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A Publication of the Children's Hospital of Georgia

MIRACLES in the MAKING

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Children's Hospital of Georgia
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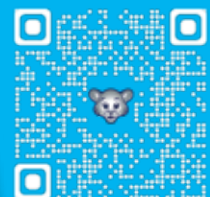
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Looking for a unique way to utilize your donation to Children's Hospital of Georgia?

Take a look at our digital copy of the 2022 Children's Hospital Giving Guide. You'll find ideas in a variety of gift amounts. In addition, you may choose to give to a specific unit in the hospital, such as the NICU or the pediatric Emergency Department.

Scan the QR Code to visit the Giving Guide.



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In This Issue

3

Program
Spotlight:
Dance
Marathon

4

Meet
Ashanti

6

A Gift to
Support
ECMO

7

Publix
Campaign
Recap

8

Where
Your
Dollars Go

10

Partner
Spotlight:
WRDW-TV

11

Save
the Date



Miracle Treat Day is coming to Dairy Queen!

There is nothing sweeter than helping kids being
treated at the Children's Hospital of Georgia.



Save the date for July 28, 2022!

For every Blizzard Treat sold on Miracle Treat Day
at participating DQ locations, \$1 or more will be
donated to your CMN Hospital,
the Children's Hospital of Georgia.



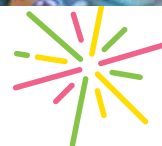
Children's
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**Children's
Miracle Network
Hospitals**



Dancing to Raise Money



Dancing promotes fitness and is often entertaining. Interestingly, dancing can also be a successful activity for raising money.

The Miracle Network Dance Marathon is a movement that brings together students in colleges, universities and high schools across North America who dance (and coordinate related events) in support of Children's Miracle Network Hospitals. Children's Hospital of Georgia is fortunate to benefit from two significant Dance Marathon events, one at Augusta University and the other at Georgia Southern in Statesboro.

The Augusta University dance marathon event, called Jaguar Miracle, was established in 2016. So far it has brought in more than \$143,000 to benefit Children's Hospital of Georgia. Each year the Jaguar Miracle Executive Board spreads the word to students on the AU Campus about the thousands of patients who benefit from care at Children's Hospital of Georgia.

Not only is Children's Hospital of Georgia Augusta's only children's hospital, but it's located on the Health Sciences Campus of Augusta University. With all AU student housing located on the Health Sciences Campus, the Children's Hospital is practically in the students' backyard.

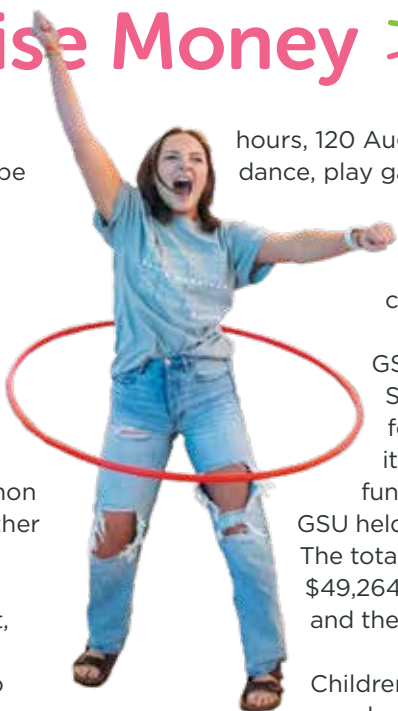
In March 2022, Jaguar Miracle hosted their first normal Dance Marathon since the pandemic. Their mission was to "Change Kids' Health to Change the Future." For eight

hours, 120 Augusta University students came together to dance, play games and, most importantly, hear miracle stories from the patients and families impacted by Children's Hospital of Georgia. Jaguar Miracle ended the night celebrating over \$28,300 raised.

GS Miracle at Georgia Southern University in Statesboro has raised more than \$125,000 for Children's Hospital of Georgia since it began. In celebration of its fifth year of fundraising for Children's Hospital, students at GSU held a five-hour dance marathon March 5, 2022. The total announced at the close of the event was \$49,264. However, donations continued to roll in, and the final amount raised was \$50,812.

