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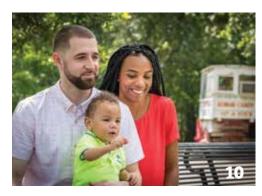
Children's Hospital's mission is to provide comprehensive pediatric healthcare that recognizes the special needs of children through excellence and the continuous improvement of patient care, education, research, child advocacy and management.

www.chnola.org





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Two-year-old Roosevelt Walsh is breathing easier after airway reconstruction surgery.

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.

ACCOMODATIONS 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.hs.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



MARY PERRIN
President & CEO

ANSWERING THE CALL

AS A CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL, we consider and support the health and well-being of children outside of our four walls. In addition to providing expert care, we have an obligation to advocate for children and educate the community so that the general status of children's health is improved. We want every child to be as healthy as possible so they can reach their full potential.

Among the many special programs Children's Hospital supports for the betterment of the community are the Audrey Hepburn Children at Risk Evaluation (CARE) Center and the New Orleans Children's Advocacy Center (NOCAC). While we care for children who come to us with injuries from abuse and neglect, we do more than provide medical and surgical treatment. Through the CARE Center and NOCAC, we advocate and

testify to the legislature, and educate and train law enforcement, educators, parents and other groups to help identify and prevent what has unfortunately become a commonplace problem in today's society. Last year alone, more than 8,500 adults and teens were trained through these efforts; more than 1,500 children were served. The CARE Center has helped over 17,500 children since the program was founded 15 years ago.

There are lots of medical staff and employees within the Children's Hospital organization who are worthy of being called a hero. But more than a profession or a job, it is truly a calling for our NOCAC and CARE Center staff and volunteers to wake up every day, embrace their work the way they do and continue to be engaged in making a difference in the lives of these children. It takes a special person to continue to want to be a part of helping address the abuse and neglect of children in our society. We recognize and support our NOCAC and CARE Center heroes in dealing with this very weighty issue.

Recently, I attended the 12th Annual Trees for Life Ceremony sponsored by the CARE Center. Every year a tree is planted in memory of a child who died from abuse and neglect in Louisiana. For every deceased child, the CARE Center also recognizes an individual in our community for their work on behalf of these children. This year there were 41, and unfortunately, the number grows. Louisiana has one of the highest frequencies of child deaths related to abuse and neglect in the United States. Between 2008 and 2015, this rate has increased by almost 30 percent.

Child abuse is a difficult subject to talk about, and because of this, the CARE Center doesn't always get the recognition it deserves. The work is extremely challenging, and it's done by an exceptional group of people. Their reward, they say, is knowing that they've helped all of these children and families and also spread awareness of this issue so that we can, as a community, continue to move forward and minimize the number of victims.

When you think about these children and what they experience, they obviously need a safe place. They need people who are experts at identifying what they've been through and who support them as needed. They need the excellent services of the CARE Center and NOCAC. We couldn't be prouder to support these programs and the people who answer this tough call every day.

MAKING A
DIFFERENCE

In 2016, the CARE Center helped approximately 1,500 children suspected of being abused or neglected.

HEARTGIFT LOUISIANA CELEBRATES ITS 40TH PATIENT

On March 14, HeartGift celebrated the successful heart surgery of its 40th patient. Born with Tetrology of Falot, a congenital heart defect, 14-year-old Laudner of Nicaragua is the oldest patient to receive a HeartGift-sponsored surgery in Louisiana. Since the age of six months, Laudner and his mother traveled great distances to seek care for his defect, with no promise of a lifesaving cure. Laudner found hope at Children's Hospital. Days after the critical and complex surgery, he returned home with a healthy heart and is now thriving.

HeartGift, which founded its Louisiana chapter in 2010, provides lifesaving heart surgeries to children who live in areas where the healthcare they need is scarce or nonexistent. With the help of grants and donations, HeartGift is able to provide this care and service to those children who need it most. All HeartGift Louisiana surgeries are performed at Children's Hospital, where physicians, nurses and staff care for these patients until they are able to return home.





CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL WELCOMES MATT GRONINGER AS VICE PRESIDENT, AMBULATORY SERVICES

Matt Groninger was appointed as Children's Hospital's vice president of Ambulatory Services in March of 2017. Before joining the Children's Hospital family, Groninger spent nearly 13 years in hospital administration. He most recently served as the Administrative Director of the Heart Center and Surgical Subspecialties at Akron Children's Hospital in Ohio for over six years. Groninger received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics from Emory University, a Master of Health Services Administration degree from the University of Kansas and is a Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives.

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL CELEBRATES DAISY AWARD RECIPIENTS

Nicol Lumar-Cox, RN, and Bradley Harrison, RN, were recently honored as recipients of the DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nurses. The DAISY Award, which stands for Diseases Attacking the Immune System, is an international program that acknowledges and celebrates nurses for their exceptional clinical skills and compassionate care. Harrison and Cox were chosen for this prestigious award from nominations sent by Children's Hospital patient families.

The DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nurses was founded in memory of Patrick Barnes, an auto-immune disease patient who passed away at age 33. In recognition of the outstanding treatment Barnes and his family received





from his nursing team, the award was created to celebrate and distinguish those nurses who provide exemplary care with compassion and benevolence.

FROM OUR Chief Medical Officer



JOHN HEATON, MDChief Medical Officer

GETTING WITH THE GUIDELINES

EVERY DAY AT CHILDREN'S, WE TAKE CARE of some of the most medically complex and desperately ill children in Louisiana. We must constantly be prepared to act with speed and precision when one of our patients takes a turn for the worse. Although we train our team extensively, the proof is our performance in the face of a real clinical crisis situation.

Children's Hospital was recently honored by the American Heart Association with its "Get with the Guidelines" Silver Award in resuscitation, for our performance and quality improvement activities over a 24-month period for pediatric and adult patients. Consideration for the reward requires timely recognition, prompt reaction and strict adherence to the evidence-based guidelines by our teams performing resuscitative measures. In addition, participating hospitals must gather and submit performance and outcome data on these events that allow comparison with our peers across the country. This is an impressive accolade for our teams, and just one indicator of how Children's strives to deliver the best evidenced-based care, on time and with high reliability.

While the award focuses on our consistent high performance surrounding clinical crises that require immediate lifesaving interventions, we have evidence-based measures in place to identify and intervene on patients who may be deteriorating clinically before resuscitation is required. Our nursing team routinely assigns a Pediatric Early Warning Score (PEWS) as part of their assessment. By tracking and trending certain cardiac, respiratory and behavioral signs, we can identify which patients require increased vigilance or interventions such as transfer to a critical care unit—before a critical event occurs. Our goal is to minimize the number of critical clinical events ("Code Blue" in medical jargon) that occur outside of one of our three intensive care units. Our intensive care units (Neonatal, Pediatric and Cardiac) are tailored to different types of children and staffed by teams with different skill sets focused on the population they serve. Similarly, our Prevent A Code (PAC) Team is a 24-7/365 rapid reaction group of physicians, nurses and respiratory therapists that responds to requests from assistance for nurses, therapists, medical staff or even parents—anyone who has a concern about the clinical condition of a patient. Over the past year, these measures have cut our rate of "codes" outside of the ICU, which was already below the median for standalone pediatric hospitals, by half.

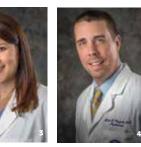
Every day we look for new ways to incorporate evidence-based guidelines to improve the care we give, and we collect data to inform our decisions and refine our processes. While the art of medicine will always be requisite skill, because we are often compelled to make decisions based on an incomplete or imperfect data set, relying on the proven science and validated data, when we can, improves the accuracy and effectiveness of the treatment we render. As we have learned from our most fragile and unstable patients, it pays dividends to "get with the guidelines."

MEET OUR NEW PROVIDERS















1/ MICHAEL BRUMUND, MD

Cardiology

Medical School: Medical College of Georgia Residency: Medical College of Georgia Fellowship: Medical College of Georgia

2/ VINCENT DEVLIN, DO

Emergency Medicine

Medical School: New York Institute of Health Residency: LSU Health New Orleans

3/ KATHERINE GILL, FNP

Orthopedics

Postgraduate: Maryville University

4/ KURT PIGGOTT, MD

Critical Care

Medical School: American University of the Caribbean School of Medicine Residency: University of Nevada School of Medicine

Fellowship: Jackson Memorial Hospital; Children's Hospital of Michigan

5/ JAIRO TORRES, MD

Otolaryngology

Medical School: University Medical College -

Internship: University of the Valley - Colombia Residency: University Medical College - Colombia; Case Western Surgery and Otolaryngology

6/ SHUBHO SARKAR, MD

Hospitalist Medicine

Medical School: Tulane University School of Medicine

Residency: Wake Forest Baptist Health Sciences

7/ ALEXANDER SEVY, MD

Otolaryngology

Medical School: Baylor University College of Medicine

Residency: Baylor University College of Medicine Fellowship: Stanford University School of Medicine

NOT PICTURED:

MEREDITH COLLINS, MD

Emergency Medicine

Medical School: Meharry Medical College Residency: Tulane University School of Medicine

KATHERINE FAUST, MD

Orthopedics, Hand Surgery

Medical School: LSU Health New Orleans Residency: Tulane University School of Medicine Fellowship: Duke University Hospital; Hand & Upper Extremity Center of Georgia

ANNA JONES, FNP

Emergency Medicine

Postgraduate: University of Louisiana at Lafayette

SARAH JONES, FNP

Emergency Medicine

Postgraduate: Vanderbilt University School of Nursing

NICOLE TAYLOR, CPNP

Emergency Medicine

Postgraduate: Vanderbilt University School of Nursina

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL PROVIDERS HONORED AS HEALTHCARE HEROES

Five Children's Hospital providers were recently named New Orleans CityBusiness Healthcare Heroes. Recipients of this prestigious award are chosen from nominations that highlight the individual's dedication to healthcare and the community. Congratulations to physicians William Accousti, MD, and Joseph Caspi, MD; nurses Deb Frilot, RN, and Lara Galloway, RN; and first responder Bryan Svilha, Children's Hospital's lead helicopter pilot.

