



2022-2023 COMMUNITY REPORT



—○—
Sarah, Age 26

World's Youngest Multi-Organ Transplant
COBURG, ON

YEARS

of best possible care.
Because of you.

100TH ANNIVERSARY

SPECIAL EDITION



A Letter from Our
**President & CEO,
and Board Chair.**

You are part of an incredible history!

Your support of Children's Health Foundation has helped us provide the best possible care and most possible hope for children, youth and their families facing life-threatening or life-limiting diagnoses for 100 years.

From neonates who weigh as little as a pound of butter, to growing teenagers who are living with epilepsy, cancer, mental illness and more, you are a part of our legacy — helping kids receive leading-edge treatments and support since 1922.

For 100 years, Children's Health Foundation and our donors have revolutionized care for children and youth.

Your generosity has led to world renowned innovations like the first artificial kidney machine in Canada, performing the youngest paediatric multi-organ transplant, and leading ground-breaking clinical trials that have developed life-saving neonate drug treatments like surfactant — which remains a standard of care to this day.

Thanks to your help, Children's Hospital at London Health Sciences Centre (LHSC), TVCC and Children's Health Research Institute (CHRI) have become a strong foundation of care where innovations, bests and firsts flourish.

You have made us a hub of health care excellence.

In the past year alone:

You ensured Children's Hospital could help young patients in the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Care Program (CAMHCP) experience creative therapies, helping patients identify stressors, encouraging emotional expression, and promoting a greater sense of empowerment for youth.

You made it possible for TVCC Storytellers to begin their #LetMeTellYou video presentation series where clients feature their life experiences, triumphs

and successes, while TVCC education services expanded their virtual education workshops and saw an increased interest in online modules. Your generosity means children and youth with disabilities, and their families, are given the flexibility and adaptability they need to receive comprehensive support.

Thanks to your help, CHRI research teams and scientists embarked on learning and development initiatives to further their leadership in Maternal and Child Lifestyle Health. They are bridging research about nutrition and exercise behaviours in pregnancy with holistic, cultural and spiritual considerations to help ensure healthier generations.

With your generosity, our kids and their families are receiving new forms of care and support that enhance their treatments and spur hope for their futures.

You have committed to making leading-edge care possible within the last century. We cannot thank you enough.

Children's Health Foundation eagerly anticipates the next 100 years full of ground-breaking and life-saving moments.

With gratitude,



R. St. Fortnum

Scott Fortnum,
President & CEO,
Children's Health Foundation



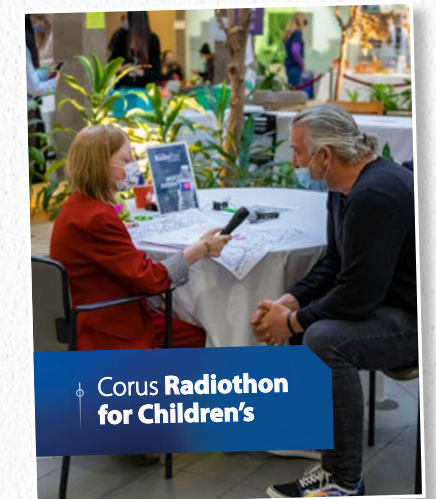
Bob Morrill

Bob Morrill,
Chair, Board of Directors
Children's Health Foundation

You are part of an **amazing community.**

Your creativity and generosity bring our community together in support of the best possible care for children and youth, and the most possible hope for their loved ones.

Thank you for joining together to strengthen and transform our kids' care!





Darcey, Age 8






Rare Blood Disorder (Atypical Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome — AHUS) and Chronic Kidney Disease

HANOVER, ON

Three Years of **Stand By Me.**

Three years ago, at the outset of the pandemic, Children's Health Foundation donors stepped-up to ensure that while COVID-19 began to complicate care for our kids, Children's Hospital, TVCC, and Children's Health Research Institute (CHRI) could continue to deliver exceptional care and research.

Our Stand By Me campaign was a call to the community that even when faced with a global pandemic the health care needs of children and youth continued. With the launch of Stand By Me, our community rallied around five key needs:

-  Medical Equipment and Resources
-  Health Professional Training
-  Emotional Safety and Child Development Programming
-  Family Navigation and Comfort Programming and;
-  Research and Innovation

You allowed us to support emergency needs throughout kids' health care journeys. Children's Health Foundation donors helped fund:

- The **Paediatric Family Resource Centre (PFRC)** as it adapted to help arrange accommodations and meals for families when options for a safe place to stay, or a filling meal, became limited and expensive. The PFRC and Family Assistance Program provided immense relief for parents.
- The purchase of the **ROSA One Robotic Arm**, which provides curative surgery for paediatric epilepsy patients.