Children's Hospital of Georgia leaders, team members, and patients and families are extremely grateful for the fundraising efforts of students at Georgia Southern and Augusta University. As a not-for-profit hospital, Children's relies on every dollar raised to help ensure no child or family is turned away from receiving the care they need, no matter the cost.

Miracle Network Dance Marathons benefit the student organizers too. Students who are involved in a campus dance marathon organization spend a year gaining valuable experience in leadership, teamwork and nonprofit business skills while raising funds and awareness for their local CMN Hospital. Plus, these are all experiences that can be included on a resume.





Meet Ashanti

In 2020 Ashanti Head was enjoying things most 8-year-old girls do. She was doing well in her classes, she was healthy, and she liked participating in activities at school and at home with her sisters. Little did her family know that everything would change by the end of the year.

“Our entire family contracted COVID-19 during Thanksgiving of 2020,” explained Alvina Jackson, Ashanti’s mother. “It was one of the worst Thanksgivings we ever had, but Ashanti, ironically, was the least sick out of everyone. She was the one who helped me with her sisters, as well, during that time.”

The family overcame COVID-19, and they all got better. Then, the week of Christmas, Ashanti was diagnosed with strep throat, and her pediatrician prescribed antibiotics to

treat it. Despite the medicine, Ashanti’s fever would not go down. It kept getting worse.

“New Year’s Day of 2021, I woke up to go check on Ashanti, because she had been so sick all week,” said Jackson. “I went into her room, and she was very lethargic. Her eyes were rolled back in her head, but she was conscious.”

It was then that Jackson knew something was very wrong and rushed to get Ashanti dressed and to the emergency room. By the time they arrived at Children’s Hospital of Georgia, Ashanti was in and out of consciousness, and her blood pressure was dangerously low. While Jackson watched helplessly, a team of physicians and nurses worked frantically to get Ashanti hooked up to various



“*We’re blessed that Ashanti’s doing well and she makes progress every day. We’re truly thankful for all of the staff and doctors at Children’s Hospital of Georgia.*”

machines and record her vital signs. Ashanti’s heart was damaged, and both her liver and kidneys were failing. Her condition was critical.

During an eight-day stay in the pediatric intensive care unit, she was cared for by a pediatric cardiologist, rheumatologist and several pediatric intensivists. Pediatric nurses administered a series of steroids, other medications and intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIG) therapy to stabilize her blood pressure and increase antibodies to help her body fight back.

“It was touch and go those first three days,” said Jackson. “It was a very scary time, but I can tell you that there are angels on Earth – the doctors there seemed like a team of them. Every morning while Ashanti was in ICU, they would bring me in as they were making decisions and discuss her case.”

The final diagnosis was severe multisystem inflammatory syndrome in children (MIS-C), which is a condition where different body parts become inflamed (such as the heart, lungs, kidneys, brain, skin, eyes, or gastrointestinal organs), and myocarditis, an inflammation of the heart muscle. Children’s Hospital experts determined that complications from COVID-19 caused Ashanti’s condition.

Jackson and Ashanti spoke highly of the doctors, nurses and the care Ashanti received at Children’s Hospital of Georgia. They specifically praised Dr. Julisa M. Patel, who specializes in pediatric rheumatology, and Dr. Pushpa Shivaram, a pediatric cardiologist.

“Dr. Patel and Dr. Shivaram have really become like family to us,” said Jackson. “They’re really compassionate and caring. The doctors still call and send me emails to check up on Ashanti. She even looks forward to her doctor’s appointments. Dr. Patel will ask Ashanti questions about

her outside life, what’s her life like as a 10-year-old and questions about school. Dr. Patel’s concern is really comforting as we tread this journey.”

The good news is, Ashanti is on the road to recovery. Her heart has improved, and her liver and kidneys are in good condition. She has resumed many of her daily activities from before her illness, including drawing, watching the Disney Channel and playing basketball.

Ashanti is looking forward to going to two different summer camps this year, including one at Camp Lakeside sponsored by the Children’s Hospital. She said her favorite subject in school is science, and she aspires to work in a laboratory someday.

