

Fighting for Ordinary

Cole, age 11
Exeter, ON
Atypical hemolytic uremic syndrome


Children's
HEALTH FOUNDATION
2017-2018 Community Report

...On **Three** Fronts

Ordinary is Often Extraordinary

On the surface, ordinary seems uninspiring. But when you really stop to think about it, the small, everyday moments are what enrich our lives the most.

It's the best when, as a kid, your parents come to cheer you on at your game and bring you out for a drippy, delicious ice cream cone afterward.

Or imagine when your child or grandchild wraps their tiny hand around your finger for the first time.

These are ordinary moments that feel extraordinary when they happen to us. Unfortunately, sickness, injury and disability can steal these moments from us and our loved ones. That's why Children's Health Foundation is fighting to protect them.

We are proud to champion support for paediatric health care, rehabilitation and research.

We're even prouder to have donors like you. This year, you made it possible for us to contribute \$6.5 million to Children's Hospital at London Health Sciences Centre, Thames Valley Children's Centre and Children's Health Research Institute.

Children and their families in our region will be able to enjoy more ordinary moments because you supported:

- the purchase of 112 vital pieces of equipment that will save young lives,
- 11 quality of life programs that make the hospital experience easier and more positive,
- 10 value-added programs and other therapeutic services that open a world of possibilities to children with disabilities,
- and ground-breaking research to prevent and treat childhood disease and injury around the world.

Thank you for battling alongside us. We are thrilled to share some exciting victories with you while also remembering that there are thousands of children who still need us to continue fighting for ordinary.

Sincerely,



R. Scott Fortnum
President and CEO



Trevor Delaire
Chair, Board of Directors



Scott with his children, Tessa and Marshall



Scott with his family at his wife, Carol's, master's graduation



Trevor with his wife, Kate



Trevor and Kate with son, Spencer



Vision

Saving lives and improving children's health and quality of life.

Mission

Inspiring caring people to donate to support excellence in children's health care and research at Children's Hospital, Thames Valley Children's Centre and Children's Health Research Institute.

Values

Gratitude
Respect
Excellence
Authenticity
Trust

Liam, age 7
Chatham, ON
Born premature

Fighting for Ordinary Health

A Life You Helped Save and Protect

Landon is a humorous eight-year-old who loves Power Rangers, creating YouTube videos and playing pranks. It's heartbreaking to think, though, that he may not have survived past his first birthday.

Jessica is a 'roll with the punches' kind of mom. She takes any hardships as they come but she struggled to keep a smile on her face when her son was diagnosed with a rare, life-threatening disorder.

At just five months old, Landon's parents learned he had glycogen storage disease, which causes glucose to build up in the body, leading to serious health issues.

"Research shows that most kids don't make it to five years old because of rapid liver failure. Many die waiting for a transplant," says his mom, Jessica, adding a physician with a keen eye at Children's Hospital recognized the signs early. "Thankfully they caught it and we could be on top of it the whole time."

When he turned one, Landon had his liver transplant. It was a success initially however, he later experienced some complications that landed him back at Children's Hospital.

At one point, Jessica feared she would lose him. Fortunately, with the support of medical professionals, he survived.

The hospital became like a second home to the family during this time. They were in and

out for check-ups, tests and procedures.

Recognizing that Landon was missing out on opportunities to enjoy ordinary life, the staff at Children's Hospital didn't just strive to protect his health, they also ensured he could enjoy being a kid while at the facility.

Landon is a big fan of Ollie the Therapeutic Clown. They've played pranks together and made fart noises, as little boys love to do. He also considers Child Life Specialists Erica and Amy close friends.

"Landon wanted to have a Power Ranger day and Child Life helped him plan and execute it at the hospital. He wasn't feeling great, but it was something he looked forward to and he owned it," recalls Jessica. "It was the highlight of his hospital stay."

Now eight years old, Landon is still closely monitored due to complications post-transplant. For the time being though, Jessica is happy that her son is doing well and has once again been able to relish ordinary life at home thanks to the care offered at Children's Hospital, which you strengthen and transform through your generosity.