- The **Paediatric Transport Stretcher** that helps Children's staff reach vulnerable kids across the province.
- Nearly half a million dollars in equipment for **Ontario's Third Paediatric Sleep Lab.**
- Education through new course offerings and increased remote capabilities for the **Michael Gunning Simulation Centre.**
- Ground-breaking research like **Hearts & Minds**, which examines how maternal heart and blood health effect fetal brain development during pregnancy.

Donor support for the Stand By Me campaign is a remarkable milestone in our history. Our community stood by each other at an unprecedented time. We were in awe of your unending support during the global pandemic, which stands as a testament to our community's generosity.

As we continue to live with the long-term effects of COVID-19, we thank you for your commitment to supporting leading-edge care, adaptability, and innovation for our kids.

You have shown us the strength of our community, and Children's Health Foundation is proud to continue inspiring caring people to fund the leading-edge programs, research, equipment and education that improves and saves the lives of children and youth across Western Ontario.

An Update on Children's Hospital.



179,861
Total Patient
Visits



57,084
Patients Needed
Paediatric Care



5,967
Infants were born
at London Health
Sciences Centre



1,013
Babies Needed the
Neonatal Intensive
Care Unit (NICU)



61,833
Paediatric Medical
Day Unit (PMDU)
Visits



3,924
Cardiology
Patients



1,505
Oncology
Patients



45,057
Emergency
Department
Visits



1,437
Mental Health
Patients



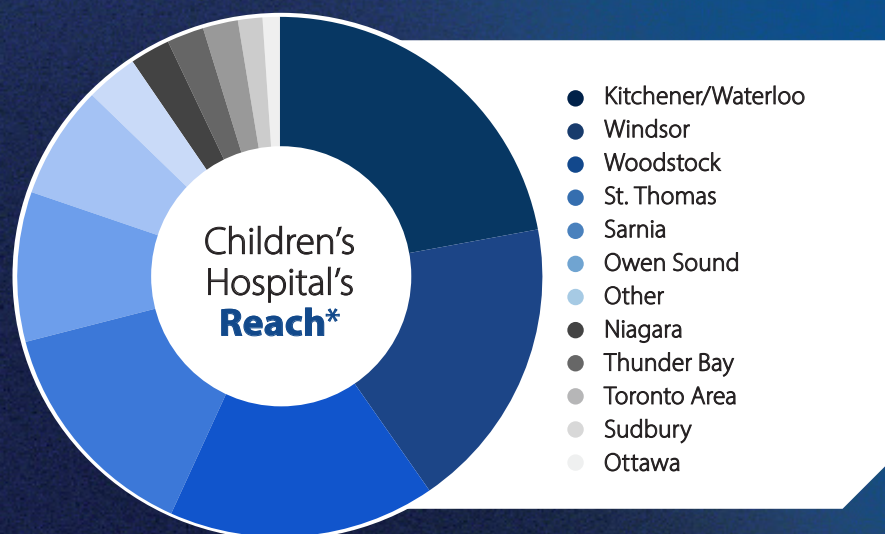
11,172
Mental Health
Visits



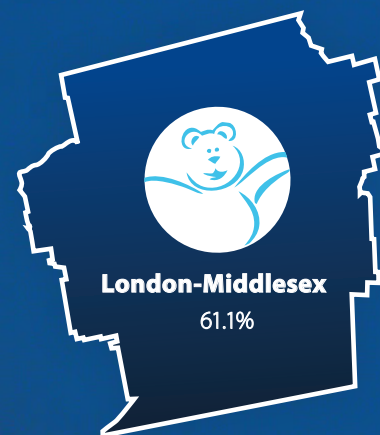
1,011
Paediatric Critical
Care Admissions



3,765
Paediatric
Surgeries

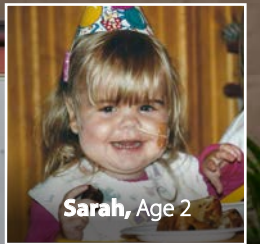


*cities listed include surrounding area



You helped Sarah become a World-Record and a Dual Degree Holder.