Kelsey McCullough, a Children’s Miracle Network Philanthropy Coordinator at Children’s Hospital, asked Ashanti if she would be interested in becoming a Children’s Hospital of Georgia Ambassador and share her “miracle story” with other children and their families who may be experiencing health care challenges. Ashanti, a quiet and somewhat reserved child, wholeheartedly agreed. She knows how close she came to not making it when she was in the ICU and hopes that her story will help and inspire others.

“I’m aware I almost died. I’m here, and there’s a possibility (without Children’s Hospital) I might not be,” Ashanti admitted. “I want to do it (the ambassador program), because I hope that my story can make a difference and can help another child that may be going through the same thing. And help them to not give up.”

“We’re humbly grateful,” added Jackson. “We’re blessed that Ashanti’s doing well and she makes progress every day. We’re truly thankful for all of the staff and doctors at Children’s Hospital of Georgia.”



Andy and Connie Jones GIVE \$350,000 for Pediatric ECMO

Andy Jones has two key takeaways to share with everyone about Children's Hospital of Georgia.

The first is this: "I know intuitively that the care and quality of the people we have at Children's Hospital is second to none. If one of my children was sick, that's where I'd take them. No question," said Jones, owner of the Gerald Jones Auto Group and a longtime supporter of the Children's Hospital of Georgia.

As the past chairman of the Children's Hospital of Georgia Philanthropy Board, Jones could be called out for favoritism. But the facts speak for themselves. Over the past decade, Children's Hospital of Georgia has been ranked among the highest performing in the nation for pediatric quality and safety when compared to pediatric care at peer academic health centers across the U.S.

Jones' second point is the outstanding medical advances and innovation that draw patients and families to Children's Hospital of Georgia. "Advances places like M.D. Anderson, Duke and St. Jude do not have," Jones boasts. "Patients come here from Europe, the Middle East and, of course, from all over Georgia and South Carolina. You wouldn't think that, but Children's has a broad reach."

One of those medical advances with a broad reach is the ECMO program. The first ECMO machine in the Southeast was established in 1985 at Children's Hospital of Georgia, and for more than three decades, ECMO has provided life-saving care to more than 650 infants and children with critical illnesses at Augusta's only children's hospital.

Extracorporeal membrane oxygenation, or ECMO as it is more commonly called, works like a heart-lung bypass machine in infants and children. ECMO helps stabilize a young patient's lungs and/or heart while an underlying disease or issue is managed. The ECMO system uses a pump to remove blood from the baby or child, infuse the blood with oxygen, and then re-circulates the oxygen-rich blood through an artificial lung and back into the child's bloodstream.

So far this year, five children have been placed on pediatric ECMO and two babies on neonatal ECMO at Children's. The demand for pediatric ECMO has increased so much that Children's needed another machine so that no pediatric patient would have to be turned away from ECMO care.

Andy and his wife Connie Jones decided to meet this vital need for the hospital by giving \$350,000 to Children's to purchase the additional ECMO machine.

ECMO treatment is considered for infants, children and adolescents with a variety of illness and injuries, such as aspiration pneumonia; asthma; congenital diaphragmatic hernia; congenital heart disease – supportive treatment before or after cardiac surgery; meconium aspiration syndrome (MAS); myocarditis; near drowning; pulmonary hypertension; sepsis; severe pneumonia or sudden cardiac arrest.

ECMO can be used for a period of days, or weeks, to give the child's organs a chance to develop, heal and recover.

ECMO is available 24/7 and is **(continued on page 7)**

Publix supports Children's with June campaign

Something exciting happens each June at Publix stores. Specifically, Publix raises money for Children's Hospital of Georgia, the Children's Miracle Network Hospitals regional designated member hospital, through a 12-day register campaign.

This year's Publix CMN campaign was held June 1-12. Publix associates encouraged shoppers to donate \$1, \$3, \$5 or more during store checkout. Customers who chose to support children's hospitals received miracle coupons valued at \$20 in discounts on leading vendor products.

As the official CMN Hospitals member hospital, the Children's Hospital of Georgia benefits through the fundraising campaigns of 15 Publix locations in the Augusta and Savannah markets. Over the past five years alone, these 15 Publix stores have raised more than \$180,000 to benefit programs and patient care at Children's Hospital of Georgia.



