



**Children's
Health Fund**

M O V I N G F O R W A R D



BIENNIAL

Impact Report

2023 and 2024



Dear Friends,

Children are among the most vulnerable members of American society, and those living in poverty even more so. These children are found everywhere, from the roughest urban neighborhoods to the most remote rural communities. The Children's Health Fund (CHF) has long been dedicated to them.

Founded in 1987 by Irwin and Karen Redlener and singer-songwriter Paul Simon, CHF has looked to break the cycle of poverty so children can grow up healthy, happy, educated, well-balanced, and able to provide for themselves and contribute to the success of their communities. In short, to thrive.

Our core activities have long been centered on bringing comprehensive healthcare—medical, dental, mental—and social services to where poor children live, learn, and play. We accomplish this via a national network of 24 programs in 15 states, Puerto Rico, and Washington, D.C. Our network uses telehealth, nearly 500 school- and community-based clinics, and a fleet of 50 mobile medical clinics (endearingly referred to by patients and families as the "Big Blue Buses"), to deliver care. Last year alone, more than 122,000 children and families received services through nearly 500,000 clinical encounters. Since our humble beginnings, the CHF network has provided more than 7.5 million health visits.

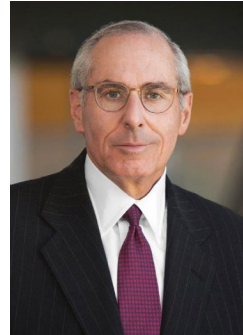
We translate lessons learned on the ground from our national network into informed policy and advocacy, and also develop innovative solutions to reduce healthcare disparities. Since 2014, for example, CHF's Healthy and Ready to Learn program has been addressing health barriers to learning such as vision problems, asthma, and trauma. In 2023 we developed the Innovation Lab to address the digital divide by using technological advances to increase efficiency among our national partners.

CHF is led by Arturo Brito, MD, MPH, president and chief executive officer, and a pediatrician with a career-long focus on clinical and public health service to the underprivileged. He and his talented team are building a CHF that, combined with its network, will help hundreds of thousands of children live better lives for years to come.

None of this would be possible without your unwavering support. We've reached more children, delivered care where it's needed most, and remained steadfast in our mission because of you. We are deeply grateful to have you on this journey—and with your continued partnership, we can go even further. Please consider renewing your support to help expand our impact in the year ahead.

Sincerely,

Donald H. Layton
CHF Board Chair



OUR VISION

**All children receive the healthcare they
deserve and need to thrive and succeed.**

OUR MISSION

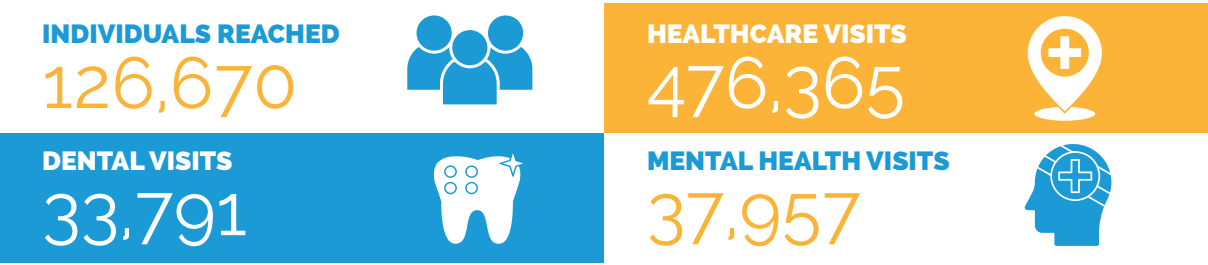
**Children's Health Fund leads a national network to bring
comprehensive healthcare to children growing up in
under-resourced communities and advocates for the
health and well-being of all children.**

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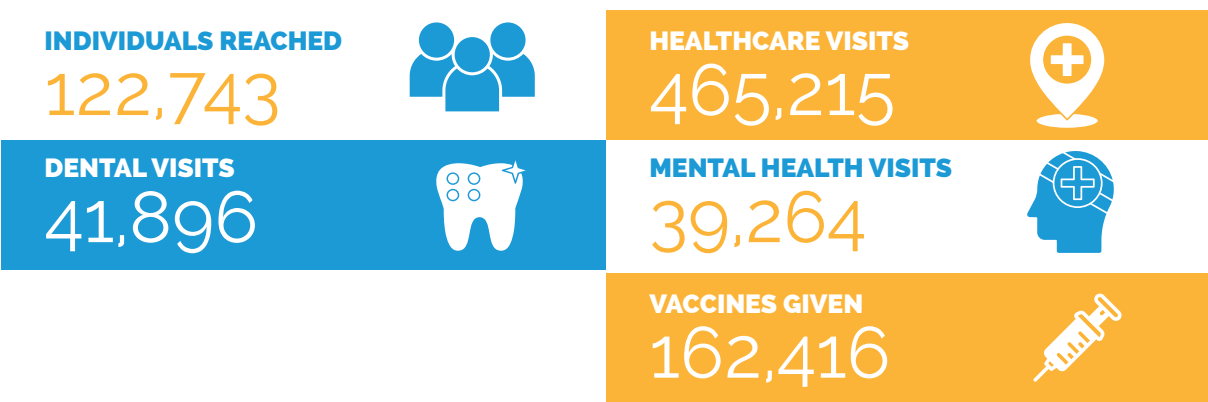
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BY THE NUMBERS