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL INTRODUCES NO HIT ZONES

A Safe Space

The home of the Audrey Hepburn Children at Risk Evaluation (CARE) Center is the heart of a comprehensive program that served over 1,500 children last year, referred over concerns of physical and sexual abuse. Its sister program, the New Orleans Children's Advocacy Center (NOCAC) provides a multi-agency approach for the investigation, intervention and treatment of child sexual and physical abuse. In addition to providing excellence in pediatric forensic medicine evaluations and interviewing, the programs lead the community in evidenced-informed prevention, education and research.

www.chnola.org/CAREcenter

For more information or to schedule a community training, contact the CARE Center at (504) 896-9237. **IT STARTS WITH A THREAT,** a tap or any show of physical force. Corporal punishment has become a social norm in disciplining children. It is also identified as the most prevalent risk factor for child abuse in America. In the south, where the incidence of spanking is above the national average, the number of children who are victims of physical force is even higher. Physical punishment hurts kids from all races and ethnicities.

Fifty years of research demonstrating the adverse effects of corporal punishment led the CDC in 2016 to alter its definition of physical abuse. The amended definition describes physical abuse as "the use of physical force, such as hitting, shaking, burning or other shows of force against a child," removing the phrase "that resulted in injury" from its former explanation. Physical force leads to increased aggressive and risky behaviors in children, damage to brain development, and a lifelong impact on mental health. Corporal punishment has been shown to increase, rather than deter, undesired behaviors.

To address this vital threat to our children, the Audrey Hepburn Children at Risk Evaluation (CARE) Center and the New Orleans Children's Advocacy Center (NOCAC) are introducing No Hit Zones at Children's Hospital and its clinics.

"I am very pleased that Children's Hospital is the first hospital in Louisiana to adopt a No Hit Zone," said Neha Mehta, MD, CARE Center Medical Director. "As a child abuse pediatrician with over 15 years of experience, I have seen firsthand the injuries to children who have been hit by their parents. I have been astonished by how many children I see with bruises and scars to their bodies from being "spanked" by their parents and the number of children I see who didn't tell parents about sexual abuse because they feared being 'whipped."

Originating at Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital in Cleveland, Ohio, in 2005, No Hit Zones have been successfully duplicated by numerous pediatric and adult hospitals and communities across the country. Posting No Hit Zone signage and training staff have been effective steps taken to create safe and caring environments for children, families and staff. Because key informants—trusted pediatric providers—deliver this scientific, research-based message, parents are more likely to listen.

"Parents need to understand that hitting children is not only harmful, but also non-effective," said Ellie Wetsman, CARE Center child abuse pediatrician. "I am delighted to see Children's Hospital take leadership to reduce violence experienced by children."

Throughout Children's Hospital and its clinics across the state, No Hit Zone signs will be posted illustrating the well-established harmful effects of corporal punishment and promot-

ing effective painless parenting techniques. Children's Hospital staff will be trained to give parents resources for effective guidance and explain the harms of physical discipline in a non-shaming or blaming fashion. The CARE Center also provides opportunities for pediatricians, pediatric residents and community members to practice communicating the negative effects of physical discipline.

"The launching of our No Hit Zones is an important step in not only reducing violence exposure for all who visit Children's Hospital, but also creating a culture for the healthy development of children and families," said Mary Perrin, Children's Hospital President and CEO.



THE PARENTING CENTER ENDORSES CHORES FOR KIDS

The Power of Pitching In

AN ARTICLE CIRCULATING ON SOCIAL

MEDIA quotes a former Stanford University Dean, Julie Lythcott-Haims, on the skills today's 18 year olds are lacking. One of these is the ability to contribute to the running of the household. She credits this deficit to the current trend of focusing on academic and extracurricular activities, which keeps today's kids on tight schedules with little downtime. In her words, "kids don't know how to look after their own needs, respect the needs

of others, or do their fair share for the good of the whole."

In his book, Too Much
of a Good Thing: Raising
Children of Character in
an Indulgent Age,"
Dr. Dan Kindlon outlines
the importance of
providing opportunities for
children to develop feelings of

self-efficacy, letting them master a task on their own. In his survey of teens, he found a correlation between being self-centered and not having to do chores as well as an increased risk of problem behavior if the teen does not have to keep his room clean. There are often bigger battles for parents to fight with teens than having a clean room, which may be why this correlation is significant.

