

# Child Life IMPACT REPORT



THE GIFT OF

## PLAY

Fun. Music. Imagination. Laughter. It's all important when it comes to caring for children—and it all happens through Child Life services at Children's Health<sup>SM</sup>, thanks to big-hearted donors who believe in the power of play.



**Child Life** is focused on helping little patients and their families feel happy, calm and carefree – even in a hospital setting.

**Dedicated specialists** improve outlooks and outcomes, impacting lives through fun, engaging and therapeutic programs.



**Generous donors (like YOU!)** provide our only external revenue, making services free for children and families in our care.

## MAKING IT HAPPY

Child Life services directly reach approximately 50,000 children each year through programs including music therapy, therapeutic arts, pet therapy and playrooms. We even offer teddy bear clinics that create a safe, stress-free environment to help patients feel more comfortable with medical equipment and treatments.



### Making Music

In 2020, Child Life provided more than **10,000** music therapy encounters, both in-person and virtually. We also invested in new instruments, support and resources for patient families.

### Wagging Tails

Pet therapy is always popular! While we typically provide at least **30,000** encounters in a given year, 2020 was more challenging. Still, we were able to offer around **13,000** encounters last year, including virtual appearances. We are excited to have 10 in-house dogs to make patients smile.



# YOU MAKE IT HAPPEN

Your generous giving helps provide supplies, new technology, unique experiences, toys and games, as well as support for our Child Life team members. It also helps with the development of new strategies and initiatives to improve the health, well-being and outcomes of children in our care. Thank you so much!



## GROWING TEAM

In the past two years, we've been able to add specialists to some of our areas of highest need:

- **Pediatric ICU** to serve patients on the Dallas campus
- **Heart Center** to work with kids in outpatient settings
- **Radiology** to provide relaxation strategies that reduce the need for sedation prior to imaging procedures
- **New Technology** to focus on gaming, virtual reality and more

## MANAGING COVID-19

Child Life successfully pivoted during COVID-19 to maintain and enhance support for children in our facilities, all while accounting for safety and social distancing protocols. This is especially important for those struggling with the isolating effects of this pandemic.

- **Increased bedside 1:1** sessions, craft bags and activity sets
- **More technology-based offerings**
- **Virtual interaction** for support and entertainment



**March is Child Life Awareness Month—the perfect time to thank you for your generous support!**