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Children’s Hospital’s mission is to provide comprehensive pediatric healthcare that recognizes the special needs of children through excellence and the continuous improvement of patient care, education, research, child advocacy and management.

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Hogs for the Cause Co-founders, Becker Hall and Renee Louapre, several Hogs team members and patients of Children’s Hospital announce a $2.1 million donation to patient family housing.

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OUR COMMITMENT TO DIVERSE POPULATIONS

NON-DISCRIMINATION: Children’s Hospital is committed to meeting the needs of the diverse population that we serve. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, gender identity or sexual orientation.

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR DIVERSE POPULATIONS: In order to better accommodate our diverse community, we provide the following services, free of charge, to persons with disabilities: qualified sign language interpreters, written information in other formats.

In order to accommodate patients and families who prefer to communicate in a language other than English, we also provide the following free language services: qualified interpreters, information translated into languages other than English.

If you need these services, please contact the manager of our Social Services Department at (504) 896-9367.

COMPLAINTS & GRIEVANCES: If you believe that we have failed to provide these services or discriminated in another way on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, gender identity or sexual orientation, you can file a grievance with: Children’s Hospital Director of Patient Experience, 200 Henry Clay Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70118; (504) 896-3073; CHcomplaints@LCMChealth.org.

You can file a grievance in person or by mail, fax or email. If you need help filing a grievance, our Director of Patient Experience is available to help you.

You can also file a civil rights complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Civil Rights, electronically through the Office for Civil Rights Complaint Portal, available at https://ocrportal.hhs.gov/ocr/portal/lobby.jsf or by mail or phone at: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; 200 Independence Avenue, SW; Room 509F, HHH Building; Washington, D.C. 20201 1-800-368-1019; 1-800-537-7697 (TDD). Complaint forms are available at www.hhs.gov/ocr/office/file/index.html.
FROM THE
President’s Desk

SHARING IN OUR SUCCESS STORY

AS VITAL AS CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL is to the health of our children, so is the role community involvement plays in our organization. We would not be where we are today without the support of our friends, families, neighbors, community leaders and other organizations—all essential to the health of the hospital.

Introducing our new family housing project and Hogs for the Cause’s gift to help fund it, provides an opportunity to retell the story of our impact on the lives of so many children and families and how important it is for Children’s Hospital to have your support.

There are just over 50 freestanding children’s hospitals in the country. We are part of this very unique group, and it is truly a privilege for us as a community, and a state, to have one here in Louisiana, and for many of us, in our hometown of New Orleans.

Children’s hospitals are game changers in improving the health of children in our region. Children have very special healthcare needs, and a hospital solely dedicated to pediatrics really does improve their outcome.

Gifts like the Hogs for the Cause donation are very important in helping us make this an organization that truly improves children’s health and well being. We focus on the family as well as the patient in a pediatric hospital, and that is just one of many things that makes us special. To be able to have parent housing on our campus, close to where their children are undergoing treatment, helps families focus on their child and alleviates housing and transportation concerns. Support for family housing is a big deal for us, and the ability to offer this assistance to families in a way that meets their financial needs is a huge advantage.

We are grateful for gifts like the Hogs for the Cause donation to our family housing. Hogs for the Cause is an organization dedicated to supporting families of children who have very significant illnesses. They have embraced this project as an opportunity to help families when they need it most and to continue to fulfill their mission.

Providing the best care possible for children and their families is something that requires the entire community’s support. In the upcoming months, we will be reaching out to the community, sharing our story, and communicating the opportunities to help us enhance what we do. The physicians, nurses and care teams are doing the work of healing children, but there are many ways the community can help, through philanthropy, volunteering and other ways that will make our hospital a much richer environment.

We need your involvement. We need the elected officials, community leaders, parents and caregivers throughout our community to rally around the cause of promoting what is in the best interest of improving pediatric health in our community. Together, we are investing in the future by investing in children and giving them the best possible chance to have a healthy life and reach their full potential.

Projects around the country that were extremely successful and uplifted many people all involved input from constituents that are not necessarily within that organization. These success stories are a community effort. For our community to be knowledgeable and involved in what we are doing and to support this project will make our opportunity for success that much greater. When people come together, like Hogs for the Cause and Children’s Hospital, great things happen.

THE IMPORTANCE
OF A CHILDREN’S
HOSPITAL

“Children’s hospitals are game changers in improving the health of children in our region. Children have very special healthcare needs, and a hospital solely dedicated to pediatrics really does improve their outcome.”
ALICIA FRANCK JOINS CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL AS VICE PRESIDENT OF DEVELOPMENT

Alicia Franck comes to Children’s Hospital from CARE, USA, the world-wide leader in the movement to eradicate poverty and achieve social justice, where she was the associate vice president of Resource Development. Prior to CARE, she spent nearly 20 years in higher education fundraising and administration. Franck holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from Rhodes College and a Master of Divinity degree from Emory University. As Vice President of Development, Franck will work with physicians, nurses, staff and the board to increase engagement with and support from the community that Children’s Hospital serves.

CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL APPOINTS JAMIE WIGGINS AS CHIEF NURSING OFFICER

As Chief Nursing Officer, Jamie Wiggins, MS, RN, joins Children’s Hospital with a 24-year nursing career, having worked exclusively at children’s hospitals. He most recently served as the administrative director for Inpatient Services at Nicklaus Children’s Hospital in Miami, Fla. Before his time at Nicklaus, he was the senior director for Clinical Services at Children’s Hospital of Minnesota. Wiggins earned a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from the University of San Francisco and a Master of Science degree from the University of California – San Francisco. He is also currently pursuing a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree at LSU Health New Orleans.

IMPROVED SLEEP LAB OPENS AT CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL

Children’s Hospital recently launched services in a state-of-the-art, improved sleep study lab. The lab includes four dedicated sleep rooms and the capability for full polysomnography and four sleep studies per night. The new lab is a full-service, dedicated room for sleep observation that will provide the highest degree of diagnostic studies.

Pulmonologist, Dean Edell, MD, MPH, a key player in the development of the clinic, explains that a full-service sleep lab is in high demand. “Sleep has become its own subspecialty, and Children’s Hospital is committed to moving forward in this field of study and observation,” said Dr. Edell. “This will make us the only center in the New Orleans area with a fully integrated sleep center including clinics and consultation.”

A comprehensive sleep clinic is necessary for providing observation and evaluation of patients who experience various disorders, including sleep disturbances, falling asleep during the day, airway obstruction and acute life-threatening events. With the incorporation of the new lab, the facility expects to increase the number of studies from 600 per year to 1,000 by 2018.

The sleep lab includes pulmonologists and other specialists to make the center a true multidisciplinary clinic. Dave Thomas, MD, PhD, who is board certified in sleep disorders, collaborates with the Children’s Hospital otolaryngologists, Sohit Kanotra, MD, and Michael Dunham, MD, who provide their expertise on various airway issues. The goal of the dedicated sleep lab is to meet the overwhelming demand for sleep studies, while providing cutting-edge expertise in an environment solely dedicated to sleep disturbances.
OF ALL OF THE PROFOUND CHANGES UNDERWAY IN HEALTHCARE, one of the most striking is how we as physicians and nurses relate to patients and their families. It has become increasingly recognized that seeking the perspective of patients and families, and incorporating these lessons in the care we render, is the “secret sauce” that empowers many top tier healthcare organizations to deliver superior care. Some of these efforts are directed at measuring the experience of the patient and their family with the care they receive, and using that data to identify opportunities. Across the healthcare industry, significant shifts in processes and communications are evolving under the broad rubric of delivering “patient centric” care; initiatives that emphasize involvement of patients and families in care decisions and delivery as never before. Perhaps the most significant manifestation of our respect for the important perspective of patients and families is their incorporation as advisors to our patient safety and governance structures.

Asking patients and their families to tell us how to make their experience and their care better is quite a departure from “traditional medicine.” In the not-so-distant past, patients and families were the people who entrusted us to make decisions and to guide care on their behalf. Doctors felt it was their job to communicate whatever expert advice they decided was in the best interest of the patient, and the patient was expected to be “compliant” with the treatment plan. Sometimes this paternalistic model worked out for the patient. Sometimes not so much. We’ve come to recognize that by engaging patients and parents as partners in their care we have a much better chance of getting the best outcomes that we all strive for. Similarly, patients and families can be an extra set of eyes and ears to observe all that goes on around them as they receive care. When we ask them to share this perspective, we can learn how to communicate with them more effectively and find ways to make our processes more patient friendly.

The Children’s Hospital Solutions for Patient Safety program, the collaborative of over 100 pediatric hospitals across the country that we are part of, has recognized that the incorporation of patient/family participation at every level of the safety program is a common trait among the highest-performing hospitals. This comes as no surprise to me: I often get wonderful compliments from parents or patients, but I also occasionally have opportunities to improve from cringe-worthy incidents, pointed out to me by patients or families. Regardless of how hard we as caregivers try to see things through the eyes of a child in a hospital bed, no one looks out for the interest of a child as avidly or with more attention to detail than their parents and family. We have to honor their vigilance, listen to their message, and learn from it.

At Children’s, we’ve taken the step of forming a Patient/Family Advisory Council to formally give voice to those we serve and ensure that the Board of Trustees hears their message. The Council is chaired by a parent of one of our patients. We are also incorporating parents into our Quality and Safety apparatus to enlist their assistance in eradicating preventable harm in our hospital. We are seeking the input of parents and patients in our facility planning process. In addition, we’ve incorporated a parent member on our Ethics Committee.