If chores are a good thing, why aren't kids today required to help around the house? Some parents think their children are too young and others aren't satisfied with the results. All families are overwhelmed with busyness, and it may be more expedient for parents to just do the job themselves. If so, parents are depriving their children of important life lessons—those that will serve them well when they have grown and flown.

Whether allowances are tied to chores or not is a family decision. Some parents feel that children should share in the family resources and share in the responsibilities. Other parents feel that attaching allowances to chores helps children learn not to expect handouts and that you are rewarded for doing a good job.

Whatever your view on rewarding kids for helping, it's useful to know what can be expected at different ages:

Preschoolers (3 to 5) no payment needed

- Self-care brushing teeth, combing hair and getting dressed
- Clean up after themselves pick up toys, put dirty clothes in hamper and clean ones in the drawer
- · Set the table

Elementary School Age (6 to 9)

- Take care of pets put food and water in the bowl
- Dust
- · Weed the garden
- · Make a sandwich
- · Help load and unload the dishwasher

Middle School Age (10 to 13)

- · Take out the trash
- Use the stove to heat soup or make a grilled cheese sandwich
- · Sweep and vacuum
- · Clean the bathroom

High School Age (14 to 16)

- · Mow the lawn
- · Wash windows
- · Clean the garage
- Do their own laundry
- · Take a night to cook dinner for the family

It's never too late to change your approach. Have a family meeting and make a list of household jobs. Designate who will do which chore by offering choices. Everybody keeps their assigned jobs for two weeks, then you can reassign. If it keeps the family motivated to work together, decide on a day that the housework is done and then celebrate by ordering pizza and watching a movie together. This way you've accomplished two important components of building a happy family: teaching responsibility and spending time together.

For more information about the importance of family time or help with your parenting challenges, contact The Parenting Center at 504-896-9591 or check out a schedule of classes at www.theparentingcenter.net.

BELOVED PEDIATRICIAN DR. STEPHEN HALES REIGNS AS REX 2017

Children's Hospital was graced with the presence of true Mardi Gras royalty this carnival season. Rex 2017, Stephen Hales, MD, and Queen of Carnival, Anna Huger, arrived at Children's Hospital on February 25. The royals greeted attendees in the lobby with Rex throws and visited with patients, delighted to meet the King and Queen of Carnival.

Dr. Stephen Hales, bestowed with the time-honored title of Rex, is a 37-year member of the Children's Hospital Board of Trustees and also serves on The Parenting Center Advisory Board. Dr. Hales is a founding member of the LCMC Health Board of Trustees and has served as a leader of numerous organizations close to his heart, including the Alliance of Not-for-Profit Hospitals, Metairie Park Country Day School, St. George's Episcopal School, The Louisiana



Philharmonic Orchestra, the Good Shepherd School, New Schools for New Orleans, the Pro Bono Publico Foundation and Fidelity Homestead Savings Bank. In addition to the numerous positions he has held in community service organizations, Dr. Hales is also known for his service to New Orleans children. For nearly 40 years, he has followed patients from birth to early adulthood at his Hales Pediatrics practice. As a pillar of the community, Dr. Hales was a natural choice to reign as King of Carnival.



BACCHUS CROWNING

Bacchus XLIX, actor Jim Caviezel, visited Children's Hospital on Friday, February 24 for a memorable Mardi Gras celebration. The carnival king handed official Bacchus throws and doubloons to welcoming patients, families and staff. After mingling with the crowd, Bacchus XLIX was crowned by patients with a hand-made headpiece honoring his visit.



NOLA MOMS BLOG EASTER EGG HUNT

The New Orleans Moms Blog hosted their 5th annual Easter Egg Hunt on the Children's Hospital State Street Campus on Sunday, March 26. Much more than an old-fashioned egg hunt, the event offered families food, drinks and prizes from vendors including Nothing Bundt Cakes, Raising Cane's and Audubon Nature Institute. All guests contributed arts and crafts supplies, helping to stock the Children's Hospital Art Cart.



GUILD CIRCUS

On May 11, the Children's Hospital Guild held the annual Guild Circus, presented by Firemen's Federal Credit Union. The clown-clad Guild members treated patients and their families to carnival games, face-painting, caricature artists and, of course, popcorn and cotton candy.

HOGS FOR THE CAUSE: A SWINE OF A TIME

On March 31 and April 1, the UNO Lakefront Arena served as the new backdrop for the annual barbecue competition turned festival, Hogs for the Cause, after outgrowing its usual City Park location. Nearly 30,000 festival-goers swarmed the grounds behind the arena to sample dishes from over 90 local and regional barbecue teams and listen to music from bands performing on three stages. Children's Hospital once again presented the annual Ben Sarrat, Jr. Pork Cook-Off and hosted the Children's Hospital Pig Pen, a play area specifically for kids to have their own fun at the fest. The youngest of the attendees enjoyed interactive fun with Dancing Drum, NOLA Wax Hands and Pirate Ink.



