



Glasgow  
Children's  
Hospital  
Charity

# Your Impact

Summer 2022 Update





# 20 YEARS OF IMPACT



Glasgow  
Children's  
Hospital  
Charity



In 2001, Yorkhill Children's Foundation was formed. Although our name has changed, our commitment to the children we support is as strong as it was 20 years ago.

## In hospital, life can change in a moment.

The impact that your donations have had on the lives of countless families over 20 years is simply immeasurable.

The stories in this update are but a momentary glimpse into the lives of the families you have helped.

Today, more than 500 more children will need your help. As they approach the hospital for the first or the last time, we'll walk through those doors together – with your hand in theirs. Thank you.

**Kirsten Watson | CEO**

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# 520

children every day

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# £2.2 million

invested in 2021-22

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# £41 million

invested since 2001

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\*From our draft unaudited 2021-22 accounts

# 500

# days

# with your hand in theirs

Kaelah's story



Kallie takes Kaelah's hand





Kaelah

In April, Kaelah spent her 500th day in hospital. Thanks to you, we've been with her since day one.

Throughout their journey, Kaelah and her family – including her twin Kallie – have benefitted from a host of projects that are only possible thanks to your donations.

**“Although we’ve endured some of the most heart-breaking and devastating days of our lives over the past 16 months, the charity has helped us make precious family memories. Thank you for helping to make that possible.”**

Lauren, Kaelah and Kallie's mum



Kaelah & Kallie with their mum & dad

## vCreate video messaging:

“It was so special waking up to new videos from NICU. vCreate gave us the reassurance that she was settled, and the feeling that we were never missing any of the important little things.”

## MoVE physiotherapy project:

“We'd been longing for the day we would be able to take both girls outside to enjoy the sunshine. This day was so special to us as Kallie and Kaelah were reunited after 2 months apart.”

## CDH 2022

In April 2022 we proudly supported the International Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia Symposium. This important event brought together experts to share cutting-edge advances in CDH research and care, to improve the lives of children with CDH like Kaelah.

# Bobby goes the extra mile for Ailey

Six-year-old Ailey from Ayrshire has the rare genetic disorder Wolf-Hirschhorn syndrome.

Ailey and her mum previously visited the hospital in Glasgow for regular sleep studies, as Ailey's condition can cause her to wake up to 20 times per hour. Each study involved four trips, covering more than 100 miles, in 48 hours.

Now, Ailey can do her sleep studies at home thanks to volunteers like Bobby, who deliver and collect the specialist equipment from families across Scotland.

**Thank you to all of our dedicated volunteers who make our work possible.**



**“I volunteer because my wee granddaughter Robyn was born with a serious heart defect and Down’s Syndrome. I really enjoy supporting this important service. The look of gratitude on the faces of the families when we arrive at the door is just fantastic.”**

Bobby, volunteer driver

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# 1,096 miles

travelled each week by our dedicated volunteers

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Our play programme forms the foundation of our support at the hospital. Every child deserves respite from the difficulties of their health condition, and the chance to laugh and play.

Thanks to you, we were once again able to commit more than £519,000 to our Play Programme last year.

# The magic of play

Haleema celebrates Eid in hospital.





**“Without the Play Team and the Teddy Hospital, I know that our visits would be a lot more stressful for TJ and myself as a parent.”**

Kirsty, TJ's Mum



**“The charity’s projects are priceless. Grace always gets excited about the Play Team. They constantly come by with things to do, keeping Grace occupied with crafts, Lego and activities. Best of all, they make her giggle.”**

Robert, Grace's Dad

# Art therapy at Skye House

Our weekly art therapy sessions at Skye House help the physical and emotional wellbeing of young people with severe mental health conditions.

We are proud to work in partnership with the Teapot Trust to provide this important project.

**“I found this experience highly enjoyable, exciting, and helpful to just distract myself from whatever is going on in my head.”**

Young person, Skye House

# At the heart, from the start

1,527

babies were cared for in Glasgow's three neonatal units last year. Your support is a comfort blanket for these babies and their families, and has helped to fund specialist equipment and services in each unit.



## Making memories with Myles

“I got the Little Inky Feet prints turned into a necklace. Although I couldn't take Myles home, it felt like I was still taking a part of him home each night.”

Rebecca, Myles' mum



Scan to watch Rebecca and the nurses making memories with baby Myles



# Willa the flower girl 400 miles from home

6 year-old Willa was rushed to hospital in Glasgow from Shetland in April 2022. Willa had four major operations in five weeks to treat Craniopharyngioma - a rare brain tumour.

From the enhanced equipment used by the neurosurgical team, to the play team, family support services and wee treats, Willa and her family have benefitted from the impact of your donations throughout their journey. **Thank you.**



With a little help from the nurses, dad made sure that Willa could still be a flower girl at her cousin's wedding

**Thank you to Willa's family and friends for their generous donations**



# Shaping the future of child health in Scotland

**After 20 years, we're still taking every step forward together – with your hand in theirs.**

With your help we can remain at the forefront of paediatric health, and ensure that children from across Scotland receive world-class care here in Glasgow.

In 2021 we invested £200,000 to support the creation of the **Children's Centre for Health Innovation**. The Centre will support NHS staff as they work on pioneering projects with the potential to transform treatment and healthcare for a wide range of conditions. This builds on a number of existing, highly-impactful digital innovations developed by clinical teams with our support, helping to improve the care and health of children both locally and further afield. Many more children and families in the future will benefit from the exciting developments enabled by the Centre.





## Epilepsy in Scotland – a breakthrough

We were proud to contribute to research by Dr Joe Symonds, whose research into epilepsy was recently published in the leading neurology journal, Brain.

Dr Symonds discovered that the most disadvantaged children in Scotland have a significantly higher incidence of epilepsy. This important discovery will help to shape and improve the support available to these children and their families in the future.

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# £290,000

invested in research, education & training last year

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## Meet the Tonsil Fairy

Megan Clapperton is at the forefront of research into tonsillitis in the UK, and recently presented her breakthrough results at the internationally renowned Microscience Microscopy Congress.

Megan's PhD, funded by the charity, can help us learn more about how best to test and treat tonsillitis, with the ultimate aim of preventing the need for surgery.

**When a wee one has their tonsils removed in Glasgow, Megan takes them away to study in her lab – earning her the nickname Tonsil Fairy!**

# Jack's Journey



# Generous Jack has been a part of Glasgow Children's Hospital Charity for the past 10 years. A patient since birth, Jack and his family raised funds in 2012, before starring in our Grand Prize Draw campaign with Arnold Clark in 2021.

"The work of the charity is a large part of the work done in the children's hospital. The two go hand-in-hand with one another.

There's not just one person involved in a child's care in hospital. There are so many different facets surrounding the child's experience, and that's where Glasgow Children's Hospital Charity comes in.

I see it like a jigsaw with lots of pieces. **Everyone has a part to play.**"

Jack's mum Jacqueline



**For 20 years, you have helped children like Jack. Thank you for being there for those who will need you tomorrow.**

Sponsored by Balmore Group



# 20th Anniversary Sponsored Walk

4 September | Kelvingrove Park, Glasgow  
3k or 10k



Glasgow  
Children's  
Hospital  
Charity



Join families, NHS staff and patients at our sponsored walk & fun day as we celebrate the charity's 20th anniversary. Scan to find out more, or visit our website:  
[www.GlasgowChildrensHospitalCharity.org](http://www.GlasgowChildrensHospitalCharity.org)



0141 212 8750 | [info@glasgowchildrenshospitalcharity.org](mailto:info@glasgowchildrenshospitalcharity.org)  
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