Children's Hospital London Health Sciences Centre

117,361

paediatric visits to Children's Hospital

14 Child Life Specialists

visiting more than 20,000
patients per year

50,000 popsicles

eaten yearly at Children's Hospital

1,560 gloves

decorated by Ollie the
Therapeutic Clown

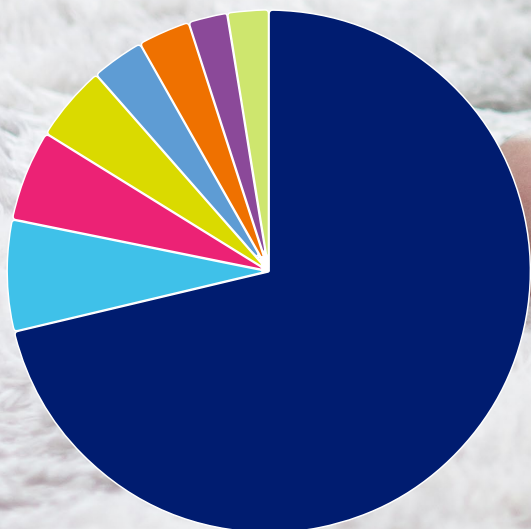
1,138 families

assisted with Family
Assistance funds

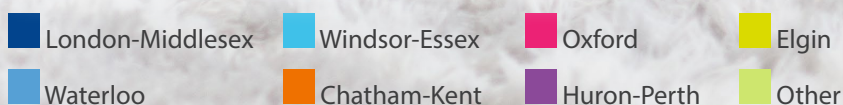
50 birthdays

celebrated in hospital last year

Landon, age 8
St. Thomas, ON
Glycogen storage disease



Patient Home Counties



Fighting for Ordinary Lives

You Helped Build Her Confidence

Grace may have cerebral palsy, but it won't stop her. With expert care and therapy, she is enjoying an ordinary life and determined to build an extraordinary future.

Before she was even a year old, Grace suffered a stroke.

The disruption in blood flow damaged her brain and led her to develop cerebral palsy, making it difficult for her to move the right side of her body.

Nicolle, her mom, was devastated at the news. Questions swirled in her head. What kind of life would her beautiful baby have? Her heart clenched at the thought that Grace wouldn't be able to enjoy the same experiences as her twin brother, Sam.

However, Grace's tenacious spirit, matched with the care offered by Children's Hospital and Thames Valley Children's Centre, have helped ensure she lives a full life.

She used to use a walker, ankle brace and hand splint, as well as need botox injections. Now after some surgeries and years of therapeutic support, Grace doesn't need any of these.

"When I think about where I was just a few years ago, and how far I have come physically,

I am pretty proud of myself.

"Even though I have cerebral palsy, I can pretty much do anything any other kid can do," says Grace, adding she loves playing volleyball and soccer, and hanging out with her friends.

Nicolle says she is enormously grateful to the medical professionals who have been there and continue to be there for her family throughout this journey. She is also grateful to donors like you who made sure Grace had the best possible care. As a result, Grace is confident and independent, she adds. She can dream big.

"When I get older I want to become a millionaire, and I want to do that by being an actress," Grace announces with a smile.

"You should probably ask for my autograph now because it's going to be worth something one day!"

Region	2017-2018
London-Middlesex	55%
Grey-Bruce	16%
Elgin	8%
Oxford	8%
Windsor-Essex	5%
Huron-Perth	5%
Lambton	1%
Chatham-Kent	1%
Other	1%

Where do TVCC clients live?