2023



2024



HEALTHCARE VISITS IN 38 YEARS

TYPES OF SERVICES % OF PROGRAMS THAT PROVIDE...	
95%	PRIMARY CARE
91%	MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING
59%	DEVELOPMENTAL EVALUATIONS
86%	CASE MANAGEMENT
82%	HEALTH EDUCATION
36%	NUTRITION SERVICES
41%	DENTAL
36%	SUBSPECIALTY CARE
23%	PRENATAL CARE
50%	TELEHEALTH

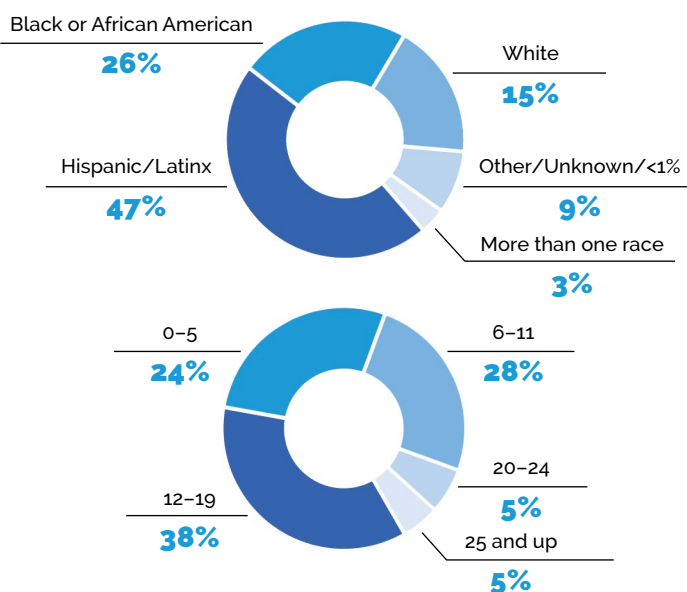


NATIONAL NETWORK

STRONG PARTNERSHIPS MAKING A CRITICAL DIFFERENCE

Children's Health Fund's (CHF) National Network of 24 pediatric partner programs brings comprehensive healthcare services—medical, mental, dental, and social—to children growing up in under-resourced communities in 15 states, Puerto Rico, and Washington, D.C.

2023/2024 PATIENT DEMOGRAPHICS





SPOTLIGHTS

By cultivating partnerships within the national network, CHF identifies best practices and innovative approaches from the field and shares successes with the broader public health community. Through these partnerships, we are creating a future in which all children in the United States have access to the healthcare they deserve and need to thrive and succeed. That future comes about in two ways: by delivering those critical services now, and by advocating for equitable policies that lead to systemic change.

Here are just a few of the ways that CHF's national network had an impact in 2023 and 2024.

ENSURING MOBILE CLINICS ARE TRULY MOBILE

Through our uniquely designed and fully equipped 36-foot-long mobile medical clinic that included a registration area, vital signs station, and two examination rooms, CHF pioneered the use of mobile clinics in 1987 to bring healthcare directly to the children and families with the least access. Today, our 24 national network partners deliver care through a fleet of 50 mobile medical clinics. With the support of Ford Philanthropy in 2024, we were able to service mobile medical clinics in three of our national network communities—Chicago, Detroit, and Memphis/West Tennessee—to keep them fully operational and serving the children and families who face transportation barriers.

"Children's Health Fund's mobile clinics are an inspiring example of mobilizing essential services to reach the most important community members, children," said Joe Provenzano, Director of Mobility and Volunteerism at Ford Philanthropy. "We're proud to partner with them in reducing barriers and expanding access to healthcare."

“We’re proud to partner with them in reducing barriers and expanding access to healthcare.”



KEEPING CURRENT ON TELEHEALTH

The pediatric telehealth landscape has evolved rapidly in recent years due to technological advances, policy, payment structure, and increased interest in its use by physicians and patients. It is crucial to assess which telehealth practices should become standard in pediatric care and which innovations are needed to ensure that all children have equitable access to quality care.

In 2023 and 2024, through support from the Charles M. and Mary D. Grant Foundation, CHF hosted four virtual educational sessions to share our expertise on changes to telehealth policies across the United States. We also helped participants learn about new adaptive technology tools and software that can benefit children and families in disinvested communities.

By a large margin, participants who completed an end-of-program survey thought the sessions were beneficial: Two of three survey respondents felt they learned valuable, new information during the workshop they attended and that the workshop helped them become better equipped to improve telehealth services for children.

EXPANDING SCHOOL-BASED TELEHEALTH

In addition to the educational sessions and through the generous support of the Baxter Foundation, we expanded access to school-based telehealth services for thousands of students and school staff in rural North Carolina. This investment in the Health-e-Schools program—led by our national network partner, the Center for Rural Health Innovation—ensures that children in Avery and McDowell counties can receive timely primary and specialty care without leaving school. Baxter's commitment to advancing healthcare for the underserved and creating lasting impact in its communities is helping to remove barriers to care and sustain healthier futures for children who need it most.



PROMOTING WORKFORCE RETENTION

The National Academy of Medicine has found that 35% to 45% of physicians and up to 60% of medical residents report experiencing burnout. This not only affects the health and well-being of providers but also poses risks to patient safety.