Publix has been a CMN Hospitals partner since 1992. During this 30-year partnership, Publix has raised more than \$52 million in support of 27 children's hospitals throughout the Southeast. Children's Hospital of Georgia is thankful for the support of Publix associates and customers and looks forward to continuing our partnership for years to come.

Publix.



Children's
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Hospitals

ECMO: Jones family supports personally and professionalism continued from page 6

operated by teams of highly trained critical care medicine specialists in the NICU or PICU, depending on the age and diagnosis of the patient. These expert teams at Children's are able to care for up to four patients simultaneously who require this intense, lifesaving therapy.

Children's is the only hospital outside of Atlanta in Georgia that provides ECMO therapy. The team at the Children's Hospital is also highly acclaimed, having earned the Gold Award for Excellence in Life Support from the Extracorporeal Life Support Organization (ELSO) consecutively since 2006.

Another endorsement for the quality of care provided at Children's Hospital of Georgia, U.S. News & World Report and Parents magazine recognize the ELSO Award as criteria for top pediatric hospitals.

"I don't think people realize how blessed we are to have the Children's Hospital in Augusta," Jones said. "It's such a wonderful asset, and we have got to help make it better known."

This is one of the reasons that Jones serves on the Children's Hospital Philanthropy Board and why he personally and professionally supports Children's.

Last summer the dealerships within the Jones auto group raised more than \$50,000 for Children's through a special "Buy a Car, Support Children's Hospital" promotion.

"I'm always trying to encourage people to give to the Children's Hospital," said Jones, explaining that the ECMO gift was something he felt strongly about. "It's hard for me to simply go ask somebody for money. But if I can go to them and say, 'Hey, I ponied up personally, then it makes a huge difference.'"

As a not-for-profit, the Children's Hospital still has many needs.

"What we are looking for are the big families that can give big. Hopefully, they will read about our gift, comment on it, and it will open the door for a conversation about another donation."



Thank you

How your donations help

As the number of trauma and pediatric surgical cases at Children's increases, performing consecutive minimally invasive surgeries without delay due to instrument turnover has become more challenging. The availability of precise and adequate instruments is critical to the delivery of top-notch surgical care to the patients and families who depend on Children's Hospital of Georgia. Here is a list of equipment critical that your donations have funded:

AESCLAP NEURO MICRO INSTRUMENTS \$6,700

Children's Hospital of Georgia is one of only three health systems (AU Health) across Georgia and South Carolina with a dedicated pediatric neurosurgery program. Doctors who practice neurosurgery face evolving challenges from a rapidly changing patient population and increasingly complex diseases. Surgical procedures that reduce patient trauma have made minimally invasive procedures one of the main trends in surgery. However, protecting close-by organ regions and reducing or preventing functional deficiency remain a challenging task. For this reason, a specially designed set of fine instruments such as the Aesculap Neuro Micro Instruments are necessary to perform these surgeries. Children's is committed to improving patient outcomes by also using innovative tools like these in pediatric surgery. The use of these instruments is known to provide incomparable operating sensitivity, unsurpassed instrument control, comfort, and performance.

STROZ BABY LOTTA SET. \$29,000

If your baby needs surgery, you want the surgeons to be equipped with the most precise viewing scopes possible. Minimally invasive technologies are opening new options in the field of infant neurosurgery. Endoscopes with different viewing angles allow a view of the anatomy of the brain, which is not possible with a microscope. The use of special endoscopes and dedicated micro-instruments enable the surgeon to perform more advanced operative interventions.

KARL STROZ LAPAROSCOPIC SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS \$71,000

Minimally invasive surgery in the management of blunt and penetrating pediatric trauma has evolved in the past 30 years. General pediatric surgical procedures, such as appendectomy and cholecystectomy, are routinely performed at the Children's Hospital of Georgia where utilizing minimally invasive surgical techniques is the standard of care. Laparoscopy and thoracoscopic approaches possess high levels of diagnostic accuracy. In the pediatric trauma population, minimally invasive surgery offers both diagnostic and therapeutic potential, as well as reduced postoperative pain, a decreased rate of postoperative complications, shortened hospital stay, and potentially reduced cost.