In summary, we recognize the importance of patient and parent input and are actively seeking volunteers interested in sharing their wisdom. If you are interested, or know someone who might be, please contact my office at (504) 896–9400. Thank you for helping in our efforts to deliver the best, safest care possible to the children of our region.
MEET OUR NEW PROVIDERS

1/ BRIANNE BORDES, MD
Anesthesiology
Medical School: LSU Health New Orleans
School of Medicine; Residency: Alton Ochsner
Anesthesiology Program; Fellowship: Nationwide
Children’s Hospital

2/ KATRINA KELLUM, DNP, APRN, FNP-C
Pediatrics
Postgraduate: Loyola University New Orleans
School of Nursing

3/ ATHENA LEFORT, MD
Emergency Medicine
Medical School: University of South Alabama
School of Medicine; Residency: LSU Health
New Orleans

4/ STEPHEN MAC, MD
Emergency Medicine
Medical School: SABA University School of Medicine; Residency: Cleveland Clinic Foundation, Staten Island University Hospital; Fellowship: Wake Forest Baptist Health

5/ SHALAN RANDOLPH, FNP
Pediatrics
Postgraduate: Loyola University New Orleans
School of Nursing

6/ RASHMI RAO, MD
Neurology
Medical School: University of South Alabama
School of Medicine; Residency: LSU Health
New Orleans

7/ OTTO REMEDIOS, MD
Pediatrics
Medical School: Topiwala National Medical College, India; Residency: Tulane University School of Medicine

8/ XIAOYUN “SHARON” SHANG, MD
Pediatrics
Medical School: Peking University Health Sciences Center; Residency: People’s Hospital, Peking University, Tufts University School of Medicine; Fellowship: Tulane Hospital & Clinic

NOT PICTURED:

ELIZABETH BELLINO, MD
Emergency Medicine
Medical School: St. George’s University School of Medicine; Residency: Tulane University School of Medicine; Fellowship: Tulane Piper International Medicine & Health

CALLI BODIN, FNP
Neonatology
Postgraduate: LSU Health New Orleans
School of Nursing

HUGH BULLARD, DDS
Dentistry
Medical School: LSU School of Dentistry; Residency: LSU Health New Orleans Pediatric Dentistry

RICHARD BERTETTI, DMD
Dentistry
Medical School: Tufts School of Dentistry; Residency: Charity Hospital, Mount Sinai, St. Luke’s Roosevelt

MICHELLE COMBOY, FNP
Pediatrics
Postgraduate: Loyola University New Orleans
School of Nursing

KELLY FRANOVICH, MSN, FNP
Pediatrics
Postgraduate: LSU Health New Orleans
School of Nursing

LEAH GUEPET, NNP
Pediatrics
Postgraduate: University of South Alabama College of Nursing

STEFANI SAMPLES, MD
Cardiology
Medical School: Meharry Medical College; Residency: Medical College of Georgia; Fellowship: Medical College of Georgia

2016 PHYSICIANS CAMPAIGN

Special thanks to Children’s Hospital Medical Staff physicians who participated in the 2016 Physicians Campaign. More than $50,000 was raised in donations from the following:

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David C. Yu, MD
Lolie C. Yu, MD

DOCTORS’ NOTES
Motivating Young Mothers

AS DIFFICULT AS MOTHERHOOD CAN BE, facing the responsibility as a homeless youth makes the job even more challenging. Such is the situation of many young mothers in the New Orleans area who seek the shelter and support of Covenant House.

Covenant House New Orleans was founded 30 years ago on the edge of the French Quarter to provide a safe haven for homeless, runaway and at-risk youth (ages 22 and under). In addition to offering food and shelter, the organization seeks to address the underlying psychological, physical and economic reasons for youth homelessness. Through a number of vital services and programs, these youths are encouraged to achieve independence.

In September 2016, The Parenting Center at Children’s Hospital partnered with Covenant House to provide parenting classes to young residents of the Mother/Child program. Mothers in the group have ranged from 19 to 22 years of age with children ages 3 weeks to 3 years. The program allows participants to receive support and encouragement while they maneuver the challenges of homelessness and parenthood.

“We are most grateful for our partnership with The Parenting Center at Children’s Hospital — and the unbelievable work with our young mothers,” said Jim Kelly, Covenant House New Orleans Executive Director.

On a weekly basis, parent educators meet with the residents to discuss a variety of parenting topics, including ages and stages of development, temper tantrums, discipline and school readiness. In addition, families have an opportunity to engage in playful activities.

“Some weeks the parents were more excited than the children to play with the play dough, ink stamps and paint,” said Melanie Richardson, MSW, LMSW, Parent Educator. “Many of the parents appreciated being able to spend quality time with their child or children engaged in activities that they themselves never had an opportunity to experience. Each week leads to new questions and a higher level of confidence for our participants.”

The partnership has resulted in an increased level of engagement and interaction between parents and children, as well as significant improvements in the way parents speak to their children and others.

“I am a lot more patient, and I am not so quick to yell,” said A.S., mother of a 4-year-old girl.

