

celebrations!

You made amazing things happen to improve children's care.



You helped ROSA to help kids like Travis

With the tremendous support of donors like you, Children's Hospital was able to welcome a life-changing new member to our team this year.

"Her" name is ROSA. And she's a robot.

Specifically, ROSA is a specialized robotic arm that our doctors can now use for intricate, ultra-precise surgery on a child's brain.

And she's already at work transforming the lives of children with epilepsy.

Children like Travis.

Travis was 8 years old when he first started having seizures. In the beginning they were very mild – he would go very quiet and stare off into space for thirty seconds or a minute and be unresponsive when people spoke to him. Progressively, the seizures became worse.

For years Travis was on medication that helped to control the seizures. He was able to live a normal, happy childhood – playing sports including hockey and softball. With supervision and a safety plan in place, he was able to go to school.

But when he reached puberty, the medication stopped working.

Travis began having more frequent and complex



Travis is living a life free of seizures thanks to your support!

seizures. Three or more times a week he would stiffen on his right side, curl his arm, mutter for about thirty seconds, and virtually black out to the world around him. You can imagine the commotion this sometimes caused when the seizures happened at school or on a playground.

And how exhausting each episode was for Travis.

At Children's Hospital, Travis became a candidate for a type of surgery called a "SEEG procedure" – one that is assisted by ROSA, the robotic arm.

Travis's parents, Tim and Melissa, remember that they were very nervous – but also remember their excitement about how life-changing the surgery could be for their son.

With ROSA's help, the surgeon implanted

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"Because of this surgery, Travis has been able to live a full and normal life, free of seizures."

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electrodes into Travis's brain to monitor where he was having his seizures. Then the areas of his brain where the seizures were originating were operated on by our epilepsy neurosurgeon.

As Dr. Andrea Andrade, Director of the Paediatric Epilepsy Program, says, ***"It's critically important that we treat epilepsy in children while their brains are still growing and developing. It gives them the opportunity to grow up happy and healthy."***

The surgery was tremendously successful. Travis hasn't had a single seizure since then!

His father, Tim, says, ***"Because of this surgery, Travis has been able to live a full and normal life, free of seizures."***

Support from generous donors like you gives Children's the life-changing equipment needed for our young patients. Treatment with the ROSA and life-saving research go hand in hand as you help our dedicated medical professionals better understand childhood brain development, and complex diagnoses like epilepsy. With your generosity, Children's health care teams can apply their expertise and stand by our kids with state-of-the-art resources.

That's why our surgical team — and the parents of kids like Travis — will always be grateful for your support in bringing the amazing ROSA to our hospital!

Now, Travis is more independent — able to go out by himself — and even has his driver's license! His grades have improved at school, and he has his sights set on college.

Today, Travis's chart says "Epilepsy (cured)." Originally unimaginable, kids like Travis can now live a seizure-free life, thanks to your support of life-saving equipment like the ROSA.



Celebrating 100 years of helping sick kids – thanks to you

In the last 100 years, so many ideas, breakthroughs and milestones have occurred here at Children's Hospital that have led to more improved treatments. Leading-edge equipment, enhanced spaces for care and recovery, care-enhancing programs and ground-breaking paediatric research are improving the lives of children not just here at home, but around the world. Your support of Children's Hospital makes a difference for kids every single day.

Milestone for Diabetes

Frederick Banting was a doctor in London, Ontario when he developed the idea for treating diabetes by stopping the flow of digestive juices out of the pancreas.

This idea led, of course, to the development of insulin at the University of Toronto. And it's changed the lives of hundreds of thousands of people around the world since then.

That was 100 years ago. Children's Hospital was established in the same year,

Evie first came to Children's Hospital when she was only 12 months old. She was participating in a research study following the health of children who had a relative with Type 1 diabetes — like Evie's dad.

By age 3, Evie herself was diagnosed with diabetes. It was a lot for a child to take in, and to adjust to.

That's also when Evie and her parents met Erika, their Child Life Specialist at Children's Hospital. Over the years, Erika has become part of the family, providing laughter, guidance and distractions during her treatments.

In addition to tracking and treating her diabetes, Children's Hospital has been there through



Evie has been treated at Children's Hospital for her diabetes since she was 12 months old.



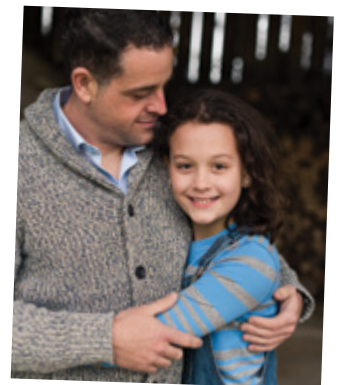
many childhood mishaps, like broken bones and a concussion.

The team has also helped her manage other issues, like celiac disease and anxiety.

Evie's mom, Kendra, says she was amazed to discover that London had such a world-class, comprehensive hospital, with all the services they needed to support their daughter right here in their hometown.

Today, Evie is an accomplished cheerleader. And here at the hospital she has her own set of cheerleaders — the teams that have been supporting her since she was a toddler. And we know that supporters like you are right there cheering from the sidelines, too!

With the unfailing support of donors like you, Children's Hospital has been helping children with diabetes for more than 100 years — with treatment and with research. With you behind us, we know that there are many more great ideas to come from the incredible teams here — ones that, like insulin, will help children around the world.