You make a significant impact on children's health

THE ZAKY HUG \$100

Touch is absolutely crucial for human development. Studies have shown that babies who are not touched and snuggled will suffer from failure to thrive. Unfortunately, many babies in the NICU cannot be snuggled and loved on by a parent as they are too vulnerable. For these babies, the Zaky HUG can be used to give a warm hug even when mom or dad are away. The Zaky Hug looks like a pair of soft gloves that simulate the size, shape, touch, weight, and scent of the parent's hands that hold the baby. Zaky Hugs help the NICU provide a positive sensory experience based on touch for every baby during the moments when a parent or caregiver is unavailable.



ENTHERMICS — IV FLUID BAG WARMER. . . . \$2,500

When your baby or child needs IV fluids, this device helps keep fluids warm and ready to go at the point of care. It also promotes safety, improves processes and recovery time by efficiently warming patients from admission to discharge.

TURTLE TUBS. \$6,000

Specially designed Turtle Tubs can be used for babies in both the newborn and NICU units. Swaddle bathing is an evidence-based method for newborn bathing that reduces cold stress and improves thermoregulation without the need for overhead heat. Turtle tub baths utilize disposable liners for consecutive usage and prevention. Also, because they are portable, turtle tubs can be utilized at the bedside to bathe the infant while also educating the families about safest bath techniques.



TRANSPORT ISOLETTE \$18,000

Children's utilizes the highest quality infant transport isolettes to safely move babies for routine and emergency care and treatment. The ATOM V-808 Transcapsule Infant Transport Isolette is used for approximately 350 babies per year, transporting newborns from Labor and Delivery to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, as well as transporting infants to procedures within the hospital.

PANDA WARMER. . . \$20,000

The Panda infant resuscitation station/warmer from GE Healthcare is used for every newborn delivered at AU Medical Center and Children's Hospital of Georgia. To be sure our most vulnerable patients are getting the care they need, Children's recently purchased **two additional Panda warmers**. This will allow the hospital to keep our warmer/resuscitation stations in the respite nursery while having one set up and at the ready for precipitous deliveries in the OB Emergency Department. This impacts patient safety and nursing efficiency in care during emergent/urgent situations.



HIGH FREQUENCY JET VENTILATORS \$47,000

Every breath is vital, especially when it comes to vulnerable preterm babies whose lungs may not be fully developed. Premies require a variety of modes to support their respiratory needs. As the region's highest level (Level IV) NICU, Children's Hospital of Georgia now has ample high frequency jet ventilators to meet these vital health care needs.

TV partner supports Children's Hospital for more than 30 years



When it comes to hometown support, Children's Hospital of Georgia can count on WRDW-TV News 12/NBC 26. For more than three decades the local TV partner has been sharing the stories of "Miracle Kids" and their families.

Their coverage and assistance in organizing an annual telethon, which started before the current Children's Hospital was even built, demonstrates their longtime commitment to promoting health care for children. Because of this partnership, WRDW/WAGT has formed a special connection to Children's through the years.

"I don't know that I can recall a time WRDW/WAGT was not involved with the Children's Hospital," explains Estelle Parsley, Vice President of News for WRDW-TV News 12/NBC 26. "Many years ago, when I was a reporter and anchor, part of gearing up for the annual telethon for the hospital included a station tour of the NICU. I had never seen anything like that. Tiny babies, just a little bigger than a Barbie doll, being cared for by a team of nurses and doctors... those babies would go on to survive and thrive. Even today, that image of those tiny bodies, legs, faces, stays with me."

The telethon later became the Children's Miracle Network Hospitals Celebration, and the unveiling of a big check, displaying the total of funds raised all year for the Children's Hospital was the focal point. There is no longer a telethon, however WRDW-TV News 12/NBC 26 continues to support fundraising for Children's Hospital by being the TV partner for the annual iHeart Media Cares for Kids Radiothon. TV stories about the hospital and the patients cared for help drive support during Radiothon weekend.