Hogs for the Cause is a festival that New Orleanians have come to know and

love over the course of its nine-year legacy. The competition originated as a cook-off to raise money for the family of 6-year-old Ben Sarrat, Jr., who passed away from pediatric brain cancer in 2010. Each year, the festival is held to honor Ben's memory, as well as raise money to help other families affected by pediatric brain cancer.

This year, Blue Oak BBQ won the Grand Championship, while Team Fleur De Que won in the fundraising category for the 5th year in a row, raising over \$225,000 on their own. In total, \$1.3 million was raised by competition teams, exceeding the expectation of festival organizers.

In addition to the grants they give to support our patients and their families, Hogs for the Cause pledged \$1.9 million to fund the "Hog's House," a haven for families whose children require extended hospital stays. Because Children's Hospital is the only free-standing hospital exclusively for children in Louisiana and the Gulf South, families from all over the region come to New Orleans, seeking care for complex illnesses, including pediatric cancers. This housing facility will alleviate some of the stresses that result from having a young child in the hospital. Children's Hospital is grateful for its partnership with Hogs for the Cause and looks forward to building something great together.

ZURICH CLASSIC HITS A HOLE IN ONE

The 2017 Zurich Classic was the highlight of spring for a few very lucky Children's Hospital patients. The highly anticipated New Orleans leg of the PGA Tour brought droves of professional golfers, celebrities and tourists to the Big Easy in late April. To kick off the tournament, TPC of Louisiana hosted a Celebrity Shoot-Out, where five Children's Hospital patients got a close-up golfing experience with celebrity teams. The notable players for the day included New Orleans Saints head coach, Sean Peyton, and Fullback John Kuhn; Saints Runningback Mark Ingram, who was paired with former LSU and Green Bay Packers Quarterback, Matt Flynn; and ESPN broadcaster Chris Berman with LPGA golfer Lexi Thompson.



In addition to the shoot-out, emceed by golf pro Kelly Gibson, the Fore!Kids Foundation presented Children's Hospital CEO, Mary Perrin, with a \$100,000 donation. The Fore!Kids Foundation is devoted to improving the lives of children through golf; the Zurich Classic serves as the foundation's principal fundraising event. For over 19 years, Children's Hospital has been a proud beneficiary of the Fore!Kids Foundation's charitable giving.

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL ENT BRINGS HOPE TO TRACHEOSTOMY PATIENTS AND FAMILIES

Breathing New Life

BORN ALMOST FOUR MONTHS TOO EARLY at

1 pound 8 ounces, Roosevelt Walsh faced an uphill battle. At least that was the opinion given to his parents, Tiffanie and Eric, as Roosevelt came into this world on October 21, 2015. If Roosevelt survived, they were advised, he was at high risk for developing serious complications. But Roosevelt defied the odds, and he's here today as a testament to how hope and faith can turn doubt into determination.

Roosevelt was transferred to Children's Hospital at 2 weeks old, once he was strong enough to make the journey from a nearby hospital. A breathing machine kept him alive while his severely underdeveloped lungs had a chance to mature. At 3 months old, Roosevelt still required the assistance of a ventilator to breathe. The Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) team called on the expertise of Sohit Paul Kanotra, MD, a pediatric otolayrngologist and director of the Airway Center at Children's Hospital. He performed a bronchoscopy to determine the cause of his breathing issues and found substantial swelling in Roosevelt's airway, trauma caused by the breathing tube that was required to keep him alive.

"He told us Roosevelt was trying to breathe out of a hole as big as a coffee straw," said Tiffanie, "and he might need a tracheostomy."

A tracheostomy is a surgically created airway, or stoma, in the neck that bypasses the mouth, nose and throat. The stoma allows a tracheostomy tube to be inserted into the windpipe. The tube keeps the airway open and allows air to reach the lungs.

Tracheotomies are performed for a variety of reasons, the most common are due to airway obstructions, complications associated with prematurity, neuromuscular diseases and birth defects.

Looking for other options, Tiffanie and Eric learned about laryngotracheal tracheal reconstruction surgery and asked Dr. Kanotra if Roosevelt would be a candidate. Although Roosevelt's lungs were not quite fully developed, Dr. Kanotra determined there was a reasonable chance the surgery would work. Tiffanie and Eric followed their faith.



"I read about the risks and developmental issues associated with tracheostomies," said Tiffanie. "Of course, children can overcome those issues, but I didn't want him to have to endure them. We have faith that Jesus can make all things possible. We believed in all things positive."