Evie with her Dad, who also has diabetes

New NICU transforms care for newborn babies

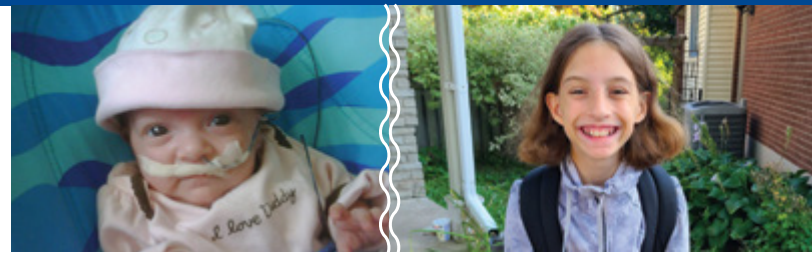
In 2010, the doors opened to the new North Tower of our hospital. It ushered in a new era of high-quality care for women, babies and children.

On June 11 of the next year, newborn baby Zoë, became the first neonatal infant to be transferred here from St. Joseph's Hospital — thanks to our highly specialized paediatric transport team.

Little Zoë was born at 29 weeks, weighing just over 1 lb.

In the first weeks and months of her life, this tiny baby underwent three surgeries, spending months in an incubator and on a ventilator.

Since then, she has been supported by Children's Hospital's physical, occupational and speech



Zoë received life-saving care - thanks to donors like you

therapists. As well as physiotherapy at TVCC to help her reach her milestones.

Today, Zoë is eleven years old — a happy and independent little girl.

In her mother, Paula's, words ...

"Zoë wouldn't be with us today without the NICU and Children's Hospital. They are such caring people ... professionally and personally ... they became our second family. We are so grateful to have such a wonderful hospital in this city."

Donors like you are funding more than 90% of the equipment that newborn babies like Zoë rely on.

Providing World-Class Care at Children's

Sarah Marshall is in the Guinness Book of World Records! That's because when she was nearly six months old she became the youngest patient in the world to receive a Liver-Bowel-Stomach-Pancreas transplant.

And it was here at Children's Hospital — because the Toronto hospitals couldn't help her.

Sarah's transplant surgery lasted nine-and-a-half hours. And she spent five months straight at Children's Hospital in recovery, while her tiny body was accepting the new organs.

Sarah is an adult now, but throughout her childhood — even when her check-ups could have been done in Toronto — her family brought her back to Children's. Her parents said it was because Children's Hospital "had become like a family"

and they knew that their daughter would receive the very best care here.

These stories all have something special in common — the dedication of medical teams and researchers — and the generosity and compassion of our community.



Sarah Marshall in NICU

Sarah with her brother

It is because of donors like you that Children's Hospital and the incredible teams here have been able to perform complex surgeries like Sarah's and many other life-saving and life-changing procedures.

You help provide the equipment and the spaces needed to care for kids with complex and simple needs. And every family knows in their heart that it is this "village" of supporters that helped save their child.

Thank you for 100 years of caring!

Having fun and growing stronger

Eleven-year-old Anson walks into TVCC's Adapted Fitness Centre smiling and strutting like he owns the place.

And that's a great thing! He loves it here.

But that's no surprise — Anson has been involved with TVCC since the very first day of his life!

Born with Spina Bifida, Anson has been supported for eleven years by the TVCC's Spina Bifida clinic and especially his physiotherapist and friend, Liz.

TVCC has provided life-enriching opportunities for both Anson and his family for his whole life!

They give Anson the chance to “just be a kid.”

So many children and youth with developmental delays and physical disabilities are left out of sport and physical activity. And kids like Anson, on the autism spectrum, often find organized sports and even play parks over-stimulating and overwhelming. But at TVCC, kids like Anson are given the chance to thrive.

Children's Health Foundation donors like you play a big part in that.

Anson loves coming to the fitness centre and working with the volunteers who run his program. He enjoys the equipment and training so much that he doesn't even realize he's getting a vital physical workout to keep him healthy. He's just too busy having fun.

Anson's parents beam when he proudly shows them the new muscle tone on his arms, or how he can do a one-legged stand or zip around on a modified bike.

For his whole family, their time at the TVCC is the best day of the week.

And our donors take the credit for putting the smiles on these happy faces!



Growing stronger!



and having fun!



The greatest gift of all



Gabby received exceptional care at Children's thanks to donor support.



My daughter Gabby is alive today thanks to the wonderful staff at Children's Hospital.

And she's not the only one.

I saw firsthand, over many years, why donor gifts are so important.

That's why I joined the Children's Caring Hearts monthly giving program. And when you hear my story, I hope you'll consider joining too.

When Gabby was four, she had a bad cough. Then her fever spiked to 104°F. We rushed her to Emergency, and within hours discovered she had cancer. Her coughing was a symptom of heart failure caused by leukemia taking over her red blood cells.

After two intense years of treatment, we thought her cancer was gone. But it came back. Gabby faced three more years of cancer care.

Then, we received a glimmer of hope.

Dr. Zorzi at Children's Hospital was able to enroll Gabby in an immunotherapy treatment clinical trial. And it worked! Instead of the nausea and fatigue she experienced on chemo, the trial drug had almost no side effects. Gabby was energetic and playful – she felt healthy!

Children's Caring Hearts donors help fund life-changing research and treatments like Gabby's

experimental medicine, and help buy the latest technology to help kids in Western Ontario.

It's so easy too. Your monthly gift is automatically donated from your bank account or credit card.

I'm happy to say that today Gabby is 13. She's creative, funny, social. She's doing well in school. She loves her friends and especially loves her big sister.

Generous donors made a difference for her and many other sick kids. So thank you. And today, please consider helping even more, by joining the Children's Caring Hearts monthly giving program.

You'll fund medical treatment for children and ensure they grow up healthy.

Adrienne

Gabby's grateful mom

For more information on joining **Children's Caring Hearts** monthly giving program, please contact **Megan Vandekerckhove** at **548-689-9256** or mvandee@childhealth.ca or fill out the reply form included.



Gabby at Children's Hospital



Me and my daughter Gabby, now 13!