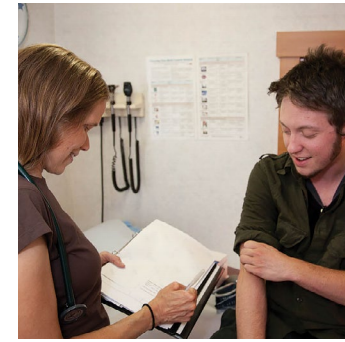
To address this need, we conducted forums, site visits, and discussions with our national network partners to determine the best response. The result? In 2024, we provided grants focused on healthcare workforce retention and professional development for seven of our partners in New York City, Detroit, Idaho, Memphis, North Carolina, Puerto Rico, and San Francisco.

Our partners engaged over 200 employees through initiatives such as staff retreats, employee appreciation efforts, mental health and wellness activities, and specialized training.

One healthcare worker from our New York City partner program shared, "It feels like the 'old days' [pre-COVID] with all of us gathered together! I haven't even had the chance to meet a lot of our new hires in person before this."

By creating spaces for connection and recognition, these efforts support a more resilient and supported healthcare workforce to ensure providers can continue providing quality care to the children who need it most.

“It feels like the 'old days' [pre-COVID] with all of us gathered together! I haven't even had the chance to meet a lot of our new hires in-person before this.”



ENSURING ALL CHILDREN HAVE ACCESS TO QUALITY HEALTHCARE

Every child deserves access to quality health services. With the generous support from Comic Relief US/Red Nose Day Campaign, Children's Health Fund is advancing its mission to ensure that every child in the United States, regardless of zip code, has access to the healthcare they need to thrive.

Support from Comic Relief US empowers local health programs nationwide to deliver critical medical, behavioral, and preventive care to underserved youth. The partnership not only supports direct services but also helps strengthen systems of care, building healthier communities over time. This investment fuels our ability to respond with agility to emerging needs and deepens our capacity to reach children facing the greatest health disparities. We are incredibly grateful for their strategic investment and shared commitment to breaking down barriers to health equity for children in need.



CONTINUING SUPPORT FOR OUR FLAGSHIP PROGRAM

Children's Health Fund is proud to partner with Robin Hood and The Carson Family Charitable Trust to expand access to essential medical and mental health services for marginalized children and families in New York City through our flagship program, the Bronx Health Collective (BHC), housed at Montefiore Medical Center and serving as a central hub for care in the South Bronx.

Through its state-of-the-art, fixed site clinic deeply rooted in the South Bronx, BHC serves as a lifeline for thousands of children and families living in the nation's poorest congressional district. Services include trauma-informed care, preventive health, and legal support through medical and psychological affidavits for immigrants and others. Our flagship program also continues to use mobile clinics to bring quality healthcare to children and families living in homeless shelters throughout the city, continuing a model of outreach that has defined CHF's work since its founding in 1987.

These enduring partnerships strengthen our ability to respond to complex health needs while addressing the ongoing challenges of displacement and poverty. Together, we are helping New York City's most vulnerable communities move toward healing, stability, and long-term well-being. We are grateful to Robin Hood and The Carson Family Charitable Trust for their ongoing support.



The
Carson
Family
Charitable
Trust

SUPPORTING CHILDREN'S HEALTH WITHOUT LIMITS

We are profoundly grateful to the Starr International Foundation for their support of CHF's general operations. Their commitment allows us the flexibility to focus resources where they are needed most, ensuring we can respond swiftly to challenges and seize opportunities to make a difference in the lives of children.

This vital funding supports our mission to bring quality, comprehensive healthcare to children who face systemic barriers to accessing care. It strengthens core programs such as our mobile clinics, which bring medical, mental, dental, and social services to children where they live, learn, and play. It also underpins initiatives like our Healthy and Ready to Learn (HRL) program, which works within schools to address health barriers to learning, helping students stay healthy, focused, and on track to succeed. Additionally, this support enhances our ability to innovate through projects like the Innovation Lab, where we develop cutting-edge tools and technology for historically under-resourced communities.

The Starr International Foundation's trust in our mission allows us to address both immediate healthcare needs and the systemic inequities that create barriers to care. By investing in our ability to act flexibly and effectively, this grant ensures we can provide essential services today while building a healthier future for children across the United States. Together, we are transforming lives and delivering hope where it is needed most.



EXPANDING ACCESS

Our Medical Home Initiative, one of two CHF programs supported by Sanofi US in 2023 and 2024, expands access to wrap-around care, ensuring children in our national network receive essential comprehensive and coordinated care. CHF's national network ensures children in need receive comprehensive and coordinated care, regardless of where they live or their ability to pay. From routine checkups and behavioral health support to managing chronic conditions, every aspect of a child's well-being is addressed with care and compassion. The Medical Home model emphasizes collaborative care, wherein children and their families work together with their providers to develop complete and effective care plans. Thanks to Sanofi US's support, from 2023 to 2024, our national network partners in Trenton, New Jersey, provided 90,755 clinical visits for 10,923 children, and our Washington, D.C., partners with another 23,035 clinical visits for 9,329 children.