78% of services are delivered outside of the London main centre

9,087
children served in
2017-2018

609 workouts

at the Adapted Fitness Centre

400 pieces

of equipment loaned to families

220 metres,

average distance walked during a test in the Paediatric Gait Lab

152 puppet shows

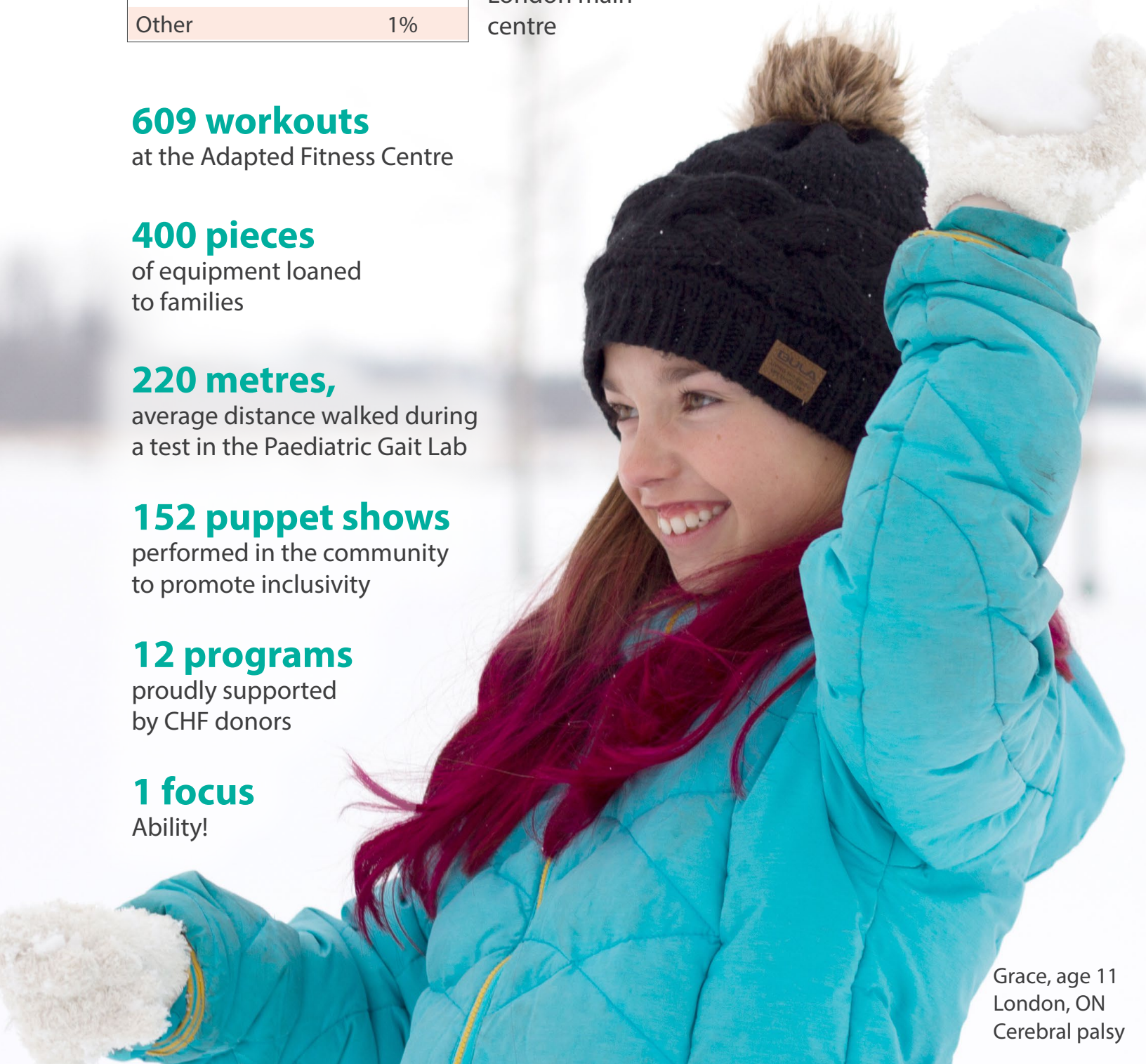
performed in the community to promote inclusivity

12 programs

proudly supported by CHF donors

1 focus

Ability!



Grace, age 11
London, ON
Cerebral palsy

Fighting for Ordinary Futures

Thank You for Championing Prevention

Cancer, diabetes, congenital heart disease, injuries from collisions – Children's Health Research Institute scientists are taking on serious health issues so kids in the future don't have to. *They are fighting for ordinary, with your support.*

When a child's organs are failing, or their vitals are crashing. When cancer has taken hold of a young patient's body. Our medical professionals put their everything into saving them.