Parents work with The Parenting Center’s parent educators on a weekly basis to practice emotional coaching. They learn new words to describe emotions, reflect on their own healthy and unhealthy ways of dealing with emotions, and recognize the importance of modeling appropriate ways to handle strong emotions for their children.

“As a result of the parenting classes, I am not just a better parent, I am a better person,” expressed S.K., mother of a 9-month-old boy.

“Bringing our services to the community has provided new opportunities to reach more parents throughout the area,” said Barbara LeBlanc, The Parenting Center Director. “By sharing our resources with young mothers of Covenant House, we can help cultivate a healthy future for our city.”
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March

22  Turn Services Golf Tournament
    Lakewood Golf Club, New Orleans

25  New Orleans Moms Blog Easter Egg Hunt
    Children’s Hospital, State Street Campus
    10 a.m.

26  Bruno Motorcycle Raffle
    Mike Bruno’s Northshore Harley-Davidson, Slidell
    Raffle pulled at 7 p.m.

31 – April 1  Hogs for the Cause
    UNO Lakefront Arena, New Orleans

April

1  Sugarplum Ball 2017 presented by Bryan Subaru
    New Orleans Public Belt Railroad, New Orleans
    7 p.m.

1  Loyola Dance Marathon
    Loyola University Sports Complex, New Orleans
    6 p.m. – 12 a.m.

30  Southeastern Dance Marathon
    Southeastern Louisiana University,
    University Center Arena, Hammond, La.
    10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

May

17  Rite Aid/CMN Golf Classic
    English Turn Golf & Country Club, New Orleans
    7 a.m. tee off

20  Italian American Fishing Rodeo
    Hopedale Marina, Hopedale, La.
    11 a.m.

26  Guild Spring Luncheon and General Meeting
    Children’s Hospital Auditorium
    11 a.m.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Hogs for the Cause

Who: BBQ and music enthusiasts
What: BBQ cook-off and music festival
Where: UNO Lakefront Arena
When: March 31 - April 1
To purchase tickets: www.hogsforthecause.org
or at the entrance
BOO AT THE ZOO IS FAMILY FUN

Boo at the Zoo 2016 presented by Bryan Subaru was a resounding success, boasting two sold-out weekends. The family-friendly event benefits both Children’s Hospital and Audubon Zoo. Each year, children and their families come to the zoo to celebrate Halloween with attractions such as Trick or Treat Lane, the Ghost Train Ride, a Haunted House, various games and a toddler area. Boo at the Zoo 2016 allowed families to enjoy two stages for entertainment, featuring Jared Sampson and the Superstars on the Main Stage and Johnette Downing and Dancing Drum on the Toddler Stage. Vendors and special guests, including the New Orleans Pelicans, the New Orleans Jesters, Lowe’s, NOLA Wax Hands, Pirate Ink, Tiger-Rock Martial Arts and Gym Rompers, came out to entertain revelers. As one of New Orleans’ most popular fall events, Boo at the Zoo raised over $370,000.

JAZZ HALF MARATHON HITS THE STREETS

The Eighth Annual Jazz Half Marathon and 5K presented by NOLA.com, The Times-Picayune and Merril Lynch raised over $250,000 for the Cancer Program at Children’s Hospital. The event, which started and ended in Lafayette Square, hosted more than 3,000 participants of all ages, with Richard Bouckaert, Ian Carr and Max Miller coming in as the top three finishers in the half marathon. Temperatures at this year’s race were a bit hotter than usual, but perfect for the post-race party featuring entertainment from The Danny Alexander Blues Band and Rockin’ Dopsie, Jr. Congratulations to all runners who completed the 2016 Jazz Half Marathon and 5K.
A SUPER SURPRISE

It’s a bird, it’s a plane, it’s Batman flying over Children’s Hospital! In early February, Children’s was visited by three superheroes with one very important task — to clean the windows. Director of Plant Operations, Phil Hebert, collaborated with Acme Window Washers, LLC, to bring charisma to the chore.

Hebert worked with Acme co-owners, Debbie Colman and David Palermo, to organize this special mission. Three Acme employees, Calvin Foley, Chris Brown and Willis Everidge, complied with the request and appeared as Batman, Spiderman and Captain America to bring smiles to patients’ faces.

“I saw a few of the kids’ reactions, and their parents were happy and excited too,” recalled Palermo. “It was our pleasure to help make happy memories for the kids in the hospital.”

The surprise drew spectators — young and old alike — with even a few patients dressed for the occasion. The hospital is proud to work with local businesses like Acme, whose employees are passionate about helping the hospital fulfill its mission of caring for every child as their own.

CHNOLA WINS AT MARDI GRAS MAMBO BINGO

Children’s Hospital Guild members and friends celebrated the Carnival season with their annual fundraiser, Mardi Gras Mambo Bingo, February 14 at The Pontchartrain Center in Kenner, La. With almost 400 in attendance, the spirited Bingo party featured 20 rounds called by local entertainer, Becky Allen, and Fox 8 meteorologist Bob Breck. The $7,333 raised through the Bingo will help fund hospital programs.