HEALTHY AND READY TO LEARN

REDUCING HEALTH BARRIERS TO LEARNING

CHF developed **Healthy and Ready to Learn (HRL)** in 2014 to bridge the health and education systems and strengthen the home-school connection to give children the best chance of success and a healthy life. HRL's Resource and Training Center (RTC) provides workshops and virtual training for educators, administrators, and parents throughout New York City's five boroughs. In 2023 and 2024, we increased our focus on early care and education, incorporated innovative behavioral health initiatives, and expanded our partnerships to better address health barriers to learning. We are grateful to the New York City Council for being the lead sponsor of HRL in NYC public schools.



Here are just a few ways that HRL worked alongside schools and families to have an impact in 2023 and 2024.



EXPANDING INTO EARLY CHILDHOOD

We listened to the community! We worked closely with early childhood teachers, parents, and partner organizations to develop content for a series of parent workshops on child development, school readiness, and the caregiver role in fostering healthy growth.

At the Sunshine Learning Center in the Bronx, for example, we connected them to an on-site mobile dental clinic to increase access to preventive services for young children.

We also added an early childhood section to our HRL website that became the most viewed, reinforcing the demand for accessible, family-friendly information on child development and brain growth.

This expansion into early childhood is possible through the generous support of the Mother Cabrini Health Foundation, whose investment strengthens the bridge between home and school and empowers caregivers with the tools to support healthy child development.



PROVIDING INNOVATIVE BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE

In partnership with Project DNA, we expanded our group-based approach to social-emotional learning where students explore emotions and develop self-regulation skills. Students learn that their emotions are valid and that how they express and manage them shapes their relationships.

This approach has been well received by school teachers and administrators, noting stronger peer relationships, increased student empathy, and a more positive school climate. By integrating trauma-sensitive practices into behavioral health, HRL continues to create inclusive spaces where students feel heard, supported, and empowered to navigate their emotions.

"Since the start of these sessions, we've noticed positive changes in students," shared teachers Mrs. Laios and Mrs. Wallace. "One student in particular, struggles with anxiety and receives outside counseling. However, we've observed that he is participating more in class discussions, seems less anxious, and his anxiety-related habit of playing with his hair has reduced immensely. As a whole, we've also seen less conflict among students. They are more self-aware and take accountability for their actions, owning up to mistakes and correcting behaviors instead of making excuses. We often hear students say, 'I'm sorry for that' before we even address them because they recognize inappropriate behaviors on their own."

“It has been pretty fun. We got our own superpowers like focusing and understanding. When I first met them, we did a lot of work, and we shared our biggest fears. It was nice to work with students from another class. We also get stars.”

— 3rd grader



STRENGTHENING THE HOME-SCHOOL CONNECTION

HRL emphasizes the importance of collaboration between schools, families, and communities to ensure children have the best chance at success. We adapt workshops and outreach to support the evolving needs of parents and caregivers and ensure that students and families receive the support they need to overcome health barriers to learning.

Parents report actively using strategies from HRL workshops to reduce stress, improve communication, and support their child's learning and development.

HRL BY THE NUMBERS

2023

RESOURCE AND TRAINING CENTER PAGEVIEWS

39,378



PARENTS AND EDUCATORS TRAINED

1,245



RESOURCE AND TRAINING CENTER USERS

4,993



RESOURCE DOWNLOADS

4,422 An 88% increase over 2022



STUDENTS ATTENDING WORKSHOPS

981



2024

RESOURCE AND TRAINING CENTER PAGEVIEWS

37,304



PARENTS AND EDUCATORS TRAINED

962



RESOURCE AND TRAINING CENTER USERS

9,701



RESOURCE DOWNLOADS

3,948



STUDENTS ATTENDING WORKSHOPS

326





PUBLIC HEALTH INITIATIVES

ENHANCING POPULATION HEALTH THROUGH SUSTAINED COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

CHF's **Public Health Initiatives (PHI)** seek to improve and protect population and community health. We engage local communities and promote patient voices to decrease health disparities in under-resourced communities. We use data and insights from our national network to develop prevention and intervention initiatives.

Here are just a few of the ways that PHI had an impact in 2023 and 2024.

SPARKING CHANGE THROUGH COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community Health Equity and Engagement Roundtables (CHEERs) convene diverse groups of local leaders, healthcare providers, public health practitioners, educators, and policymakers to drive change. At the heart of this work are the voices of patients and families, whose lived experiences shape meaningful solutions.

In 2023 and 2024, we held six CHEERs in under-resourced communities across the country, including Sherman Indian High School in Riverside, California; Conyers, Georgia; Trenton, New Jersey; New York, New York; South Bronx, New York; and Jackson, Tennessee. This series gathered stakeholders in each community to identify localized health-related social needs and collaborate on ways to address these needs through community-led initiatives.

New collaborations also spark innovative and sustainable strategies that address health inequities. Together, we're breaking down barriers and creating opportunities for children to flourish. In the face of challenges brought by the COVID-19 pandemic, Sanofi's commitment has ensured that community-led solutions remain at the forefront of our work.

We are proud to celebrate the generosity and vision of Sanofi US. Their unwavering support has fueled transformative programs that create brighter futures for children and families in under-resourced communities. Sanofi US's partnership with CHF exemplifies what's possible when we work together for health equity. Their belief in our mission is changing lives and inspiring hope in communities that need it most.

sanofi

ENCOURAGING PARENT INVOLVEMENT

The Community Compass initiative builds upon lessons learned from CHEERs and allows community members to share needs and identify priorities to inform the development of a mobile health program.