Sarah, Age 26
Multi-Organ Transplant
COBURG, ON



New parents Dave and Cindy couldn't believe it.

At just five months and 24 days old, their little Sarah was going to need a multi-organ transplant — **for four of her organs.**

Born in 1997 with a genetic condition called Megacystis-Microcolon-Intestinal Hypoperistalsis Syndrome (MMIHS), Sarah became the only child in Canada facing this rare condition.

As one of 4,000 kids in the world with MMIHS, Sarah was — as she says — “a bit of a science experiment.”

Being born with a large bladder and intestines that didn't work also caused troubles with her pancreas and liver. Little Sarah was counting on Children's Hospital to make the impossible happen – the world's youngest paediatric multi-organ transplant.

As a leader in paediatric transplantation, completing the first paediatric heart, liver, bowel and liver/bowel transplants, Children's Hospital was **the only place in Canada** able to perform this life-saving procedure for Sarah.

With the support of our community, Children's Hospital had the education, equipment and expertise they needed to make this world-first happen.

Sarah's successful and ground-breaking surgery allowed her to go home at 10 months old as an official Guinness Book of World Record's holder.

After surgery, doctors Paul Atkinson and Sandy Williams became a huge part of her family's life, offering support and direction to help manage Sarah's follow-up needs.

Today, thanks to Children's Hospital, 26-year-old Sarah is a powerhouse.

“I have been able to get my driver's licence, travel with my family, meet my loving boyfriend Nick, and proudly graduate from two college programs - business and public relations, while transitioning into adult care. All this wouldn't have happened without Children's Hospital saving my life.”

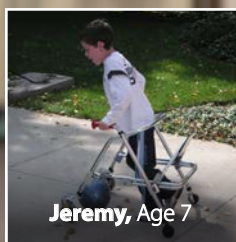
Sarah is an enthusiastic ambassador to this day and is always proud to share the difference Children's makes for kids like her.

Donors like you help create our high standards of care for children and youth across Western Ontario. Your generosity helps make our dedicated clinicians leading-care providers, performing first-in-class procedures just like Sarah's world-record-setting transplant.

Your generosity can help give the next child, like Sarah, the chance at an incredible future.



Jeremy, Age 26
Cerebral Palsy
LONDON, ON



Jeremy, Age 7

You helped Jeremy
be seen as a mentor.

Chatty and outgoing Jeremy grew up knowing he walked differently. He didn't know it was because of cerebral palsy.

With the help of TVCC, Jeremy's formal diagnosis made it possible to connect with compassionate therapists who provided his care at school. They introduced him to group activities like summer camps, where he shared his love of film and joked with new friends.

When Linda Baldwin saw how quick Jeremy was to smile and laugh, she knew he'd be a perfect storyteller.

Jeremy was thrilled, "I was excited to hear that my love of meeting new people could help kids and adults learn about people with disabilities."

As a TVCC Storyteller, Jeremy's life experiences helped kids learn how to include others with disabilities and set him up to be a mentor and youth engagement employee. He helped youth navigate the bus system, get their support needs met, or have the chance to chat with other teenagers living with a disability.

"Seeing the confidence young TVCC clients gained from being out together and getting to talk with

someone else like them meant the world to me."

For kids like Jeremy, TVCC isn't a one-time visit. It's a community that grows with them.

Every client is seen and valued for who they truly are. Jeremy, a movie-loving, chatty, kind, and helpful man, is recognized beyond his disability.

"At TVCC people understand I'm able to do what I need to because of my walker, not in spite of it."

Today, Jeremy continues to advocate for children and youth with disabilities, including in his role as Chair of Under The Stars in September 2023. He educates our community about what it means to see children and youth with disabilities as individuals with full and complex lives.

By supporting TVCC, you help make it possible for children and youth like Jeremy to be recognized for who they are, while receiving life-changing support and services.

With your help, TVCC staff and clients help teach our community that having a disability is part of children and youth's lives but does not define everything they are.



Amplifying Children and Youth's **Experiences.**

TVCC meets families where they are to provide programs, resources and research that support a range of needs, including physical disability, communication disorders, developmental delays and autism spectrum disorders.

Your generosity last year helped raise \$1.2 million that allowed TVCC to enhance the ways they help clients identify their strengths and abilities and bolster the hybrid services used to enhance children and youth's experiences throughout the pandemic.