Often, they're successful (as demonstrated by our victory stories). But other times, sadly, they are not. The reality is they're doing their best in a difficult situation, trying to fix what's already broken.

What they do is essential. However, we want there to be a day when prevention reigns and critical care is needed less – saving many young lives.

To get there we need to prioritize research.

We are fortunate in London to have a large yet tight-knit community of brilliant minds who are working to advance medical science. With more than 100 scientists and associate scientists, Children's Health Research Institute (CHRI) is an important part of this community and a champion in advancing children's health.

This year, dedicated and forward-thinking donors to Children's Health Foundation generously contributed more than \$2 million to fund exciting research at CHRI.

We are thrilled to highlight some of the projects that have great potential to protect our kids in the future, ensuring they can enjoy ordinary lives free from sickness, pain and suffering:

Halt Childhood Obesity Before it Starts

Researchers at CHRI, together with their colleagues from Western University, have launched a major effort to determine how life in the womb can lead to childhood obesity and other concerning health issues, such as diabetes. Their research will open opportunity for early prevention.

Defending Young Hearts from Defects

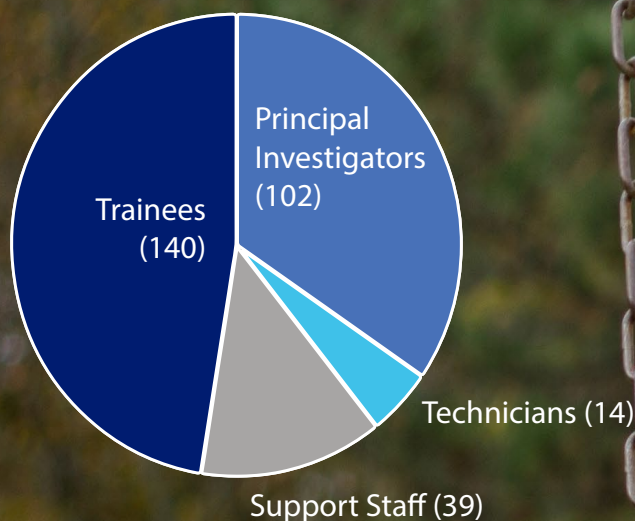
Dr. Thomas Drysdale and his team are working to demystify the cellular mechanisms that drive the generation of the heart's shape. In doing so, they expect to gain a greater understanding of where in the process errors can occur and how these may cause the congenital heart defects we see in children, helping find ways to protect them. Nearly one in every 100 children is born with a congenital heart defect.

Safer Back Seats to Prevent Crash Injuries

Motor vehicle collisions are the leading cause of severe injury and death for all ages world-wide. Knowing the devastation they cause, Dr. Douglas Fraser and a team of researchers are investigating real-world crashes occurring across Ontario. Their goal is to find factors that render our little ones vulnerable during collisions and ignite change.



Total Staff



Happy Birthday!

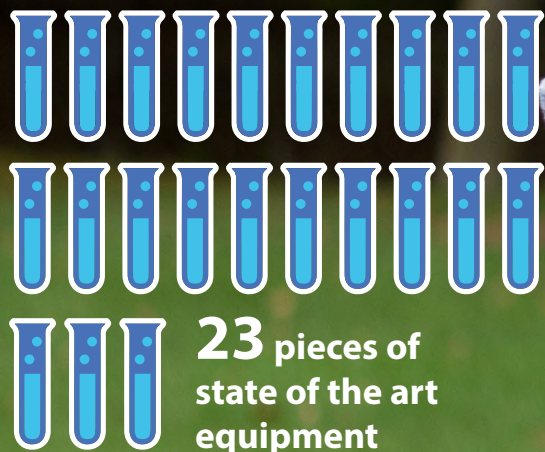
In 2017, CHRI celebrated its
30th birthday!