In April 2024, CHF hosted a Community Compass in partnership with Ronald McDonald House Charities Rochester (RMHCR). Parents and caregivers who are part of the Pediatric Complex Care Program at the University of Rochester Medical Center's Golisano Children's Hospital came together to provide their perspectives on a proposed mobile clinic program, House to Home, to bring services directly to their homes. Families identified their priority health-related social needs, and together we developed a service model. The program is set to launch in April 2025. Parent feedback later showed how this process established community trust in RMHCR and the planned mobile program.

Building on this success, we held two additional Community Compass sessions in October 2024 with Golisano Children's Hospital to develop a separate mobile clinic program, expected to launch in the fall of 2025. The aim is to bring comprehensive healthcare to children and families throughout the greater Rochester community who struggle to access the hospital due to lack of reliable transportation.

RESPONDING TO CRITICAL HEALTH NEEDS THROUGH VAX, SNAX, AND RX

CHF's Vax, Snax, and Rx initiative is a crucial and ongoing response to the health needs of patients served by our Chicago, New York, and San Francisco national network partners. The COVID-19 pandemic significantly exacerbated these patients' physical,

mental, and emotional challenges, making a robust response imperative. With this initiative, providers administer vaccines, manage health conditions, and address health-related social needs through food pantries, coat drives, back-to-school baskets, and more.

We are grateful to The Cielo Foundation who, since 2021, has ensured that children and families in these communities have access to comprehensive healthcare through this unique effort.

INCREASING VACCINE ACCESS

The Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) supported our efforts to rebuild vaccine confidence and improve access to pediatric care in under-resourced communities. In partnership with AAMC through an initiative funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (FAIN# NU50CK000586), CHF mobilized clinical teams in Phoenix, South Florida, and Dallas to provide COVID-19 and other vaccines via mobile health clinics. During a six-month period in 2023, the three programs provided 11,828 vaccines to children through this partnership. Our trusted, community-rooted programs meet families where they are, with multilingual staff and culturally responsive care, to close healthcare gaps exacerbated by the pandemic. Through AAMC's support we were able to expand our reach and strengthen public health services in three high-need, underserved urban areas during a particularly challenging time.



AAMC Logo is a trademark of the Association of American Medical Colleges.

INNOVATION LAB

ADDRESSING THE DIGITAL DIVIDE

Founded in early 2023, CHF's Innovation Lab addresses inequities in healthcare technology by developing cutting-edge tools and software for under-resourced communities and the providers who care for them. Building on a long history of developing technology solutions to address public health challenges, CHF is uniquely placed to leverage the clinical expertise of our national network into change-making tools.

Here are just a few of the ways the Innovation Lab made an impact in 2023 and 2024.



ADDING EARLY CHILDHOOD TO THE RESOURCE AND TRAINING CENTER
Innovation Lab created an Early Childhood section on the Healthy and Ready to Learn Resource and Training Center (HRL RTC) website (www.hrl.nyc). The section has four landing pages for families and educators. The pages provide rich early childhood resources, guidebooks, and parent workshops in English and Spanish.



We also added "Click and Learn" pictures, an interactive tool in which selected areas of the images give parents useful information on the following topics: Helping Your Child Be Ready to Go to School, How Can I Help My Child Succeed in School, and Tips for Going to a Medical Visit.



CHF HAND-DRAWN VIDEOS



USING HAND-DRAWN VIDEOS TO BETTER EXPLAIN HEALTH BARRIERS TO LEARNING

To make "Health Barriers to Learning" topics more accessible to children, families, and school staff, Innovation Lab created seven hand-drawn videos (also known as "whiteboard animations") in both English and Spanish that are featured on the HRL RTC website (www.hrl.nyc). The videos introduce the following topics: Mental Health, Asthma, Vision Problems, Dental Pain, Hearing Problems, Hunger, and Lead Exposure. Hand-drawn videos increase understanding and retention of simple ideas, while remaining accessible to low-literacy viewers.

PROVIDING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO IMPROVE ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORD USE ON MOBILE CLINICS

Innovation Lab provided technical assistance on all aspects of mobile Electronic Health Record setup and rollout to entities implementing mobile programs. The help included: troubleshooting for connectivity, clinical flow analysis, training approaches for mobile teams, ways to customize content to document the needs of special populations (like homeless families or children in foster care), and help to maximize quality measures and reporting capability.



POLICY AND ADVOCACY

PRIORITIZING CHILD HEALTH

CHF places a high priority on policy and advocacy efforts to transform inequitable systems and expand access to comprehensive healthcare for children growing up in under-resourced communities. Through legislative advocacy, grassroots organizing, and thought leadership at conferences and in the media, we champion the health needs of all children. CHF has a long history of increasing community impact both in the field and on Capitol Hill, and we equip our national network partners with the skills needed to advocate for the children they serve.

Here are just a few of the ways our Policy and Advocacy work had an impact in 2023 and 2024.

NATIONAL NETWORK ADVOCACY DAY

CHF's Policy and Advocacy Department hosted an Advocacy Day in Washington, D.C., on October 10, 2024, as a final component of our 2024 National Conference. As a leading voice for the communities we serve, we galvanized a group of child health leaders in our national network to meet with their representatives, advocate for their policy priorities, and address critical issues affecting their districts. The meetings were organized in advance by CHF's Policy and Advocacy staff, who accompanied partners to their meetings, introduced them to their legislators, and discussed CHF's priorities and programs.