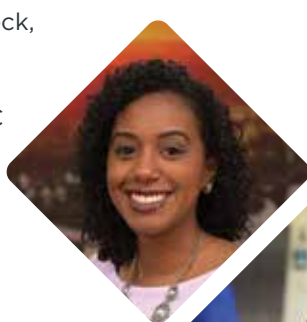
In addition to this annual TV coverage, WRDW-TV News 12/NBC 26 recently launched Miracle Monday. On the first Monday of each month during the 6 p.m. broadcast, WRDW-TV News 12/NBC 26 highlights different

programs and services offered at Children's or shares a special story featuring one of the Children's Hospital ambassador families.

"The biggest goal with Miracle Monday is to show people that miracles really do happen at this hospital, and it's being made possible through philanthropic support," said Zayna Haliburton, an anchor, reporter and producer with WRDW-TV News 12/NBC 26. "I look forward to sharing a Miracle Monday story each month not only to hopefully warm someone's heart, or bring a smile to their face, but to educate myself and our viewers about what this hospital does and the families they are helping... Miracles truly do happen at the Children's Hospital of Georgia, and my Miracle Monday stories are evidence of that."

"So much has changed over the years," Parsley said. "But what hasn't changed is the bond our station feels to CHOG because of the bond CHOG has with our community... to be able to know all the money raised by our community stays here in our community means we're directly helping our friends, our families, our co-workers. That's why more than 35 years later, we're still sharing stories of the medical miracles that happen right here."

“*The biggest goal with Miracle Monday is to show people that miracles really do happen at this hospital, and it's being made possible through philanthropic support.*”



Save the Date



Dairy Queen Miracle Treat Day: July 28

www.dairyqueen.com/en-us/miracle-treat-day/

For every Blizzard® Treat sold on Miracle Treat Day at participating DQ® locations, \$1 or more will be donated to your local Children's Miracle Network Hospital. Each year, the DQ system donates millions to local children's hospitals across the U.S. and Canada. All contributions are made to local Children's Miracle Network Hospitals to directly help kids in your community.



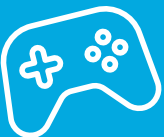
Ace Bucket Days: August 5 – 7

Ace Bucket Days are coming. Stop by Ace Hardware between Friday, Aug. 5 and Sunday, Aug. 7 and buy a versatile 5-gallon bucket for just \$5 in support of Children's Hospital of Georgia, the local Children's Miracle Network Hospital. Your \$5 donation to the Children's Hospital not only gets you a one-of-a-kind Children's Miracle Network Hospitals-branded bucket, but you will also receive 20% off on almost everything you can fit inside the bucket. This 3-day event is your only time to get these limited-edition, CMN buckets! Visit your local Ace Hardware store during Ace Bucket Days to purchase a bucket and support children's health. Thank you, Ace Hardware, for your continued support of Children's Hospital of Georgia!



Brave the Shave: August 25

Brave the shave for a child with cancer by raising money and shaving your head. Cancer remains the leading cause of death by disease for children under the age of 15. According to the American Childhood Cancer Organization, about 15,780 children age 19 and under are diagnosed with cancer each year. In recognition of National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month and in support of children who may lose their hair during cancer treatments, Children's Hospital of Georgia is hosting its annual Brave the Shave event. Participants are asked to raise \$100 or more and then shave their heads on Aug. 25.



Extra Life Game Day: November 5

Extra Life unites thousands of gamers around the world to play games in support of their local Children's Miracle Network Hospital. Since its inception in 2008, Extra Life has raised more than \$70 million for sick and injured kids. Sign up today at www.extra-life.org. Dedicate a day of play for kids in your community! Be a hero.



22nd Annual iHeart Media Cares for Kids Radiothon: December 8 – 10

The sounds of phones ringing, bells dingling, Christmas music and laughter will fill the lobby of Children's Hospital of Georgia during the 22nd annual iHeartMedia Cares for Kids Radiothon. Mark your calendar for the Children's Hospital's biggest annual fundraiser, which airs on WBBQ 104.3, 105.7 The Bull, and Kiss 96.3 on Dec. 8-10, 2022.

For more information on any of these events, please contact the Children's Hospital philanthropy team at (706) 721-4004 or email castewart@augusta.edu.