TVCC Storytellers transformed from a primarily speech-giving program, into a program where children and youth can share their life experiences and self-discovery through all kinds of mediums like art, music and their #LetMeTellYou video series. This re-imagining of

TVCC Storytellers means children and youth have new opportunities to share their experiences of living life with a disability.

TVCC also took Kids on The Block — the educational puppets — virtual throughout the pandemic, and with your help, successfully launched The TVCC Show. With a strong community partnership and a dedicated e-Learning Coordinator, TVCC has been able to use these incredible puppet personalities to educate schools, organizations and more about different disabilities with their show!

Your support has established TVCC as a strong hybrid environment where supports and services are more easily accessible to children and youth, and their voices are amplified through virtual spaces and ongoing opportunities.



4,746

Client Referrals



11,846

Clients Served



170,606

Hours of Care



38%

Of services were provided by phone, email or video conference



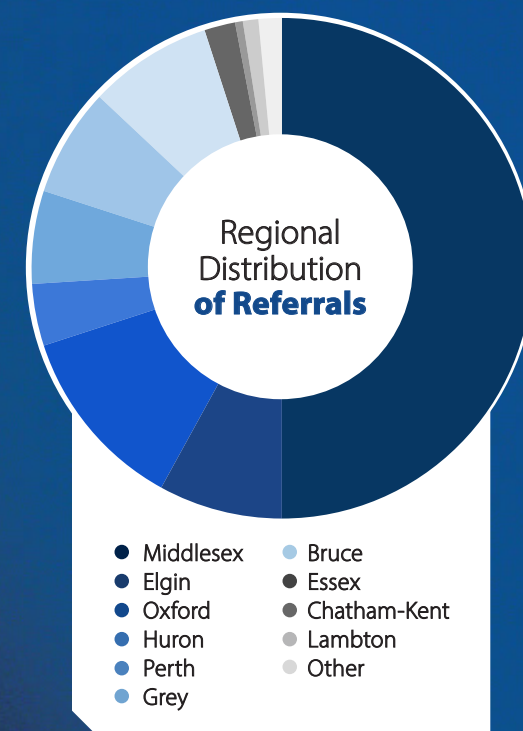
40.9%

Of clients accessed more than one service at TVCC



81%

Of clients received services within 60 days of assessment





Enabling Better Childhoods and Full Adult Lives.

Children's Health Research Institute (CHRI) is the third largest hospital-based child health research institute in Canada. Thanks to donors like you who contributed \$1.8 million this year, you helped dedicated scientists investigate new and experimental treatments that can enhance and protect our kids' quality of life.

In the past year, CHRI scientists have continued crucial projects that aim to improve the lives of children facing a variety of conditions, from Fetal Alcohol Syndrome to poor maternal cardiac health, while also launching projects that work towards health equity. Their research makes care better for all kids.

Current projects range from helping improve treatment for marginalized groups to helping improve our kids' survival rate in emergency cardiac situations. CHRI's Every Child Matters

research is exploring Indigenous youth's assessment and access to treatment when experiencing chronic pain, while CHRI's PRIME trial is investigating the use of epinephrine in Paediatric Out-of-Hospital Cardiac Resuscitation.

From investigating emergency and pain-management care to studying factors effecting health in pregnancy, CHRI investigates the full life cycle of our kids from in-utero through adolescence. Their research works to uncover negative outcomes early, in hopes of reducing health risks and pain for our kids.

Your kindness in supporting CHRI helped advance innovative, equity-based research projects, helping ensure that our kids will have the best opportunities to enjoy positive health outcomes in childhood and as adults.



185

Scientists and
Associate Scientists
Conducted Research



738

Peer Reviewed
Publications
Produced



3rd Largest

Hospital-based Child
Health Research Institute
in Canada



\$41,492,027

Total Grant Revenue



Dr. Naveen Poonai,
Associate Professor of
Paediatrics, Internal Medicine,
Epidemiology and Biostatistics
DORCHESTER, ON

You helped Dr. Poonai
work towards a **pain-
free future.**

The Poonai Family

Whether it's a broken arm from climbing their neighborhood tree, or a nasty gash from a run-in with the living-room coffee table, kids end up in the Children's Hospital emergency room for various reasons — many of them common childhood mishaps.

