



# **Compassionate Care Fund Orlando 2024 Impact Report**

## Dear Friends:

**Thank you for your incredible support of Nemours Children's Health in 2024.**

We are truly grateful for your generosity.

Because of your kindness, we can provide exceptional care to children facing a wide range of health challenges, from simple issues to more complex chronic illnesses. Your commitment ensures that every child receives the care they need, regardless of their circumstances.

Your support is not just a donation. It is a lifeline for our young patients and their families.

We are thankful to have you as an essential part of our mission to deliver the best possible care, and to help create the healthiest generations of children.

**Thank you for making an impact on the lives of our children and families.**

With gratitude,

Anna Kollodge

Associate Director, Philanthropy

Nemours Children's Health



### Our Mission:

To provide leadership, institutions and services to restore and improve the health of children through care and programs not readily available, with one high standard of quality and distinction, regardless of the recipient's financial status.

### Our Vision:

Create the healthiest generations of children.



**745,857** patient encounters  
**36,317** Emergency Department visits  
**10,485** surgeries performed  
**1,531** critical care transports to our hospital

## Who We Are: Nemours Children's Health, Florida 2024 Highlights

### Within one of the largest pediatric health systems in the U.S.

- Two freestanding children's hospitals in the Delaware Valley and Central Florida
- 71 clinics across six states
- No. 2 in the nation for enrolling children in cancer clinical trials

### A critical health care resource for Florida children and families

- One of only three freestanding children's hospitals in Florida
- 30 Central Florida pediatric clinics
- Largest provider for Central Florida children covered by Medicaid
- Largest pediatric cardiology practice
- Largest pediatric orthopedics program
- Second largest neurology care provider
- Only pediatric robotic surgery program in Central Florida

### Spearheading lifesaving advances in children's health

- Anchor institution of the Lake Nona Medical City biotechnology hub
- 38 funded research studies
- 70 clinical trials
- 101 scientists and research associates

### Educating tomorrow's pediatric health care specialists

- Teaching hospital for the University of Central Florida College of Medicine
- 574 new doctors, nurses, researchers, and allied health providers trained

### A global reach

- 137.4 million visitors to Nemours Children's KidsHealth.org, the world's top site for pediatric health information
- 613,000 downloads of Well Beyond Medicine, the Nemours Children's podcast
- 42 U.S. states deploying our evidence-based practices in child health



# Compassionate Care Fund

**Donor support for the Compassionate Care Fund at Nemours Children's Hospital in Orlando has had a profound impact on the lives of many children and their families.**

This fund is crucial in providing financial assistance for families facing significant medical expenses, ensuring that no child is denied the care they need due to financial constraints, as well as enhancing critical support services that are not covered by insurance.

**Financial Assistance for Families:** Donations may cover costs for transportation, food, diapers, car seats, uninsured prostheses, and medical devices. This support is vital for families who might otherwise struggle to afford these necessities.

**Health Equity:** Philanthropic contributions have enabled Nemours to address social determinants of health through innovative programs. These include mobile medical vans for health screenings, initiatives to combat food insecurity, and community health fairs.

**Research and Education:** Donor funds support biomedical research, health care delivery research, and educational programs for medical professionals. This investment in research and education helps advance pediatric health care and ensures that children receive the best possible care.

**Child Life and Creative Therapies:** Donations also fund child life programs and creative therapies, such as music and art therapy, which help children cope with their medical conditions. These programs provide emotional and psychological support, making hospital stays less stressful for young patients.

**Emotional Support for Families:** The Compassionate Care Fund helps families with non-clinical services, such as providing comfort items and organizing events that allow children to experience normal childhood activities despite their medical challenges.

The generosity of donors has enabled Nemours Children's Hospital to go well beyond traditional medical care, addressing the holistic needs of children and their families. This support ensures that every child can grow up healthy and reach their full potential.



# Vision for the Future

**Nemours Children's Hospital in Lake Nona, Florida, is addressing the growing demand for pediatric health care in Central Florida**, which is the state's fastest-growing area and the second-fastest-growing region in the nation. The pediatric population in Florida was approximately 4.0 million in 2012 and increased to about 4.5 million in 2022. It is estimated that this number will rise to 4.8 million by 2030.