Dr. Kanotra performed the surgery on February 10, 2017, expanding his airway by using Roosevelt's own cartilage to support and widen his trachea. It was, as his parents believed it would be, a success. Roosevelt became the smallest baby at Children's Hospital to undergo the procedure.

After 163 days in the hospital, Roosevelt was carried home for the very first time.



Roosevelt Walsh with parents, Tiffanie and Eric

"What we love about Dr. Kanotra is he's always positive and encouraging," said Tiffanie. "He doesn't want to see kids with trachs and will do whatever he can to give a child as normal of a life as possible."

Advances in medicine have led to increased survival rates of premature babies. These babies sometimes require ventilators and tracheostomies to keep them alive. As the prevalence of tracheostomies increase, so do airway reconstruction surgeries to have them removed or to avoid them altogether.

"These babies are as complex as you see," said Dr. Kanotra, who currently follows roughly 75 babies and children with tracheostomies. Patients often require the care of a wide range of specialists to manage their conditions. Pulmonologists; ear, nose and throat (ENT) specialists; gastroenterologists; speech/language pathologists and multiple therapists are involved in their treatment. When Dr. Kanotra joined the Children's Hospital Medical Staff in 2014, he established a multispecialty clinic for tracheostomy patients and babies and children with complex airway, feeding and swallowing issues. The Aerodigestive Clinic, held monthly, is not only improving patient care, but also easing the burden for families across the state needing to consult with multiple specialists.

"When I started here three years ago, we didn't have any formal way of following our tracheostomy babies," said Dr. Kanotra. "Even now, the healthcare disparity in the care of a tracheostomy child in Louisiana is way below the national standard. Some of these babies are going home with tracheostomies, not following up with a doctor, and dying at home because they didn't have the appropriate care."

The mortality rate of pediatric tracheostomy patients is 2 to 6 percent nationwide. In Louisiana, a state where a lack of resources leaves parents virtually alone to fight for their medically complex child, the number of deaths is even higher.

To improve these outcomes and standardize care of tracheostomy patients, Dr. Kanotra founded the CHNOLA Tracheostomy Safety Initiative. Physicians, nurses, therapists and healthcare providers who treat these patients meet regularly to develop a consensus on specific objectives—from preoperative decisions to safe surgical procedures to postoperative rehabilitation and follow-up.

"This has never been done before," said Dr. Kanotra. "We need to make our tracheostomized babies safer, make our procedures safer. Because airway issues are dealt with by multiple specialists in several hospital units, we wanted to standardize our care."



MOLLEA'S MILESTONE

After four years with a tracheostomy, Mollea Hood can finally breathe on her own. Her road to recovery began at birth, born too soon at 25 weeks gestation. Mollea weighed 1 pound 2 ounces and struggled to survive. She was battling a double brain bleed and severely underdeveloped lungs, and was diagnosed with failure to thrive. Every small improvement was a major milestone.

It was a difficult delivery for Mollea's mother, Ashlea, whose kidneys failed during the emergency Caesarian-section, inciting her own fight for survival. While her mother recovered, Mollea continued to beat the odds over the next six months in a Baton Rouge NICU. But not enough oxygen was getting to her brain, her lungs remained underdeveloped and began to collect mucous. Mollea underwent a tracheotomy and was discharged two months later with portable life support, pumps, oxygen and other machines and supplies to keep her breathing. Ashlea was on duty around the clock, guarding her safety.

"I basically had an ICU at home," said Ashlea who, without in-home nursing care, held Mollea's future in her hands. "I was 22, just trying to figure it out."

Ashlea wanted Mollea to be raised as any other healthy child, and the two of them lived as much as they could as if the tracheostomy wasn't part of it. After several years, however,



Dr. Sohit Kanotra with Mollea Hood and her mother, Ashlea

Mollea began having difficulty getting air through her airway. Ashlea sought the expertise of Dr. Kanotra.

Mollea had developed a collapse of her airway preventing her from breathing without a tracheostomy. A reconstructive surgery was necessary if Mollea were to ever live without a tracheostomy. In February 2016, Dr. Kanotra took cartilage from Mollea's rib to rebuild her trachea, permanently opening and expanding the airway. Over the next six months, Mollea went through a series of dilations to stretch the airway in preparation for the removal of her tracheostomy.

Tears of joy were shed and cheers of praise rang out in the Children's Hospital waiting room this past March when Mollea finally had her tracheostomy removed.

"My dictum is making kids breathe again," said Dr. Kanotra.



John Paul Lorio with his mother, Angéla

"I love children. It's hard to see them with trachs. Imagine a baby going home and his whole life depends on a plastic tube in the neck. The anxiety levels of these families are off the charts." His work is his passion and his reward is breathing new life into pediatric care. "The results are pretty intense. You do the surgery and immediately the baby starts breathing or her breathing improves. It's a very rewarding surgery for us. It's like one life saved, then and there."