SOMOS INC. CONFERENCES

In 2024, Policy and Advocacy staff represented CHF at conferences hosted by Somos Inc. This organization brings together leaders, policymakers, and advocates across industries to highlight the achievements of Hispanic New Yorkers and to advocate for the needs of their communities.

CHF attended both the March Somos Conference in New York (SomosNY) and the November Somos Conference in Puerto Rico (SomosPR).

During SomosNY, Arturo Brito, CHF President and CEO, received an award for being a champion for youth and gave an inspiring speech in which he shared his experience immigrating to the United States at seven years of age and discussed the importance of ensuring that all children have access to the care they need to thrive and succeed.

At SomosPR, Vice President of Policy and Advocacy, Pernelle Brice, led a panel discussion, sponsored by NY State Senator Samra G. Brouck, along with Dr. Brito and New York Immigration Coalition President and CEO Murad Awawdeh entitled, "The Power of School-based Medicaid Expansion as a Vehicle Toward Coverage for All." The panel educated session participants on how school-based Medicaid can increase access to healthcare for children and advocated for support of its expansion through a legislative or regulatory path.

PUBLICATIONS

Our policy and advocacy publications allow us to communicate key issues affecting child health effectively and to recommend actionable solutions. We foster informed discussions with policymakers, non-profit leaders, and other stakeholders by establishing CHF as a thought leader in the child health policy space.

These publications raise awareness for health issues affecting children and drive meaningful conversations that can influence decision-making processes. By sharing our publications, we create opportunities to partner with stakeholders with similar priorities and empower our audience to better meet the health needs of underserved children.



April 2023 Policy Brief: Healthcare for All: Recommendations for Removing Barriers to Healthcare Facing Immigrant Children in the United States analyzes and recommends changes to existing policies to remove barriers that prevent immigrant children in the United States from accessing essential healthcare. Some of

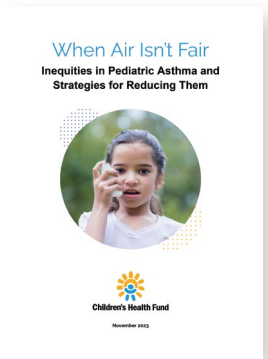
our recommendations include eliminating waiting periods that bar newly arrived immigrant children from immediately accessing Medicaid and CHIP, increasing funding for Federally Qualified Health Centers, and expanding the number of states that use their own funds to provide healthcare for undocumented children.



June 2023 Media Planet Op-Ed: Gun Violence Threatens the Health and Well-Being of America's Children asserts that gun violence is a public health crisis and examines national data to demonstrate the

impact of gun violence on the health and mental well-being of U.S. children. We also explore racial and ethnic inequities in the gun violence crisis that make children of color disproportionately more likely to be affected by gun violence than their white counterparts.

November 2023 Policy Brief: When Air Isn't Fair: Inequities in Pediatric Asthma and Strategies for Reducing Them provides a comprehensive look at how asthma affects children of color and those from under-resourced communities and suggests policy options to address the inequities in asthma care. We call on policymakers to increase support for school-based health programs, pass laws and regulations that promote environmental justice, reduce air pollution, curb the impact of climate change, and increase access to insurance coverage and healthcare services for children from under-resourced communities.



February 2024 Newsday

Op-Ed: Asthma in Kids is a Lens to Understand how Racism and Inequity Lead to Poor Health examines how asthma affects children from under-resourced communities and describes Dr. Arturo Brito's first-hand experience witnessing racial and ethnic inequities in pediatric asthma care while treating children with asthma as a pediatrician-in-training at Grady Memorial Hospital—the inner-city, safety-net hospital of Atlanta, Georgia.



August 2024 New York Daily

News Op-Ed: Don't Remove Immigrant Kids From Their Families explores the harmful and traumatic impact of family separation on the health and well-being of newly arriving immigrant children. We published this jointly with the Center for Family Representation, wherein they cover the legal considerations that allow judges to ignore the unique struggles immigrant families face when arriving in the United States. Together, we call on decision-makers to ensure that immigrant families can access all the necessary resources to thrive and succeed.





2024 CHF NATIONAL CONFERENCE

INTEGRATIVE CARE AS A 21ST-CENTURY MODEL

In October 2024, CHF held its National Conference—*Integrative Care: A 21st-Century Model for Marginalized Children*—at the New York Renaissance Harlem Hotel. The conference's purpose was to gather national network partners and other like-minded providers to share leading ideas for improving children's health and well-being in under-resourced communities throughout the country. Keynote speakers included renowned journalist Michael Hill, who interviewed immigrant child and family health expert Dr. Raul Gutierrez, and President Emeritus and CHF co-founder, Dr. Irwin Redlener, who spoke on the topic, "Where are America's Advocates for Children?"

The opening night dinner was emceed by CHF Board member Jane Pauley, and attended by several New York City (NYC) and State (NYS) dignitaries, including: Jumanne Williams, NYC Public Advocate; Mike Bobbitt, Deputy Commissioner for Community

Development at the NYC Department of Youth & Community Development (representing the NYC Mayor's office); and Nancy Hernandez, NYS Deputy Comptroller for Diversity in the Office of the NYS Comptroller. Each presented an official citation, proclaiming CHF's decades-long work to ensure that children throughout the city, state, and country have access to quality healthcare.

