



## Your Impact on Research

### Dear Friends,

Each year more than 8,000 donors like you give to the *Children's Fund*, supporting programs and services that aren't covered by insurance but are vital to the well-being of patients. Thirty-five cents of every dollar goes to research through the Maternal and Child Health Research Institute (MCHRI).

The widespread unmasking of ongoing racial inequities and the health disparities they cause, which are compounded by COVID-19, has served to catalyze the MCHRI community. We have a renewed commitment to support research on the impact of these disparities on mothers, children, and communities of color. Accordingly, MCHRI recently launched **pilot grants for Research on Structural Racism, Social Injustice, and Health Disparities in Maternal and Child Health**.

Engaging in diverse and inclusive research is a key component of innovation and is critical to advancing insights into the experiences and needs of these communities. **We're thrilled to announce the first round of researchers launching projects.**

#### Natali Aziz, MD, MS

COVID-19 Household Transmission and Social Determinants of Health in Pregnancy

#### Erica Pasciullo Cahill, MD, MS

Patient Evaluation of an Anti-Racism Perinatal Tool

#### Sharon Chinthrajah, MD

Improving Racial Diversity in Our Food Allergy Programs

#### Michael Frank, PhD

Measuring Children's Early Vocabulary Using Large Scale Data from Diverse Families

#### Priya Prahalad, MD, PhD

Telehealth Delivery to Change the Paradigm of Care Delivery in Children with Type 1 Diabetes

Over the next year, these brilliant scientists will immerse themselves in promoting advances for more kids and families in our community and beyond.

**Research like this would not be possible without your generous gifts to the *Children's Fund*, and we're so proud to partner with you in this important work.**

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  
Adalyn Jay Physician-In-Chief,  
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## Lucile Packard Children's Fund

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**Photography:** Courtesy of the  
Greunke family

**Cover Image:** Bucky underwent surgery at Packard Children's Hospital to treat a rare liver condition when he was just 33 days old. His liver works well now, and he continues to be monitored.

To be removed from our mailing list, please visit [supportLPCH.org/Remove](https://supportLPCH.org/Remove) or call (650) 497-3161.

[supportLPCH.org/ChildrensFund](https://supportLPCH.org/ChildrensFund)



Meet the youngest baby to  
have an intricate liver surgery  
at Packard Children's Hospital.

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[supportLPCH.org/ChildrensFund](https://supportLPCH.org/ChildrensFund)

## Bucky Is Here Because You Care

Bucky loves dancing, watching "Teletubbies," and playing with "anything with wheels," his mom, Anna Greunke says. "He's just so happy all of the time."

But when Bucky was 2 weeks old, Anna knew that something wasn't quite right. At first, Bucky was happy and active. "Then I had a weird feeling," she says. "He was losing weight even though he was eating great. It didn't make sense."

CONTINUED INSIDE...