The Guild is among the hospital’s most treasured friends and supporters, with a membership of more than 300 men and women. Members participate in a variety of volunteer activities that contribute to helping the hospital continue to provide exemplary healthcare to its young patients. These activities include:

- **The Guild Pledge:** Each year the hospital identifies a specific area of need. The Guild makes a Pledge, or financial commitment to raise money for this need. In 2016, the Hospital Guild successfully raised $118,900 for medical sleeper sofas for parents and critical care carriages for the NICU.
- **The Children’s Hospital Gift Shop** is staffed entirely with Guild volunteers and serves the hospital, visiting families and community members.
- **The Guild Circus** — patients enjoy an entire day of fun circus-themed games and activities at the hospital for this annual event.
- **Spot’s Birthday** — patients receive gifts in July from the Hospital Guild for this annual event sponsored by New Orleans Firemen’s Federal Credit Union.

To become a member of the Guild, please contact the Public Affairs Department at (504) 896-9373.
When Pigs Fly

When Children's Hospital approached the organization with their own funding request to renovate a building for family housing on their newly acquired State Street property, Hall, Louapre and their board brought the idea straight to their teams.

“We told them, ‘We know this is outside of our scope, but we don’t want anyone else funding this thing. We want you guys to do it,’” said Hall. “This is going to be a Hogs house, an asset that we can look back at and be proud of. All of our teams said, ‘Let’s do it.’”

BUILDING ON A PROMISE

With the demand for grants for families of pediatric brain cancer growing by the day, Hall knew they were facing a challenge.

“We have a massive commitment now. We’ll just have to work a little harder and raise a little more. That’s just a testament to the teams that are out there every year. We’re ready. We’re excited.”

Several years ago, through his work with Hogs for the Cause, Hall encountered a family seeking care at a cancer treatment center outside of Louisiana. He asked the patient’s mother what had made a difference in her son’s treatment, and her response pointed to the benefits of family housing. Having an environment to go to outside of a hospital room, where children like him were together, was a catalyst in his recovery. She saw a 180-degree turn in her son.

“I see families living in these hospital rooms,” said Hall. “Given the opportunity to get outside, in a different environment, with different scenery and peers just like them uplifts their spirit, changes their attitude and gives them new energy.”

Children with complex illnesses spend many days in the hospital. Families come from throughout Louisiana and numerous states to seek care for their children at Children’s Hospital. Having a place to stay and transportation are huge issues for families already struggling with their children’s illnesses.

A PARTNERSHIP, A PLEDGE AND A PLACE FOR PEACE

IT’S A FAIRY TALE in the making: a house, built by Hogs, a haven for families of Children’s Hospital patients. If it’s true that a house is only as strong as its foundation, then this refuge at Children’s Hospital will have a long and soaring future, as storied as the fairy tale it is built upon. The project is a dream turned reality, made possible by a promise from Hogs for the Cause and a mission to help those families who need it most.

Children’s Hospital’s partnership with Hogs for the Cause began several years ago as a growing number of cancer patients received support from the evolving organization. Hogs for the Cause was founded in 2009 by friends Becker Hall and Renee Louapre for their friend, Ben Sarrat, whose son, “Lil’ Ben,” was battling an incurable form of brain cancer. From a pig roast in Audubon Park to one of the largest barbecue competitions and music festivals in the country, Hogs for the Cause is a success story in its own right. The annual event has grown to become a premiere funding source for pediatric brain cancer outreach services in the U.S.

“Sadly, brain cancer has become the deadliest cancer for children. The growth of Hogs meant we were fulfilling a lot more grants for patients at Children’s Hospital,” said Becker Hall, Hogs for the Cause co-founder and chief executive officer. “Our relationship continued to develop.” In 2013, Hogs for the Cause created the Hogs Fund at Children’s Hospital. Children’s Hospital became an event sponsor in 2015. “We were able to do those same things for children who fell outside of pediatric brain cancer and included all types of cancer. We continued to raise more money, and we wanted to give it all back.”

In 2016, Hogs for the Cause raised close to $650,000. More than 30,000 people are expected to attend the 2017 event. While several years ago the organization was fulfilling roughly 50 grant requests a year; today it is awarding 300 grants annually for families throughout the country. Nearly 100 teams involved in the cook-off raise the funds. These donations, along with the proceeds from the annual event, are dispersed to families in need.
“You will get great healthcare at Children’s Hospital, but that’s the physical part of it,” said Hall. “There’s an emotional battle that’s waged whenever you’re getting treatment. When we heard the house was what really changed that child’s attitude, that it was part of the difference toward recovery, we said, ‘We have to do this.’ We are truly making a difference in a child’s recovery by giving him this atmosphere. When we saw the plans, what Children’s Hospital was trying to do to create this space, we all thought this is a wonderful asset we need to jump on.”

Hogs for the Cause pledged $2.1 million dollars to make the project a reality.