Since our hospital opened in 2012, we have become a top-ranked children's medical center, attracting children and families seeking access to world-renowned experts and clinical trials that are not available elsewhere in the region for rare and complex pediatric diseases.

**We are proud to be among the top five fastest-growing children's hospitals in the nation.** As a key institution within Lake Nona Medical City, a burgeoning hub for health and life sciences innovation, we are leading advancements that are transforming children's health.

Nemours Children's also serves as a teaching hospital for the University of Central Florida's College of Medicine, with our physicians acting as faculty for the Department of Pediatrics, addressing Florida's critical need for more pediatric health care providers.

**To accommodate the region's rapid population growth, Nemours Children's Hospital, Florida, is undergoing a significant expansion project**, costing \$598 million. Key areas of this expansion include the emergency department, an ambulatory surgical center, a medical office building, and more.



## Impacts of the Hospital Expansion

- The expansion of our emergency department, one of the most frequently visited areas of the hospital, will add 28 inpatient beds and 116 observational beds, effectively doubling the department's capacity to handle 80,000 visits each year.
- A new ambulatory surgical center and medical office building will feature eight outpatient operating rooms and an expansion of our orthopedic department. This will include 35 new exam rooms, increasing our capacity for in-demand specialties and programs that are not widely available in the region.





**“As a family we are all trying to help her because as the saying goes, ‘it takes a village to raise a child.’ But I also believe it takes a village to help a child.”**

## Mackenzie’s Story

**“Dr. Barreto has been a lifesaver to our family,”** says Karen, whose daughter Mackenzie was diagnosed at age 6 with Chiari I Malformation after experiencing headaches and neck pain.

Providing psychological care and assessment for pediatric patients who are experiencing cognitive or behavioral problems related to their chronic illness is the specialty of Mackenzie’s “lifesaver,” clinical psychologist Monica Barreto, PhD, Nemours Children’s Clinical Director for Behavioral Health for Primary Care in Central Florida.

At age 12, Mackenzie began having chronic migraines due to Intractable Chronic Paroxysmal Hemicrania, which lead to experiencing anxiety and depression due to her condition.

After several years of living with headaches without much long-term relief, Mackenzie’s mental health was being affected. She began to lose interest in socializing with her friends outside school and even stopped doing some of the things she loved, like competitive Irish dancing.

Thanks to the Nemours Children’s Health Integrated Behavioral Health Initiative, Mackenzie started seeing Dr. Barreto, both in person and through telehealth visits.

“Having that security of Dr. Barreto during this vulnerable time of Mackenzie’s life is exactly what she needs,” says Karen.

Dr. Barreto has given Mackenzie tools to work with when she feels anxious. These coping skills have emboldened Mackenzie to make a speech at her school, in front of 33 students and their families, teachers and the principal -- and so much more.

As they look to Mackenzie’s future, Karen says their long-term goal is to challenge Mackenzie’s fears one step at a time, with Dr. Barreto’s help.

“Although Mackenzie feels isolated because of the migraines, receiving counseling has given her the release she so desperately needs,” says Karen.

“As a family we are all trying to help her because as the saying goes, it takes a village to raise a child. But I also believe it takes a village to help a child.”

## Thank You.

Your generosity is helping Nemours Children's Health transform children's health care — *well beyond medicine*.

Medical care is often confused with overall health, leading to a significant portion of resources being spent on treating clinical issues while neglecting the non-medical root causes of ill health. At Nemours Children's, we are rethinking this approach.

Our **whole child health** focus promotes a holistic view of children's health and overall well-being that includes not just medical care but also social, emotional, and developmental needs – things like safe environments, access to quality education and health care, public safety and economic stability.

By adopting comprehensive whole child health strategies, we aim to ensure that all children can reach their full potential and achieve health equity.

Your generosity and continued support helps us to achieve this vision. **Thank you for playing a role in improve health equity and outcomes for our children.**