As a father of four, Paediatric Emergency Department Clinician and Paediatric Researcher, Dr. Naveen Poonai is learning that while children and youth are exploring and having adventures, they're doing so in a world designed for adults.

"One of the most common injuries we see for kids under ten is facial lacerations. Kids are coffee-table height," Naveen explains. "While kids don't have any need for a coffee table, adults do. We watch TV after they head to bed and during the day that coffee table is dangerous for them."

When these dangers result in an ER visit, children and youth need compassionate care.

Children's Health Research Institute (CHRI) is helping create a world that both recognizes the distress and pain experienced by children during hospital visits and stays, and actively works to prevent it.

CHRI's research teams are providing children and youth with novel ways to manage their emotions and their pain during necessary procedures. Like the ALICE trial investigating the best medications to help manage distress for kids with lacerations, and the VIRTUE trial using Virtual Reality to help calm young cancer patients during port-a-cath access (a catheter under the skin).

CHRI's efforts don't end in the emergency room. When teens with sprained ankles head home to recover, Naveen's team is studying the benefits of a smartphone recovery guidance app — SPRAIN — to assist teens in getting back on their feet.

Each of these studies is leading towards achieving CHRI's long-term goal: **doing our best to manage kids' pain and distress.**

From the lab bench to the bedside and all the way home, CHRI helps Children's Hospital reduce children and youth's distress, anxiety, and ultimately, their pain.

Together with CHRI, supporters like you help create a pain-free future for the next generation — children and youth from across Western Ontario.



“You gave us the chance to grow into **the adults we are today.**”

Your donations today give way to a **lifetime of potential** for our kids.

At Children's Health Foundation, we see the impact you make every day in the children and youth we meet. Today, we are lucky enough to have two staff who are here thanks to the generosity of our community.

“As soon as my hair grew back and my face swelling went down, I didn't tell anyone that I had leukemia as a child. Then, as a teenager, I heard cancer survivor and motivational speaker Josh Sundquist embrace his journey and **realized it might be time to embrace mine.**”

[Read Juliana's Full Story Here](#)



Juliana Pierotti, Age 28,
Acute Lymphoblastic
Leukemia (ALL)



Lauren McAlea-Phillips,
Age 28, Born Premature
(70 days in NICU)

Lauren's Mom shares, “I was sitting next to her isolette and someone handed me papers. They told me it was a new treatment that might help Lauren survive. I signed right away.” **That treatment was Surfactant.**



[Read Lauren's Full Story Here](#)

Being a Children's Health Foundation donor means transforming the lives of our children and youth. **You give them the chance at a future — and with leading-edge care and treatments — a better future.**

Juliana and Lauren, along with their families, thank you from the bottom of their hearts. They know they would not be here today without Children's Health Foundation and the generosity of its donors.





100th Anniversary Celebration Event.

On October 28, 2022, Children's Health Foundation celebrated an unforgettable milestone — **100 years inspiring our community to support health care excellence by funding the programs, research, equipment, and education that strengthens and transforms care for children and youth.**

At our celebration event, Children's Hero Ambassador Justin shared his musical talents to welcome everyone, including dedicated donors, young patients and their families, as well as expert health care professionals.

The night began with special thanks from Children's Health Foundation's Board Chair, President and CEO, and gave each guest the opportunity to hear stories of how our 100 years has shaped children's care.

Former patients Sarah, Rhonda and Steven shared how it felt to look back on their care, while retired VP of Women & Children's Services at LHSC, Ellen Rosen described how Children's Hospital has improved to best accommodate families — like creating rooms that allowed families to stay bedside in the 1980's.

With these stories and a preview of the year's 100th anniversary commercial, Children's Health Foundation and our community looked towards the future of Children's and the child-centred care your generosity makes possible.

When families need the best possible care, they turn to Children's Hospital, TVCC, Children's Health Research Institute, and community-minded

supporters like you, to ensure that their children and youth have everything they need to make it through.

Thank you for helping us reach our 100th year by providing unwavering support for children and their families across Western Ontario who face life-threatening and life-limiting diagnoses.



Watch Our 100th Anniversary Commercial

Children's Health Foundation's Fundraising Revenue.

