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> 100% of all gifts and proceeds benefit local children.



You could say Pearl is a miracle. She overcame medical challenges by the age of two that most people won't ever experience. At just four-months-old, Pearl suffered from congestive heart failure and underwent months of treatment. Her heart did mend but she would face another challenge in her first year of life when she was diagnosed with kidney cancer and her right kidney was removed.

A kidney transplant would follow when she was two. For the past ten years, Pearl has taken as many 28 pills a day and makes monthly trips to St. Louis to see doctors who monitor her health. Her body is now rejecting the kidney she received which is not uncommon given the length of time since her transplant. Pearl's mom, Charity, says the goal now is to keep her kidneys functioning as best as possible. "She receives a monthly treatment of antibodies to keep her strong," explains Charity. Children's Miracle Network Hospitals helps pay for her trips to St. Louis each month.

Despite facing the current pandemic in our country, Pearl and her family are trying to live as normal a life as possible. They do limit any trips outside their home, sanitize everything they come in contact with and always wear a face mask in public. Pearl will return to school this fall in Fair Grove where she will be entering the 6th grade and is excited to see her friends again!



Summer 2020

PUT YOUR MONEY WHERE THE MIRACLES ARE.



here to serve

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Kid-Friendly Care

Towering trees, colorful murals, and a calming, kid-centric atmosphere fill CoxHealth's new Pediatric Specialties Center, which is now officially open for young patients and their families.

"We are very excited to see this facility open, and ready to serve our community," says Julie Kiser, clinic director at CoxHealth. "We never want children to need specialist care, but we are glad to be able to offer it in an environment that makes them smile and feel comfortable."

The 10,500-square-foot facility, located near the Cox South campus at 1011 E. Montclair St., underwent a complete transformation before its opening, and now houses a variety of CoxHealth's 20-plus pediatric specialties. Some of the specialties at the clinic include developmental medicine, endocrinology, gastroenterology, neurology, sleep medicine, general surgery, urology, and hematology and oncology.

Children's Miracle Network Hospitals at CoxHealth led fundraising for the project. The building is named in honor of the late Jerry Hall, founder of Jack Henry and Associates, whose family is a longtime supporter of CoxHealth.

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Continued from cover.

"We believe this facility will make a great difference for kids and their families throughout the Ozarks," says Tim Siebert, executive director for CMN Hospitals at CoxHealth. "Having so many specialists available in one place will be a great benefit for many. It reduces challenges with transportation in getting to appointments elsewhere, and also offers convenience when children must see more than one specialist to manage their conditions."

Transportation and juggling appointments with multiple specialists is often an issue with families served by CMN Hospitals. The agency spent over \$40,000 in 2019 on transportation costs for families and many of them will see as many as 5–11 specialists to treat their condition. During the current pandemic, this increases the stress and risks of traveling and visiting doctor's offices. It is the goal of the new Pediatric Specialties Center to make life easier for families and provide a multidisciplinary team approach to improve health outcomes.

Medical Mile Goes Virtual!

The 29th Annual Medical Mile sponsored by Heim-Young and Associates had a very different look and feel this year. Due to strict guidelines on public gatherings such as benefit runs, the event was held virtually this year and was a big success! Over 850 runners registered to run the mile or 5K to benefit Children's Miracle Network Hospitals. Runners had from June 6th–20th to participate at their own location and date. "Teamie Preemie" comprised of employees in the CoxHealth Neonatal Intensive Care Unit won the title of Top Team for registering 53 team members.





Meet Nick - Age 11

Things changed a little for us this week. During treatment, his doctor came and pulled me in another room. Nick has progressed to CVID Combined Variable Immunodeficiency. Basically, he has less of an immune system than he had before. The next step is for him to live like bubble boy. He told me that when kids end up with the combo of things that Nick has, they are seeing a 97% death rate. This hit me SO HARD. I knew that the media exaggerates some—but this slapped me in the face. What this means for us is that Nick will not be able to go anywhere. If any of us have to, Nick goes out back—we take shoes and wipe them down, clothes off in the garage and straight to shower then Nick can come in. He also told us that if he starts showing signs that we need to get him up to the hospital in St. Louis. Whether it be by ambulance or helicopter. We have a bag packed in the closet just in case. The last thing he said is even when quarantine is over- we will still be quarantined for a while.

Amanda – Nick's Mom

Miracle Week Telethon on KY3, KSPR and The Ozarks CW

Mark your calendars for November 30th to December 6th for the annual Miracle Week Telethon to raise important funding for children in the Ozarks who suffer from medical conditions. The week long event is a great opportunity to support charity from a distance since all it takes is a phone call to make a pledge. The telethon takes place during newscasts on KY3, KSPR and Ozarks CW and will feature stories from our families



at Children's Miracle Network Hospitals at CoxHealth. Sponsorship opportunities are available and include television, radio, print and social media promotions. Contact the CMN Hospitals office at 269-5437 for more information.

MSU Dance Marathon Wins National Award

The inaugural year for Missouri State University Dance Marathon was a success in fundraising for local kids at Children's Miracle Network Hospitals and earned the first year program a national award. MSU students were awarded the 2020 Best New Dance Marathon Award from CMN Hospitals National. They competed with schools across the country including Brown University. "It is nearly unprecedented to see first year dance marathon programs raise over \$25,000 in their first year, which is made even more impressive by the fact that your first event was held virtually due to COVID-19," said Barbara Reagan, Vice President of Community Operations Central Area. Students are already hard at work planning for the 2020-21 school year.

calendar of events

Dairy Queen
Miracle Balloon Campaign
July 27th - August 31st

Dairy Queen
Coupon Sales
July 20th - November 30th

Westlake Ace Hardware Bucket Days July 31st - August 2nd

Every Family Campaign September 1st - October 31st

Walgreens Campaign October 4th - 17th

Extra Life Game DayNovember 7th

Miracle WeekNovember 30th - December 6th

Play Games, Heal Kids

Looking for a fun & safe way to support local kids with medical needs?

Extra Life Game Day: November 7th, 2020 or you can choose your own game day.

Kids can't wait for a cure. Thousands of gamers are supporting Children's Miracle Network Hospitals. Are you game?

Sign up today @ extra-life.org