Jane Pauley then introduced the next segment, "Share Your Story: Collaboration for Better Health Awards," and led a conversation with two CHF national network partners—the Phoenix Children's Health Project and the South Florida Children's Health Project—who shared their stories of how they collaborate with communities to meet patient health needs. Travis LeFever, CEO of Mission Mobile Medical Group, presented the two recipients with awards, including \$10,000 each for general project support around their mobile clinic program.

“I appreciated the opportunity to learn something new from each of the presentations/breakout sessions.”

Over the next two days, conference participants attended sessions and workshops on improving the health and well-being of children growing up in under-resourced communities.

By the end of the conference, participants overwhelmingly reported that they had created new relationships and felt more connected to CHF's national office. As a result, they felt energized to implement conference ideas in their own programs and seek collaborations with other attendees.

“I left feeling energized...being in a room surrounded by like-minded individuals reminds me that we are all in this together!”

HEALTHY HARLEM, HEALTHY KIDS

Before the reception dinner, CHF held a community event at Harriet Tubman Learning Center (Community School 154), an elementary school in central Harlem, home to CHF's national headquarters for over two decades. CHF staff, national network partners, and volunteers from Ascel Health—a life sciences company founded by CHF Board Member, Lujing Wang—created an environment where children and families could enjoy an afternoon of play, celebration, and health resource sharing. It was a celebration of Harlem's joy, strength, creativity, and culture. Along with children and families, CHF New York State Senator Cordell Cleare, New York City Councilman Yusef Salaam, and New York State Assembly Member Inez Dickens attended the event.



FIDELIS CARE



GIBSON DUNN



IMPACT STORIES



BEYOND THE EXAM ROOM: HEALING, HOUSING, AND HOPE

Wendy De La Rua, MD, lead pediatrician of CHF national network partner, the South Florida Children's Health Project (SFCHP), shared a patient story during the 2024 CHF National Conference dinner reception that exemplifies CHF's unwavering commitment to holistic

care. SFCHP includes mobile and school-based clinics that bring quality healthcare to children growing up in underserved communities in Miami-Dade County. SFCHP is based at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, which includes Holtz Children's Hospital. Here is a summary of Dr. De La Rua's story:

"Matias" was born in Chile with a traumatic brain injury, Hypoxic-Ischemic Encephalopathy (HIE), and suffers from generalized seizures, global developmental delays, and other lifelong medical issues. His mother made the courageous decision to embark on the arduous journey to the United States to seek quality medical services for her son.

Upon their arrival in Miami, Matias experienced a severe seizure, likely triggered by a lapse in medication during their journey. Holtz Children's Hospital staff stabilized him and referred him to SFCHP for continued care. While the young boy's face lit up when he saw the vibrant blue bus, his mother was initially hesitant, unsure of the resources a mobile clinic could offer.

Her concerns were quickly allayed as the healthcare team sprang into action and provided comprehensive healthcare, including addressing health-related social needs: The outreach coordinator assisted Matias's mother in applying for medical insurance and the social worker reached out to various organizations to address the boy's global developmental delay and aggressive behavior, and enrolled him in a voluntary prekindergarten program.

A week later, the mother returned to the clinic—they had been evicted from their temporary home due to Matias's behavioral challenges. Through existing collaborations, and within a few hours, the mobile clinic team was able to secure a room for the family in a homeless shelter where staff were empathetic to their situation. With a stable and loving place to stay, the boy soon began preparing to start school.

At no cost to the family, the mobile clinic team secured Matias's medications to prevent other life-threatening seizures and provided essential items such as diapers, medical supplies, toys, and books to support the boy's daily needs. Throughout this period, the social worker connected the mother with crucial support services, including Parent to Parent for counseling and the Advocacy Network to ensure they had the necessary support once settled in the shelter.

The journey of this young boy and his mother underscores the importance of SFCHP's mission—to heal and uplift and empower those they serve. It is just one of many stories that illustrate the critical role mobile clinics have in addressing traditional medical and health-related social needs, such as securing affordable and safe housing, a growing challenge in Florida and across the country. It is unimaginable to leave a site knowing that a child might be sleeping on the streets. The SFCHP team continues to work diligently to forge connections with organizations that assist families with housing. Still, resources are scarce, and many of these organizations struggle to sustain their services.

A UNIQUE COLLABORATION TO MEET THE NEEDS OF VULNERABLE FOSTER YOUTH

Sarah Beaumont, MD, medical director of our national network partner, Homeless Youth Outreach (HYO; a.k.a., Crews'n Healthmobile), shared a story during the 2024 CHF National Conference dinner reception to demonstrate our unwavering commitment to all children. The Crews'n Healthmobile provides comprehensive healthcare to homeless children with three mobile clinics and three fixed-site clinics, including the Welcome Center, a central and confidential location focused on foster children. HYO is based at Phoenix Children's Hospital (PCH). Here is a summary of Dr. Beaumont's story:

Since 2021, HYO has partnered with Arizona's Department of Child Services (DCS) to address the needs of foster care children. As minors enter state care, HYO helps DCS fulfill an Arizona statute requiring comprehensive medical and behavioral health services be provided to foster children, an often medically fragile group with limited access to resources.