Approximately 20 airway reconstructive surgeries were performed at Children's Hospital in 2016 by the pediatric ENT specialist team, on par with major airway centers across the country.

JOHN PAUL'S JOURNEY

Angéla Lorio understands all too well the struggles of caring for a child with a tracheostomy. Like Roosevelt and Mollea, her son, John Paul, was born premature. He had severe bleeding in his brain and critical tracheal and laryngeal issues. With no alternative, John Paul was trached at 3 months old. He is now age 4.

"It's a 24/7 vigilant job," said Angéla whose two-bedroom apartment is jam-packed with supplies and equipment necessary to keep her medically-complex, technologydependent child alive. Her husband, Neal, and

a daytime nurse assist Angéla in John Paul's care. "He can code silently with no warning. I cope with this daily by putting him in God's hands."

Parents and caregivers must be properly trained on how to provide a safe environment for the child and how to operate equipment such as suction machines, nebulizers, air compressors, oxygen concentrators, feeding pumps and ventilators. An abundance of specialized supplies is critical to have everywhere they go. Letting down their guard for one second could have life-altering consequences.

Angéla has made it her mission to help others cope with the day-to-day challenges of caring for a child with a tracheostomy. She and her friend, Jessica Michot, cofounded Trach Mommas of Louisiana in 2016, an organization that provides peer support, resources, education and advocacy for parents and caregivers of these children. There are over 80 active members.

"We didn't want any other mom to walk this road alone, to feel so isolated," said Angéla. "It's been quite a journey. Unless you travel in our shoes, you don't understand the full scope."

Angéla met Dr. Kanotra almost two years ago. "He's a new hope that didn't exist before." Dr. Kanotra is evaluating John Paul for the future removal of his tracheostomy, when his airway is strong enough to function on its own. "He wants families to know, no matter what their situations are, there's hope. They are going to be okay. For a mom like me, that's huge. He has more than science behind him. He has heart."

Increased awareness and support for patients with tracheostomies will likely improve outcomes for these vulnerable babies and children. Efforts to advocate on their behalf will hopefully bring more resources to these families. And passionate and skilled healthcare providers, like Dr. Kanotra, will continue to breathe new life into treatments and programs to improve their well-being.

SUGARPLUM BALL 2017

A Night in Monte Carlo



THE 36TH ANNUAL SUGARPLUM BALL

attracted more than 1,100 guests for Children's Hospital's largest fundraiser. Held at the New Orleans Public Belt Railroad on April 1, Casino Royale: A Night in Monte Carlo was a roaring success. Co-chairs Cherie Albro and Jamie Cangelosi and a committee of more than 100 volunteers presented a spirited night of dining, dancing and dice.

More than 35 local restaurants offered their best dishes while Four Unplugged entertained the crowd. Attendees bid high on over 120 auction items offered through the silent auction. From Bryan Subaru, a Subaru Outback was raffled at the event, and Emily Cambre of New Orleans was the lucky winner.

"Le Train Bleu" VIP pre-party treated top sponsors and their guests to hors d'oeuvres from John Besh's Restaurant August and music by the James Martin Jazz Band. Top sponsors included Bryan Subaru, Fidelity Bank, Haydel's Bakery, Bank of America Merrill Lynch, St. Tammany Cancer Fund, TLC Engineering/Stanley Beaman and Sears, along with many others.

The 2017 Sugarplum Ball honored Maureen and Whit Huguley for their loyalty to Children's Hospital and their support, passion and dedication to the children who come to the hospital for treatment.

A Night in Monte Carlo raised more than \$318,000 for Children's Hospital. Proceeds will fund the family housing initiative, providing comfortable accommodations to families of patients with extended stays at the hospital. Oncampus housing will provide 28 private suites, eliminating lodging difficulties for families during their child's treatment.

Many thanks to the generous sponsors, attendees, volunteers and donors for supporting Children's Hospital and its mission to provide exemplary healthcare to children who need it most.











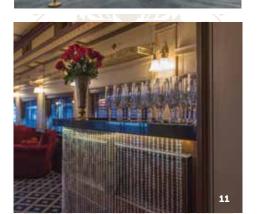












- John Cangelosi, 2017 co-chairs, Jamie Cangelosi and Cherie Albro, and Donald Albro 1.
- Representative Helena Moreno with husband, Chris Meeks 2.
- 3. 2017 Sugarplum Ball honorees, Whit and Maureen Huguley with son, Geordie.
- Jay Bryan stands with the 2017 Subaru Outback, donated by Bryan Subaru, raffled off at the event 4.
- **5**. Inside the transformed Public Belt station
- Children's Hospital COO, Justin Olsen, with Liz Broekman and Todd Schexnaydre of Fidelity Bank 6.
- 2018 Sugarplum Ball co-chairs, Cherie Moore and Jessica Schulman **7**.
- New Orleans Public Belt Railroad 8.
- 9. Drs. Jhanvi and Sohit Kanotra
- 10. More than 36 local restaurants served their best dishes
- 11. Inside the "Le Train Bleu" VIP party aboard the luxury train cars

BUILDING A HEALTHY FUTURE FOR KIDS

Helping Hands

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Golden Oldies Motor Club – Through their annual Cars for Kids car show in April, the Hammond-based organization raised \$10,000 for Children's.



