

FRONT COVER



**Every BC Kid Deserves
A Healthy Childhood**





**We're here for one very simple reason...
we can't treat children like adults.**



Since our doors opened more than two decades ago, BC Children's Hospital has been on a mission. This mission involves working hard so every child in BC can have access to the finest pediatric care in the country.

Our needs are driven by the simple fact that children cannot be treated like adults. Tracking causes and identifying cures for childhood diseases is a much more complex and arduous

process. There are simply more things that can go wrong with children's health.

As a result, the need for research in all areas of childhood disease is extremely high. The need for a wide range of specialized equipment and expertise is enormous. All of this translates into the need for funding support. "The smaller the patient, the larger the need."

BC Children's Hospital has been making incredible strides in caring for BC's sickest children. There has been a true revolution in the quality of paediatric care which your support has made possible.

Support that will continue to be vital in the future.

Every BC Kid Deserves A Healthy Childhood



**With more than 150,000 patient visits each year,
the need for specialized child-based health care is essential.**



The facts are clear.

The causes of most childhood cancers are simply not yet known. Congenital heart defects in children differ entirely from adult-acquired cardiovascular conditions. Children need an average of 40% more nursing care, both medically and psychologically, than adults. There is a much higher occurrence of airway and intestinal infections in children as compared to adults. And minor infections are more likely to plague children with only partially developed

immune systems, and can often lead to more serious infections such as meningitis, pneumonia and blood poisoning.

Finding solutions for these and the many conditions our staff encounter is a daunting challenge, both for our expert staff here at BC Children's Hospital and our research teams BC Research Institute for Children's and Women's Health. It's a challenge that is with us constantly and one that drives our focus on outstanding paediatric health care research.

Research that changes lives every year, every day and every minute – today and into the future.

We're working hard to make a real difference in the lives of children. Our responsibility and our needs are great – as are the rewards of seeing the future in the smiling face of a child.

Every BC Kid Deserves A Healthy Childhood

CENTRE SPREAD LEFT



HALEY'S FIRST HALLOWEEN

Haley was released in January of 2003 and is doing very well, which is how we love to see all our stories end.

Haley was born four months early and weighed just over one pound. Her survival was quite simply a miracle.

Little Haley McFie is a surviving twin, who was born premature as the result of a potentially fatal condition known as "twin-to-twin transfusion".

Haley was born nearly four months premature weighing a mere 1 pound 4.5 ounces.

Seconds after she was born, Haley, unable to breathe on her own, was rushed to our Special Care nursery.

Here she spent the next 175 days with our caregivers, who treated their tiny, helpless charge with the utmost care and skill. The ventilators in our Special Care Nursery were Haley's lifeline. And the caregivers were her special protectors, as Haley's life was in real danger.

Over a six-month period Haley underwent 4 separate operations on her bowels, her heart and her eyes in order to help her undeveloped body cope.

The miracle of Haley's survival is just one of many such stories that unfold each year, as we care for more than 1,500 critically ill babies annually.

Ten years ago, many simply would not have survived.



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CENTRE SPREAD RIGHT



Most kids spend their early years doing battle on the playground. Sydney Walker spent hers literally fighting for her life.

Sydney Walker was born with a life-threatening condition called hypoplastic right heart syndrome. At just 5 days old, she underwent her first open heart surgery and very nearly did not survive, as the doctors were having difficulty re-starting her tiny heart.

But Sydney did survive, because she was a real fighter and because of the care she received at BC Children's Hospital. Her dogged determination,

boundless energy and drive is something that would continue to help Sydney. Over the next four years she endured two more open heart surgeries and several other major procedures.

The early years of Sydney's life were filled with operating rooms, consultations, endless batteries of tests and long hospital stays. The hospital became an essential part of Sydney's life and will be so for the rest of her childhood.

For us, Sydney serves as a powerful symbol of what we are constantly striving to achieve here at BC Children's Hospital. The best in care has made it possible for her to have as normal a childhood as possible for someone with a serious heart condition.



A REAL TEAM EFFORT

Sydney Walker's survival is a triumphant combination of one little girl's determination, the caring professionals at the BC Children's hospital and the ongoing generosity of donors like you.

Every BC Kid Deserves A Healthy Childhood



Providing the finest in treatment for BC's kids is something we can only do with your help.

There are more than one million kids in BC.

Any child with a serious disease or injury will use the services of BC Children's Hospital.

As western Canada's premiere paediatric research centre, our children benefit greatly from immediate access to the most up-to-date treatments.

In order to continue providing the very best in care, we rely on support from generous people like you.

We believe that every BC child deserves a healthy childhood.

We're doing all we can to keep that promise...and with your help, we can.

For more information about BC Children's Hospital, or to lend your support with a donation please send in the attached form or call 1-888-663-3033 or visit www.bcchf.ca



Every BC Kid Deserves A Healthy Childhood

The smaller the patient, the larger the need, the more important every donation becomes.

YES.

I'd like to help you make sure every BC kid has a real childhood.

Mr. Mrs. Miss Mr & Mrs. Dr.

Name.....

Address.....

City.....P.C.....

Phone.....

Email.....

Donors of \$50 or more receive a one year subscription to our magazine, "Speaking of Children". Tax receipts are automatically issued for donations over \$20. For donations under \$20, a tax receipt will be issued upon request.

Please send me more information in making a gift in my will.

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Monthly Gift of \$12 \$18 \$25 Other \$_____

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Monthly Donors: I hereby authorize BC Children's Hospital Foundation to make automatic monthly withdrawals from my bank account or credit card, as indicated. I understand that I may cancel this authorization at any time by notifying the Foundation. I will receive a tax receipt for the total amount of my monthly gifts on an annual basis.

Please process my gift on the 1st or the 15th of the month
I have enclosed a cheque marked 'void' or provided my credit card information above.

Signature

Charitable Registration # 11885 2433 RR0001



BACK COVER

**Our goal -- to make sure every BC kid
has a childhood -- depends on you.**

**Please tear off and fill in this donation form
and mail it back to us with your donation.
Together we can work to make sure that every BC kid
gets the best possible chance at a happy and normal childhood.**

The kids are depending on you.

Thank you for your generosity.



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