Construction is expected to begin this summer on one of two buildings designated for family housing. The 8,500-square-foot Hog’s House will provide 10 to 14 family suites, two family lounges, kitchen spaces and laundry facilities overlooking the State Street grounds. The local architecture firm leading the development of the State Street property, Eskew+Dumas+Ripple, will restore the existing building, built in the 1930s and designated as a Historic Landmark. The house is expected to open early next year.

“This house will allow much-needed respite and a place for families to unwind and sleep,” said Justin Olsen, Children’s Hospital senior vice president/chief operating officer. “We have not had a place for them to stay overnight. This places them in close proximity to the facility, so they can engage and help in the healing process for their children.”

The Hogs organization plans to have a long-term presence in the house, feeding families and bringing positive energy to the space. “It’s another opportunity for our teams to really be with these families and see who they’ve been working all year to help. It’s more integration and interaction, and that’s something you unfortunately don’t have the opportunity to experience these days.”
WHEN THE CAUSE HITS HOME

Trey Nobles is a friend of Ben Sarrat, a member of his founding Hogs team and a volunteer and supporter of the organization since its inaugural cook-off. He participated in three Hogs for the Cause events before he unexpectedly found himself in the center of the cause he was supporting. The day after the third annual Hogs for the Cause, his daughter, Margaux, was born. Five months later, she was diagnosed with neuroblastoma, a form of cancer.

“I called Ben,” said Trey, overcome with emotion. “I asked him, ‘Do I stop caring about my child so it doesn’t hurt as much if she dies?’ He told me the only thing I had to do was suck it up and take the burden upon myself. ‘Everyone else around you will crumble, but somebody needs to listen, to pay attention, to ask questions and to double-check the answers. That somebody is you.’”

Facing a sorrowful and fearful journey, Trey left his job to care for Margaux while his wife, Cherie, became the primary breadwinner. In Margaux’s head, the size of a grapefruit, was a tumor, the size of a plum. Its growth was beginning to cause nerve and arterial damage and would continue to devastate her tiny body. A surgery was performed to remove part of the tumor, and Margaux began a course of chemotherapy that would hopefully shrink what was left.

Daddy daycare was not what Trey had expected. He and baby Margaux’s days were spent in and out of Children’s Hospital. Afraid of shots himself, he had to learn how to give them to Margaux. Because of her weakened immune system, she was unable to enjoy the interaction of other children. “I’m the one who got to sit with her and keep her happy.”

By the time the fourth Hogs for the Cause fundraiser came around, Ben asked Trey if he would cook again. “This is personal now,” Trey told him. “There’s no way I’m missing this.”

Trey never expected to need a Hogs for the Cause grant. “Being at Children’s, I saw so many kids who might need it more than us. Some kids have to travel across the state, staying with one parent while unable to see the other. Sure, I was worried our lights might get cut off, but I knew I could turn to our families for help.”

With one working parent, bills were piling up in the Nobles’ household. Cherie’s insurance covered most medical expenses, but paying household bills became a challenge. The Nobles trimmed expenses where they could and tapped into the retirement funds, but the mounting debt was another stress weighing on the family. Although they were offered assistance from family and friends, Trey and Cherie didn’t feel as though their situation was dire enough to accept it at the time.

“There’s a point where you don’t ever want to take things from people,” said Trey. “By the time you really need it, the offers aren’t there anymore.”

Consumed with Margaux’s treatment and witness to the needs of the patients and families around them, Trey and Cherie did not apply for a Hogs for the Cause grant. But Ben did it for them.
“Ben filled out the application for me,” said Trey. “He told me we’d done enough to help him. He insisted that Hogs for the Cause would help us now.”

One year following Margaux’s initial diagnosis, scans revealed an unexpected discovery. Her tumor was completely gone. Her oncologist, Cari Morrison, MD, recommended a second round of chemotherapy to clear any potential cancer remaining in her bone marrow. After her treatments, it was evident Margaux escaped the fate of so many pediatric cancer patients before her.

“We got extremely lucky,” said Trey, who will be cooking with his team, Hog Dat Nation, at the upcoming Hogs for the Cause. “If I can turn around and help some other family not have to suffer, then that’s what’s most important.”

A FOUNDATION FOR THE FUTURE
The Hogs for the Cause gift is laying the groundwork for future philanthropic goals of Children’s Hospital. As the hospital embarks on the largest expansion project in its history, it will reach out to the community for involvement in its own cause — improving the healthcare of children throughout the region.