Crescent City Corvette Club – Members of the Corvette Club made a generous donation of \$6,000 at their June board meeting.



Mike Bruno's Motorcycle Raffle – Bayou Thunder Fest, held in March, raised \$15,000 for Children's through a motorcycle raffle held at Mike Bruno's Northshore Harley-Davidson.



F. Christiana & Co. Chicken Leg Open – Golfers hit the links at Audubon Golf Club on April 5 for the 19th annual Chicken Leg Open. A donation of \$8,000 was made by the Christiana family in memory of Rhett Christiana.

Are you interested in hosting a fundraiser for Children's Hospital?

Visit www.chnola.org/toolkit

TURN SERVICES GOLF CLASSIC

Over 200 golfers participated in the two-flight golf outing at Lakewood Country Club in March raising over \$68,000. Proceeds from the tournament will benefit the family housing initiative on the hospital's State Street Campus. Besides the beautiful weather, participants enjoyed various food and drinks along the course, the chance to win exciting raffle prizes and a 50/50 raffle. Like the Masters Tournament, the winners receive a jacket. This one, however, comes in Turn Services orange.



SMOOTHIE KING VOLLEYBALL CLASSIC

Thirty-nine teams competed at Coconut Beach in Kenner to determine the best in our Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced divisions of the Smoothie King Volleyball Classic. The winning teams were: Turkey with a Side of Rice and Beans, The Real White Sands and White Sands. The June 3rd tournament hosted over 400 people who were served complimentary food and Smoothie King smoothies all day. Registration, sponsorships and donations reached \$27,000.



CHILDREN'S HOSPIE

KIDS FUND

Our annual giving campaign is underway. Kids Fund will support the hospital's pressing operating needs, as well as innovative and exciting new initiatives, such as the introduction of a Cerebral Palsy Clinic and the purchase of a surgical robot for Neurology. Each dollar contributed to the Kids Fund will play a direct role in helping ensure that babies, children and adolescents in Southeast Louisiana can continue receiving the essential pediatric healthcare services that recognize the unique needs of the youngest among us.

How can you donate to the Kids Fund? Donating is easy! You can donate online by visiting **www.chnola.org/GivingCHNOLA** and clicking on the Donate Now link or mail in a donation using the pledge form and business reply envelope included in the magazine. Your support of the Kids Fund makes the very important work we're doing here at Children's Hospital possible.

CHILDREN'S MIRACLE NETWORK HOSPITAL CORNER





DANCE MARATHONS

Students at local universities are dancing to raise money for Children's Hospital. This spring Loyola University and Southeastern University held dance marathons to benefit the hospital. The students plan their event and encourage fellow students to participate by collecting donations and pledges. Southeastern University raised \$13,483 and Loyola University raised \$24,287.

TAKE 5 OIL CHANGE CAMPAIGN

For the 11th year, the Take 5 Oil Change team asked customers to help Children's Hospital by adding a donation to their service cost. The 22 stores in our area collected an astounding \$71,386 over twelve weeks this spring. Congratulations to Shop #2 located on West Esplanade Avenue in Metairie. Manager James Hodge and his employees were the top fundraising store in our area, collecting over \$9,000.







RITE AID CAMPAIGN AND GOLF

Friends from Rite Aid gathered to celebrate the end of another successful CMNH campaign with their annual golf tournament. The outing, hosted at English Turn Country Club, raised nearly \$50,000. The in-store campaign brought in over \$13,000 to the hospital.



IHOP NATIONAL PANCAKE DAY

IHOP flipped a lot of pancakes on
National Pancake Day. The delicious
celebration was held March 7 at locations
around the country. Any patron
who donated to Children's Miracle
Network Hospitals was treated to a
complimentary short stack. In all, our
area locations raised over \$8,000.



COSTCO BALLOON CAMPAIGN

Employees at COSTCO in New Orleans embraced the month-long fundraising campaign held in May. Because of their efforts and the generosity of their members, a \$22,000 donation will be made to the hospital.

UPCOMING CMNH CAMPAIGNS

When shopping at your local Children's Miracle Network Hospital partner store, please consider purchasing a miracle balloon. The money raised from sales benefits Children's Hospital New Orleans.





Love's Travel Stops: August 25 – September 30



Sam's Clubs: August 28 – October 1
Walmart: August 28 – October 1

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MEMORIALS

(January 1, 2017 - May 31, 2017)

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