



Glasgow
Children's
Hospital
Charity

**YOUR
IMPACT**

2023





YOUR IMPACT 2022-2023



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Charity

Having navigated the challenges of the pandemic over the past few years, I am delighted to let you know that Glasgow Children's Hospital Charity invested **£3.4 million** in life-changing projects, services and equipment last year.

Our focus on innovation and partnership working has seen the charity continue to evolve.

From establishing a high street presence in the Buchanan Galleries, to launching the Children's Centre for Health Innovation, we have worked hard to secure new opportunities that will support our continued development.



In early 2023, we welcomed a new Chair and Vice Chair, David Kennedy and Gail Thomson, who will lead the Board and charity into a new era, filled with potential.

Thank you for supporting Glasgow Children's Hospital Charity, and for making the projects in this update possible.

Kirsten Watson | CEO

520
children every day

£3.4 million
invested last year

£41 million
invested since 2001

*From our draft unaudited 2022-2023 accounts

Thank you from William

Just three weeks after William's first birthday, his local doctor discovered that he had a brain tumour the size of an orange.

After being rushed from his home in the Scottish Borders to the children's hospital in Glasgow, William underwent emergency surgery to try and remove part of the tumour. Two weeks later, William's parents received the earth-shattering news that the tumour was cancerous.



William in hospital

“The chemo is not gentle. It’s awful. Between cycles, he was home for a few days for fajitas, cuddles and to see his big sister. The Play Team came to see William every single day when we were inpatients. They brought toys and games and would sit with him when we went to the main door to swap over William’s sister, Freya. They brought a little bit of light to a really dark time for us.”

“As all of William’s treatment was during lockdown, his big sister Freya wasn’t allowed on the wards to visit “her baby” as she called him! The smiles from the two of them when they were reunited were indescribable!”

Laura, William’s Mum



William and big sister Freya

Two Years Later

“William just turned three and is doing amazingly! He has had 20 months of clear scans and we are so, so lucky that two years after his battle with cancer started, he is the happiest little guy in the world.”

Caring for Scotland's unborn babies

The Fetal Medicine Unit in Glasgow provides specialist diagnostic facilities and treatment to unborn babies from across Scotland.

Equipped with three treatment rooms, scanning facilities, counselling facilities and separate waiting areas, the unit required refurbishment to create a less clinical and more relaxing environment for expectant mothers and partners.

Arnold Clark provided a transformative donation to create a tranquil, comforting environment that will help to reduce anxiety for expectant parents during uncertain and difficult days.



“We are delighted to continue our support by contributing to this incredible refurbishment. We hope this makes a real difference to its visitors, and provides them with some much-needed comfort during what can be a challenging time.”

Lady Philomena Clark



The magic returns



Our year-round programme of play and special events continued to create memories for children and families that will last a lifetime. After more than two years of restrictions, it was magical to welcome back our volunteers and special visitors to the wards.





Innovation in child health

With a £200,000 investment in the Children's Centre for Health Innovation, Glasgow Children's Hospital Charity has pledged its commitment to bringing the very latest healthcare technology to Scotland.



Bringing Augmented and Virtual Reality to the Hospital

The charity has funded pioneering augmented and virtual reality projects across the Hospital, including the cleft, physiotherapy, play and theatres teams.

“Virtual reality helped me a lot, especially before surgery, because I used to get really worried and anxious. Being able to put the VR set on makes you feel like you’re in a different world - you forget that you’re worried because you’re so distracted. It has made such a big impact on me.”

Grace | Schiehallion Patient

“Virtual reality has been a really useful modality for children who may not be massive fans of more traditional approaches to physiotherapy, such as getting the children to the gym or doing more formalised exercise programmes.”

Cath Lomas | Paediatric Physiotherapist

Celebrating 10 years of Scotland's Milk Bank

In 2013, we provided £192,500 to expand the Donor Milk Bank to become a Scotland-wide service. Our volunteer drivers continue to deliver life-saving donor milk to neonatal units across the country, with more than 20 journeys every week.