“This pledge will hopefully engage the city in helping support our bigger expansion,” said Olsen. “We couldn’t be more grateful for this launch gift. Family housing is one area the community is interested in supporting and a clear need for families. We are excited about bringing this project to fruition.”
In the Hands of the Hospitalists

The mission of our group is to provide optimal clinical care for all patients while hospitalized, coordinate all of the services necessary to effectively transition their care back to their primary care providers, and facilitate the development and implementation of systems-based initiatives that focus on improving quality, safety and patient satisfaction within the hospital while training the next generation of physicians/pediatricians.” Jay Hescock, MD, director of the Children’s Hospital Hospitalist Department

CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL is a home away from home for the Jarrell family of Picayune, Miss. In 2015, Mary and Randy Jarrell rushed their 3-month-old son, Sawyer, to the emergency room when he experienced severe seizures. Examinations were made, tests were run, and the resulting diagnosis devastated the family. Sawyer was born with a terminal genetic disorder, called Menkes syndrome. His future would require extensive medical care and treatments to manage his symptoms. This care would lie in the hands of multiple subspecialists, and the Children’s Hospital hospitalist team on whom the Jarrell family would quickly come to rely.

“Our care at Children’s Hospital gives us peace of mind. For a mom with a terminally ill child, peace of mind is not something you usually get,” said Mary.

Sawyer has been admitted to Children’s Hospital more than ten times since his diagnosis. His most recent hospital visit, in late November, lasted more than 30 days. Sawyer’s complex medical condition requires frequent evaluation and the coordination of care with numerous subspecialists on a daily basis. Orchestrating this care and tending to his general medical needs while in the hospital is the hospitalist team.

“We are a group of physicians adept at taking care of sicker patients with complex medical needs and frequent need for subspecialist involvement. These children require more care in the hospital than what can usually be provided by their pediatrician,” said Jay Hescock, MD, director of the Hospitalist Department at Children’s Hospital. There are six hospitalists on staff at Children’s Hospital. Two additional physicians will join the team this summer.

Children’s Hospital’s hospitalist program began nearly 20 years ago, when hospitalist medicine emerged as a distinct subspecialty. It is now the fastest-growing subspecialty in medicine, with over 50,000 U.S. physicians identifying themselves as hospitalists. Today, more than 70 percent of all U.S. hospitals and virtually all academic health centers utilize hospitalists in some capacity. Approximately 10 percent of hospitalists work in pediatric centers.

The benefits of hospitalist care are many. Evidence shows that patients have better quality of care, shorter hospital stays and reduced healthcare costs when hospitalists are involved.

“In general kids are healthier than adults, so having to be admitted to the hospital is a stressful experience for families. It’s out of the ordinary for them,” said Dr. Hescock. “Though our primary role is helping the child recover from their illness, a significant portion of our time is spent providing support and education to parents in order to minimize the anxiety they might experience surrounding their child’s hospitalization.”

“That’s what we love about Children’s Hospital,” said Mary. “They maintain their professionalism, but they really, really care about their patients. If something happens, I know Sawyer is safe here.”

Because hospitalists are in-house all day, they are able to attend to the constant changes in patient status. They also coordinate care with both surgical and medical subspecialists as needed.
We have used the hospitalist service at Children’s Hospital for over five years,” said Kathleen Gorman, MD, pediatrician with Hales Pediatrics. “The service has allowed us to concentrate on our office-based practice while ensuring our patients are managed by highly skilled and specialized hospital-based physicians. Our patients and their families benefit from face-to-face contact with their physicians throughout the day, timely updates on tests and procedure results, and subspecialty care when necessary. The hospitalists keep us updated on our patients’ progress, and when they are discharged from the hospital, we receive full summaries of their care.

The Children’s Hospital hospitalist team covers approximately 90 percent of general pediatric admissions. Patients become part of the service either through the hospital’s Emergency Department, transfers from outside emergency rooms or directly through pediatrician referrals. In addition, the hospitalists admit patients with certain subspecialty needs, including those with infectious diseases, genetic/metabolic problems, all pulmonary patients and a majority of patients who present with osteoarticular infections.

“We act on a consultant basis for any service that requires general pediatric assistance and formally consult on all neuro-rehabilitation patients to address any ongoing general pediatric needs during the course of their hospital stay,” said Dr. Hescock.

Training is an important function of the Hospitalist Department at Children’s Hospital. Residents of the LSU Health New Orleans pediatrics and family practice programs, as well as those from East Jefferson General Hospital’s family practice residency program learn all aspects of pediatric hospital medicine through their rotation at Children’s Hospital. On call 24/7, residents are often the first line of response to patients’ medical needs. Family-centered rounds are held daily with the team and medical students to discuss test results, diagnosis and plan of care, and to educate the families on what to expect in the course of the illness.

“Children’s is a home away from home for us,” said Mary. “We all communicate amongst each other and have gotten to know everyone. We are totally at peace here. We know they are looking out for Sawyer and for us. Although we worry about him, we have no reservations as far as his care when we are at Children’s.”
THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS COMMUNITY PARTNERS FOR LENDING US A HELPING HAND...

Ray Ledet and his family raffled off a hand-crafted mud boat and raised nearly $56,000 for Children’s Hospital.

Organizers from the Shell Deepwater Fishing Classic stopped by to make a contribution following their rodeos in October. Thank you to all who participated in making their gift of $24,000 possible.