9 high school students
mentored by CHRI staff

\$23,960,000
total funds received by CHRI

157 research projects
in progress during 2017

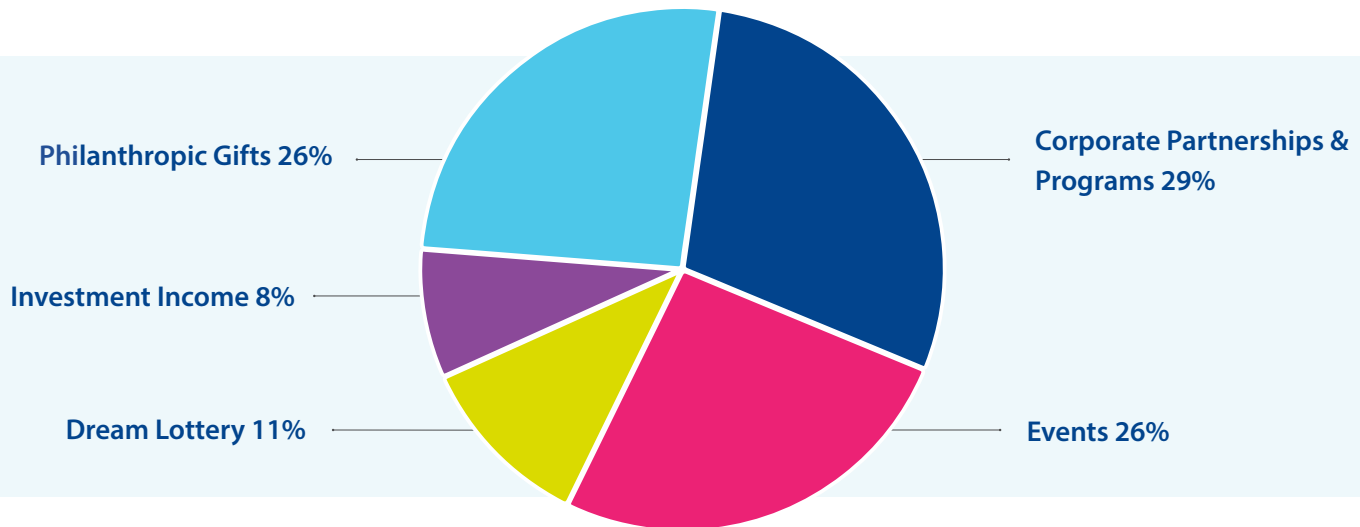
148 publications
produced by CHRI in 2017



Rachael, age 12
London, ON
Congenital Heart Defect

Funding the Fight for **Ordinary**

2017-2018 Revenue **\$8,900,000**



How your dollars supported **excellence in children's health care** this year:



\$3,400,000

invested in specialized paediatric health care and programs at **Children's Hospital**



\$1,000,000

granted to support rehabilitation at **Thames Valley Children's Centre**



\$2,100,000

supported innovative research at **Children's Health Research Institute**



16,904

proud donors



150+

third party events



30

corporate partners

700+
dedicated
volunteers

18
Children's Health
Foundation staff
members

3,500
Dr. Beary Goode
visits

5,000+
toys collected
for kids

2018 Champion Child
presented by Walmart

Hunter, age 6
Thunder Bay, ON



Children's Hospital
also serves families from
Thunder Bay and surrounding
communities

Area of Impact

Cole, age 17
Zurich, ON



\$34,000
in gift cards for gas and
groceries provided to
assist families

Mason, age 7
Elmira, ON



Carver, age 8
Sarnia, ON



Olivia, age 14
Burgessville, ON



Taya, age 14
St. Thomas, ON



Windsor
Essex

Chatham
Kent

Sarnia
Lambton

Strathroy

London

St. Thomas

Woodstock

Oxford

Brant

Waterloo

Perth

Huron

Wellington


Bruce

Grey

Owen Sound

 **Children's Hospital,
LHSC**

 **Thames Valley
Children's Centre**



When Cole was four, he was diagnosed with atypical hemolytic uremic syndrome, an extremely rare disease of the immune system.

Cole fought through **extraordinary** measures to survive. He endured years of dialysis, he lost an arm and a leg and eventually received a kidney transplant.

Today, Cole is an active 11-year-old boy. He enjoys the **ordinary** things in life, like playing basketball and video games and going camping with his family.



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Charitable Registration #118852482RR0001



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