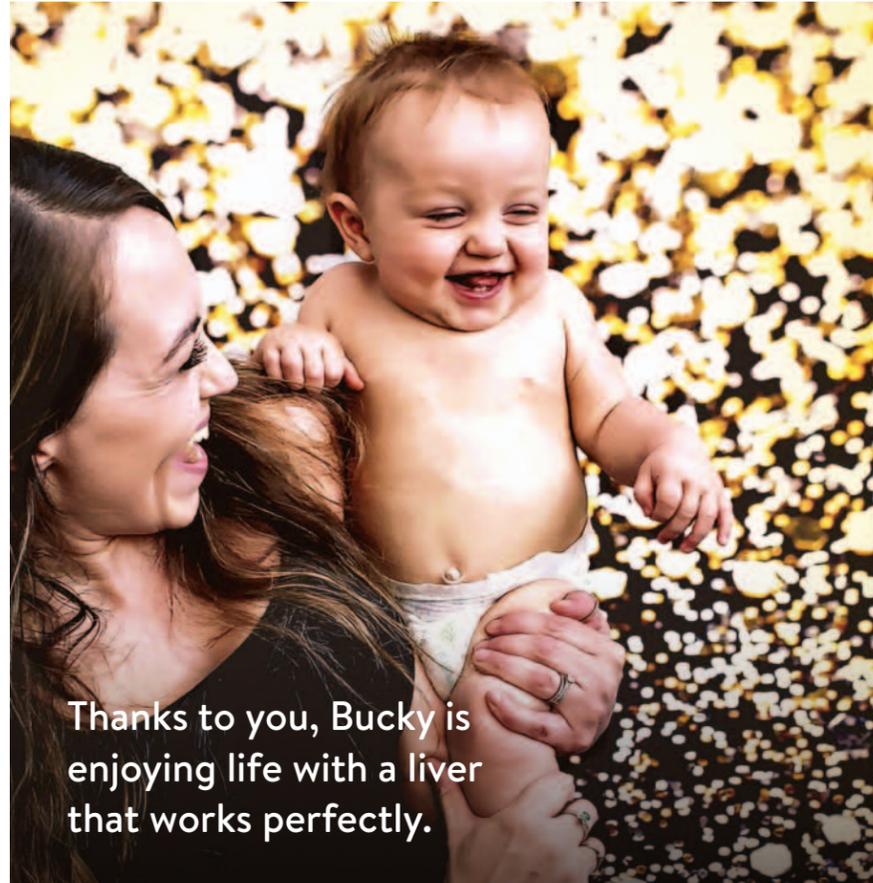
## Be a Lifeline for Our Patients

Give the gift of health and hope year-round by becoming a **Monthly Giving Partner**.

Many of our patients, like Koen (above), need long-term or complex care. You can be a lifeline for kids with your ongoing support. You'll also get access to exclusive content and opportunities.

Learn more at [supportLPCH.org/Monthly](https://supportLPCH.org/Monthly).

For up-to-date information on COVID-19 and our hospital, please visit [supportLPCH.org/COVID19Resources](https://supportLPCH.org/COVID19Resources).



Thanks to you, Bucky is enjoying life with a liver that works perfectly.

### CONTINUED FROM THE FRONT PAGE...

Anna brought Bucky to his pediatrician, who recommended that they transfer him to a bigger hospital that was close to their hometown of Patterson. When they arrived, a doctor told Anna he suspected Bucky had a rare, life-threatening liver condition called biliary atresia. Babies born with biliary atresia have no connection between their liver and small bowel, which causes bile to back up and destroy the liver.

Bucky's doctors planned to take a biopsy of his liver and wait two weeks for results. Then they would consider doing a specialized surgery, called a Kasai procedure, to route the bile out of the liver.

Over the next few days, Anna could see that Bucky wasn't doing well. As luck would have it, her friend worked as a nurse on Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford's pediatric liver transplant unit, and Anna reached out for advice. "She told me that I really shouldn't wait two weeks," Anna says.

## A Critical Window

Anna transferred Bucky to Packard Children's Hospital right away. When they arrived at midnight, a surgeon met them and discussed next steps. "The timing of the procedure is critical," says pediatric hepatologist Leina Alrabadi, MD. If the Kasai is performed within the first 45 days of life, the surgery has a much better chance of restoring bile flow and lessening the damage to the liver.

A multidisciplinary team of specialists in pediatric hepatology, surgery, interventional radiology, and nursing sprang into action. Bucky had the procedure three days later when he was just 33 days old, becoming the youngest patient to have the Kasai procedure at Packard Children's.

## A Promising Tomorrow

Fortunately, Bucky's surgery was a success. While the Kasai procedure is not a cure for biliary atresia, Bucky will be able to keep his native liver longer and potentially avoid a future transplant.

He is now 18 months old, and his liver is working great. He is down to taking only one medication, and he returns to Packard Children's Hospital every three months for checkups. His care team stays in close touch with Anna and their local doctors to ensure that his bloodwork remains normal and his development and growth are on track.

## Your Support at Work

Anna says she has felt supported "every step of the way" by Bucky's amazing care team and donors like you. Your gifts to the *Children's Fund* support essential resources like social workers, child life specialists, and many others who help families through the hardships of hospitalization, enabling them to focus on what matters most.

"Without donors, I don't think we could've stayed with Bucky in the hospital," says Anna. "I don't think we would've been able to have that level of care for him. You make it possible for kids to live." •

## How You Can Help

Want to make a difference for children like Bucky? Visit [supportLPCH.org/ChildrensFund](https://supportLPCH.org/ChildrensFund) to donate online or learn more about getting involved with Packard Children's Hospital.



## Save the Date! Virtual Summer Scamper 2021

Our biggest community fundraiser of the year is coming back this summer! Join us to run, walk, and fundraise for Virtual Summer Scamper all June. Then on Wednesday, June 30, tune in for a fun online event as we celebrate your support of our hospital.

Last year, you helped us raise more than \$400,000 for our patients through Virtual Summer Scamper. To date, our Scamper-ers have raised nearly \$4 million for care, comfort, and cures.

Check [SummerScamper.org](https://SummerScamper.org) for updates.