How you stood by our kids and supported best care in our region:

Grand Total: \$13.7 million



4 Parental and Baby Care initiatives that give kids the best start to life



6+ Innovation and Research efforts that help develop new treatments and the best care



6+ Medical Resource programs and countless pieces of equipment that help staff stay on the leading-edge of care



6 Family Navigation and Comfort programs that support parents



12 Mental Health and Emotional Safety programs that protect kids' well-being

\$4.5 million

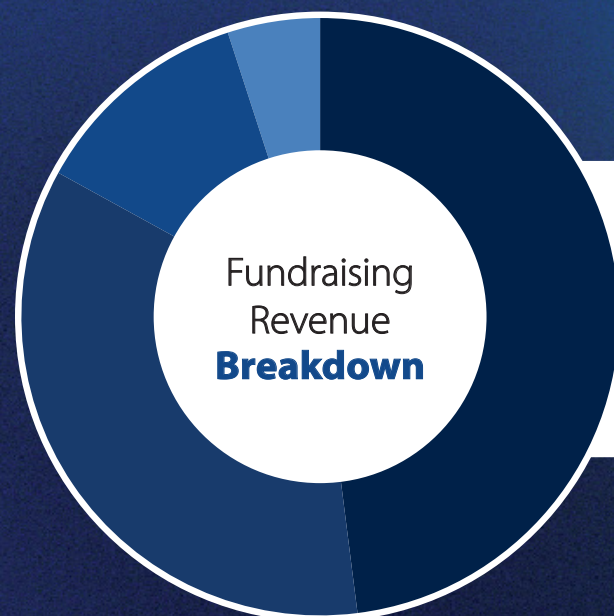
invested in Children's Hospital, LHSC

\$1.2 million

invested in rehabilitative service programs at TVCC

\$1.8 million

invested in innovative research at CHRI



Fundraising Revenue
Breakdown

- Philanthropic Gifts 50%
- CMN and Corporate Partnerships 32%
- Dream Lottery 13%
- Events 5%



107 STAND BY ME
Champion Donors



\$5.6 million +
donated by our Champions throughout the campaign

Children's Hospital's Area of Impact.



- Children's Hospital Area of Service
- Service area that Children's Hospital shares with other Ontario children's hospitals
- Service area of other Ontario children's hospitals
- Children's Hospital, LHSC
- TVCC Locations

Lochlan, 4
STRATHROY, ON

2022 Champion Child

Tia, 14
LONDON, ON

Jeremy, 26
LONDON, ON

LISTOWEL

KITCHENER/
WATERLOO

STRATFORD

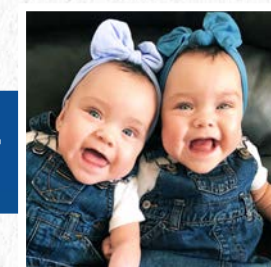
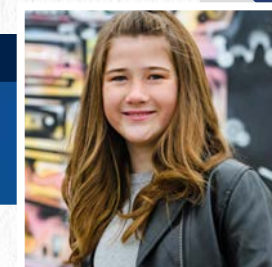
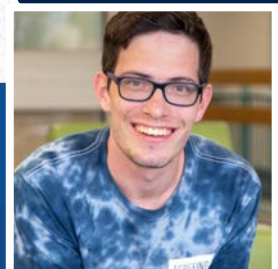
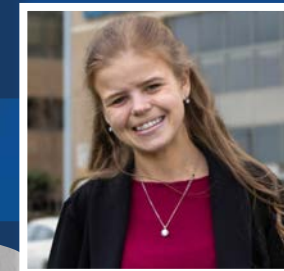
WOODSTOCK