Children’s Hospital would like to thank all the individuals, companies and organizations who graciously donated gifts to our patients this past holiday season. Countless smiles can be attributed to your generosity.

Representatives from Fidelity Bank presented the hospital with a check for $14,500 from their Here for Good campaign.

How can you help Children’s Hospital? Donating to Children’s Hospital is easy!

Go to www.chnola.org/GivingCHNOLA to find out how you can support the very important work we’re doing here at Children’s Hospital.
CHILDREN’S MIRACLE NETWORK
HOSPITAL CORNER
CURRENT & UPCOMING CMNH CAMPAIGNS

WHERE IS CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL NEW ORLEANS’ CMNH TERRITORY?

Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals (CMNH) is a non-profit organization that raises funds for children’s hospitals across the country. Donations made in our CMNH territory through national fundraising partners campaigns and programs stay here at our Children’s Hospital to fund critical treatment, healthcare services, pediatric medical equipment and assist with charitable care. CMNH helps to support our mission to save and improve the lives of as many children as possible. Partners in our territory fundraise for our hospital. Please see the map to the left outlining our CMNH territory.

Our friends at Marriott held their annual auction and golf outing in November to benefit Children’s Hospital. Participating Marriott properties included: The New Orleans Marriott, JW Marriott, New Orleans Marriott at the Convention Center, Renaissance New Orleans Arts Hotel, Renaissance New Orleans Pere Marquette Hotel and The Ritz Carlton New Orleans. The events were wildly successful raising over $120,000 for the hospital.

If you’re a COSTCO member, please consider supporting their CMNH campaign, which will run the entire month of May. Help them beat last year’s total of $27,000.

We are proud to announce that Take 5 Oil Change is now a CMNH partner. Take 5 employees will be asking customers to add a donation to their service through May 2017.

In a fundraising campaign that spanned seven weeks, cashier at local Walmart Supercenters, Neighborhood Markets and Sam’s Clubs asked customers to support their local Children’s Miracle Network Hospital by making a donation at the register. In all, stores raised over $275,000 for our hospital!
MEMORIALS & HONORS

MEMORIALS (September 1, 2016 – December 31, 2016)

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Agape Center
Joseph Samuel (“Joey”) Adams
David & Jackie Didier
Marlene Autenheimer
Toby & Jenny Lafont
Daniel Barbato
Mr. & Mrs. Paul J. Hebert
Donald James Bass
Dockside Linemen, Inc.
Linda L. Slatten
Keith Patrick Bernard, Jr.
Charles & Eileen Ais
Georgia Mae Smith Bigelow
Tricia, CoCo & Cody de Pascual
Jimmie Ladner, Jr.
Allen Weller & Family
Capt. William A. (“Cappy”) Bisso, III
Dockside Linemen, Inc.
Ray John & Family
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Sidney Joseph Bourg
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Phillip J. Bourque
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Thomas & Debbie Cotton
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Gene Pereira, Jr.
Virginia Dorothy (“Dottie”) Ittmann
Anita V. Bertuccini
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Micheline Cazayou
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Arnold McCormick
Charles & Mae Noulter
Carolyn C. Potter
John & Pat Rebenne
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Lynn Stern
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Karen Weldon
Mary Elaine Whitney
The Lafont Family
Matthew Patrick Wilty
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Jennifer Michelli Worley
Mr. & Mrs. Charles W. Knopp, Jr.

Honors (September 1, 2016 – December 31, 2016)

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Mr. & Mrs. Hershel Abbott, Jr.
Alan & Arlene Philipson
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St. Tammany Parish Hospital
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Throsch Construction Services
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Trimark Constructors, LLC
Davis Contract Draperies
Turner Construction Company
Davis Contract Draperies
University Medical Center
Davis Contract Draperies
VA Hospital – Houston
Davis Contract Draperies
VA Hospital – New Orleans
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Paul J. Leaman, Jr.
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Verges/Rome Architects
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Westside Funeral Home
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Pierre & Ginger Touzet
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Dr. & Mrs. Claude Williams, IV
Alan & Arlene Philipson
Pat Williams Construction
Davis Contract Draperies
Nancy F. Willis
Billy & Janie Ripper
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Alan & Arlene Philipson
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Davis Contract Draperies
Woodward Design & Build
Davis Contract Draperies
Workman Commercial
Davis Contract Draperies
Xavier University
Davis Contract Draperies
Mr. & Mrs. George Young
Alan & Arlene Philipson
Small World Gallery

Sanaa Mitchell, age 10, "The Magnificent Bre," modeling clay

Anonymous, age 4, "Purple Heart," Water colors on paper

Anthony Thompson, age 12, "Mom & Son," Mixed media, and "Legos," Legos
If your name or address as it appears on the mailing label is incorrect, please write the Development Department, enclosing the old mailing label and the revised information. Other corrections, such as the receipt of more than one copy or removal from the mailing list, may be directed to this department as well.

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