence then donated Donnie to the program.

Each facility dog makes about 50 visits per month, totaling more than 1,800 visits each year. They have extensive formal training and are assigned to specific units. Echo accompanies Giacalone and another physician assistant, Geovanna Suarez, PA-C, to visit patients in the Betty Irene Moore Children's Heart Center and the Cardiovascular Intensive Care Unit. Sonya and her handler, psychologist Rashmi Bhandari, PhD,

work with patients at our Pediatric Pain Management Clinic in Menlo Park.

When Donnie is meeting with patients like Hadley, it is often in the Treatment Center as a child is preparing for a procedure. Hadley and her younger sister, Sloane, have undergone a number of surgeries at the hospital, and the difference before and after Donnie's arrival is remarkable.

"The last time Sloane was here, Donnie rode with her on the gurney into the pre-op area," says Hadley and Sloane's mom, Helen. "Sloane was really stressed at first, but she and Donnie became best friends. It makes such a difference."

## Donnie and Her Donors

Packard Paws exists only because of philanthropy.

Each dog is provided with a new crate, bed, and grooming supplies, and their handlers hand out personalized trading cards and stuffed replicas of the dogs to patients they meet every day. Thanks to ongoing support from *Children's Fund* donors like you, as well as a recent \$25,000 gift made by the San Jose Auxiliary, the program has had an amazing impact on our patients, families, and staff. Kinnebrew hopes that with continued *Children's Fund* support, the program can expand with more facility dogs in more units in the future.

Thank you for being there for Hadley, Sloane, and so many others at Packard Children's through your gift to the *Children's Fund*.

"I am really grateful that my daughters, and all of the other patients here, have such great care, and that includes Donnie," says Helen. "Thank you so much for your support." ●

## How You Can Help More Children Benefit from Pet Therapy

Renew your gift to the *Children's Fund* to ensure essential services like the Packard Paws Facility Dog Program are available to our patients and their families. Make your best *Children's Fund* gift in the enclosed envelope or at [supportLPCH.org](http://supportLPCH.org). Thank you!



## Thank You for Scamper-ing With Us

More than 4,000 friends joined us on June 23 for the 9<sup>th</sup> annual Summer Scamper 5k, 10k, and kids' fun run to support our hospital and child and maternal health research at Stanford University School of Medicine.

Thank you for helping us raise more than \$570,000 for our patients!

Check out [SummerScamper.org](http://SummerScamper.org) for race photos and results.