ST. THOMAS

GLENCOE

WINDSOR

Luna & Ema, 4
WINDSOR, ON



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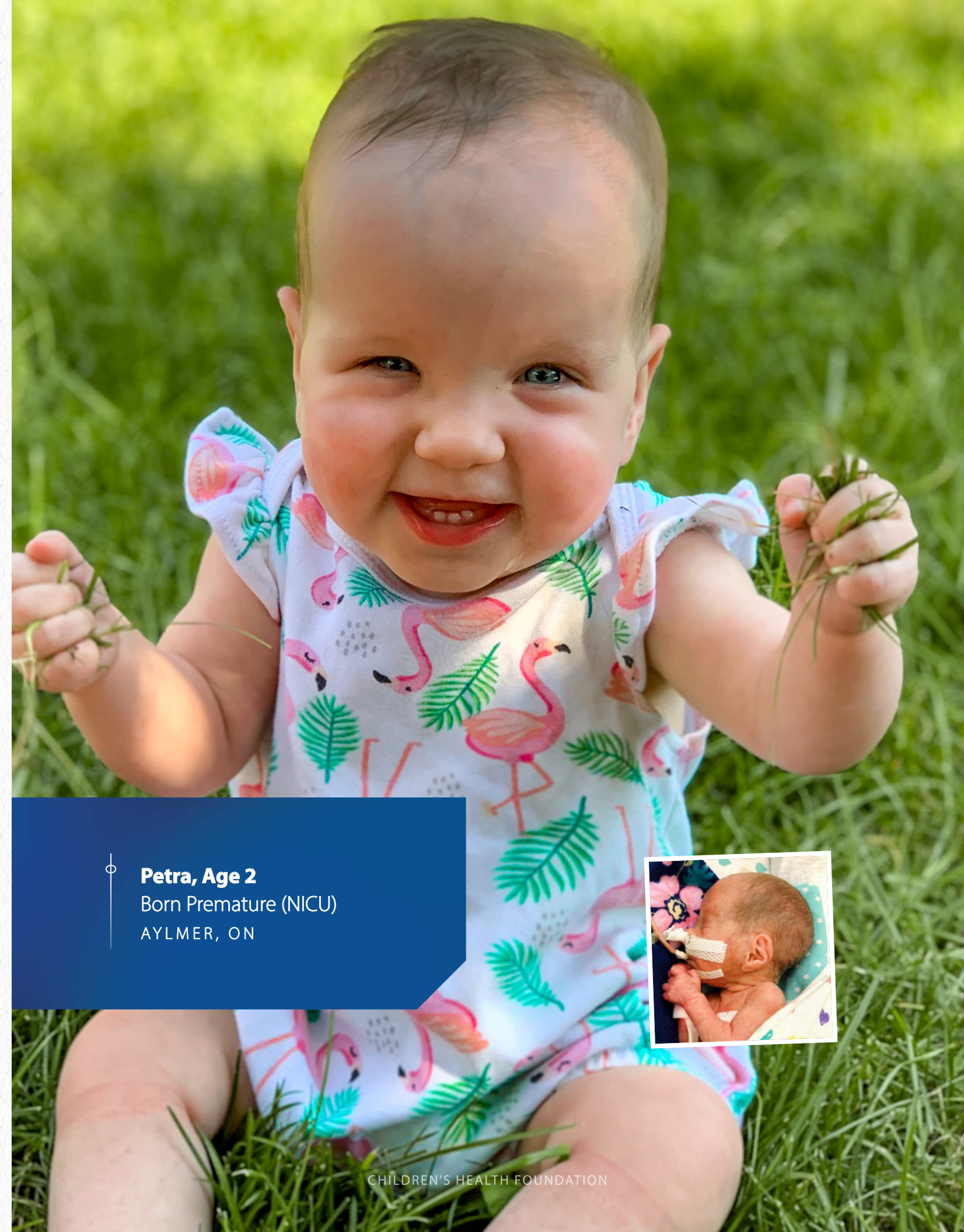
Our Mission.

Established in 1922, we inspire caring people to donate to support excellence in children's health care and research at Children's Hospital, TVCC and Children's Health Research Institute.



Our Vision.

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

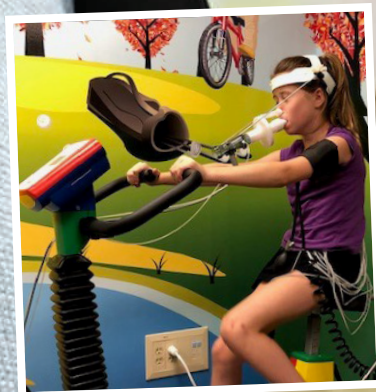


Petra, Age 2
Born Premature (NICU)
AYLMER, ON





— **Tia, Age 14**
Congenital Heart Defects
LONDON, ON



— **Petra, Age 2**
Born Premature (NICU)
AYLMER, ON




Scan Here
To Join Children's
Monthly Donors

You Can Help **Transform** Health Care for Kids **Like Petra.**

Our community's generosity has helped strengthen and transform paediatric health care for the last 100-years. The best possible care for our children and youth needs **your support** to continue this legacy.

Make life-saving treatments and ground-breaking research possible for the next generation.

Become a **Children's Monthly Donor** today — childhealth.ca/donate!



Here's to another 100 years of
ground-breaking and life-saving care.
Because of you.



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