6,200

babies have received
donor milk since 2013

2,300

mums have donated
breast milk since 2013



Memory Milk

We are proud to continue supporting the Donor Milk Bank by funding the Memory Milk Gift Initiative in Scotland. This project recognises the strength, courage and generosity of families who choose to donate milk in memory of their baby by adding their names to our memorial tree.

After losing her baby boy Matthew James earlier this year, Charlene chose to continue expressing milk to donate to the Donor Milk Bank:

“This tree means so much to us as it reminds us that our little boy won’t be forgotten, no matter how few people knew him. There are some who bring a light so great to the world that even after they have gone the light remains.”

Charlene | Milk Donor Mum

Crossing the Border for Crohn's: Our £10k Driver Boost

This year, we're delighted to announce £10,000 in new funding towards the delivery of the ground-breaking 'CD-TREAT' diet for children living with Crohn's Disease.

Children on this special diet can eat solid foods, which prevents them experiencing the side-effects of a liquid diet or relying on restrictive feeding tubes. We are extremely grateful to our friends at the Catherine McEwan Foundation for pledging a further £15,000 to this important project.

Volunteers also collect blood, urine, and stool samples on their journeys. These are then analysed on their return to Glasgow as part of the intensive Post Exclusive Enteral Nutrition Study, or iPENS, helping to evaluate its effectiveness. Past research has shown a reduction or elimination of symptoms within eight weeks of following the CD-TREAT diet.

Our volunteer drivers, like John, deliver the meals to children across Scotland every week. Cross-border trips are becoming increasingly regular, with our volunteers delivering the diet as far as London and Essex.



John, volunteer driver



“Without Glasgow Children’s Hospital Charity, the iPENS study would not have been possible. The extra £10,000 in charity funding ensures we are able to deliver this crucial diet to the doorsteps of more families across Scotland and England.”

Professor Konstantinos Gerasimidis



THANK YOU to our phenomenal fundraisers

Every day, we are inspired by the dedication of thousands of fundraisers who go above and beyond to make a difference to our young patients and their families.

These are just a few of our fundraisers that help make a huge impact.

240 Miles in the Desert

Ultra-runner Chris Burnett was inspired to run the Moab 240-mile ultramarathon by his nephew Benjamin, who was a patient for the first 131 days of his life.

“I would think: it was over 100 days for him, this is just four days for me.”

Chris

Congratulations to Chris, who became the first Scot to ever complete the race!



Art with a Heart

Super supporter Steve McGill organised his second urban art auction for which he curated 155 contemporary pieces of art from across the globe, raising a phenomenal £80,230.



From LA > Glasgow > Balloch

Acclaimed composer and long-standing supporter Paul Leonard Morgan raised an incredible £20,000 by running a marathon from his house to LAX Airport, before jumping on a plane and taking part in the Glasgow Kiltwalk!



'Rae' of Sunshine

7 year olds Rae and Lucy raised £401.78 with their cupcake and lemonade stand! "We wanted to raise money for all of the other children who end up in the hospital so they don't feel worried or alone."



Thank you to all of our donors, volunteers and fundraisers for your generous support!



Get Involved



Glasgow Children's Hospital Charity relies on the support of donors, fundraisers and volunteers to make our work possible. Here are just some of the ways that you can help us make a remarkable difference to children in hospital.



Donate

Making a regular gift by setting up a Direct Debit is a fantastic way to show your continued support. With your monthly gift, we can ensure that all of the life-changing projects which require ongoing funding can continue at the children's hospital.



Take Part in an Event

We have a full calendar of events including challenges, sponsored walks, 10k and Marathon races, skydives and dinners. There are fundraising events for everyone!



Fundraise in Your Work or Community

Whether you organise a solo fundraiser, or take part with family, friends and colleagues too - every pound raised will go a long way in supporting seriously ill children in hospital, their families and our hospital heroes.



Volunteer

No matter how much time you have to give, we would love to welcome you to our team of volunteers!



0141 212 8750 | info@glasgowchildrenshospitalcharity.org
www.GlasgowChildrensHospitalCharity.org

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