Crews'n Healthmobile staff provide expedited physical exams, necessary sub-specialty referrals, and medications for children awaiting placement. Three examples of youth assisted in 2024 include:

- **"Maria,"** a hearing-impaired toddler referred to and taken care of by an audiologist.
- **"John Paul,"** a five-year-old removed from his home for neglect and exposure to substance misuse and abuse. He had poor food intake and was barely growing. Born with hypothyroidism, an easily treatable condition, John Paul had not been on medication for years, so was admitted to PCH. He soon began eating better and gaining weight.
- **"Ralphy,"** removed from his home at 11 years of age for medical neglect, was noted to have surgical scars on his abdomen, consistent with a kidney transplant. He also had an immunodeficiency, increasing risk of severe infections; yet, Ralphy had not been evaluated by the PCH's transplant team in more than five years. He was seen by the transplant team the next day.

HYO's mobile medical clinic team works closely with foster parents, DCS case managers, mental and medical providers, insurers, and others at the Welcome Center to integratively take care of foster children. The healthcare providers are co-located, a first of its kind arrangement in Arizona. Given its success, HYO and DCS opened a second site in 2024.



OUR THANKS TO YOU

HOW THE POWER OF GENEROSITY TRANSFORMS LIVES AND INSPIRES HOPE



Children's Health Fund is powered by a deeply committed community of supporters—from loyal grassroots donors who give year after year to generous individuals making their first gift. This collective generosity drives our mission forward. Together, your support fuels every mile traveled by our mobile clinics, expands access to mental health services for children in crisis, and brings care to those who need it most. Every gift matters—and we are profoundly grateful for the role you play in this work.

We also extend our heartfelt thanks to philanthropic partners like Charities Aid Foundation of America and American Online Giving Foundation, whose support helps sustain our mission throughout the year.

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Healthy Minds,
Healthy Futures

*The CHF 2024 end-of-year (EOY) campaign—**Healthy Minds, Healthy Futures**—took on a cause that couldn't be more pressing: the mental health of our children. Social media pressures, the lingering effects of the pandemic, and years of isolation are negatively affecting the mental health and well-being of our nation's children and youth. Therefore, this campaign was about more than raising funds—it was about sparking a movement, a shared commitment to ensure no child faces these struggles alone.*

The response to our efforts was deeply inspiring. Together, we raised nearly \$500,000, a testament to the deepening trust and engagement of our community. Long-time supporters who had been quiet in recent years returned with renewed passion, while new donors joined us, bringing fresh energy and hope. The resounding message was clear: People step up when the cause is meaningful.

Strategic timing also played a pivotal role in our success. By aligning outreach with key giving periods and leveraging digital platforms, we achieved a significant increase in donations and strengthened the foundation for future growth. The last few days of the year highlighted the collective generosity of our community, reminding us of the potential to inspire action when the need is clear and urgent.

DOUBLING THE IMPACT

At CHF, we see time and again how one act of generosity can spark a movement. This year, we were reminded of that truth thanks to a long-standing donor, a member of CHF's Advisory Board, and a steadfast advocate for children. They went above and beyond with our 2024 EOY campaign, stepping forward with an anonymous \$75,000 gift that inspired us all and ignited a wave of support, bringing our community together around a shared commitment to children's mental health. Their gift wasn't just monetary—it was a call to action that reminded us of the impact we can have when we work together.

We extend our deepest gratitude to them, and every donor who helped make this campaign a success. Your support is changing lives, and ensuring children everywhere have access to the care they need to thrive and succeed.

DONORS

2023 FINANCIALS

EXPENSES:

Program services:	
National Network	\$ 3,145,982
Education	\$ 1,546,341
Public health and crisis response	\$ 768,933
Subtotal	\$ 5,461,256
Operations:	
Management and general	\$ 1,143,361
Fundraising	\$ 692,373
Subtotal	\$ 1,835,734
Total expenses	\$ 7,296,990

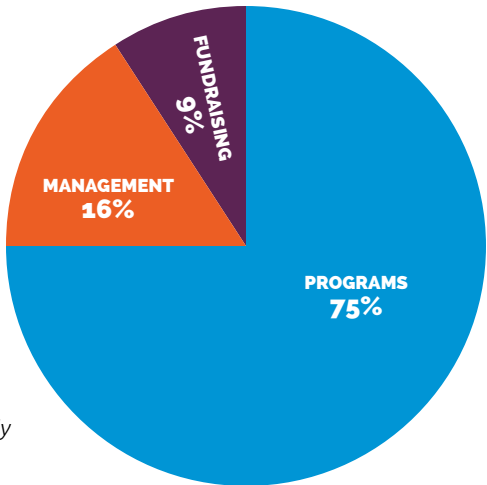
NET ASSETS*:

Net assets, beginning of year	\$ 704,609
Net assets, end of year	\$ (994,551)
Changes in Net Assets*	\$ (1,699,160)

REVENUE

Foundation Grants	\$ 3,721,125
Corporate Support	\$ 113,083
Government Grants	\$ 750,000
Individual Donations	\$ 751,421
Net Investment return	\$ 262,201
Total Revenue	\$ 5,597,830

EXPENSE BREAKDOWN



*Changes are due to restating previously reported net assets.

(2024 Financials forthcoming.)



WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

Become a Monthly Sustainer: As a monthly donor, you are investing in the health and well-being of pediatric patients and their families across the United States.

Join CHF's Legacy Society: By making a planned gift (www.childrenshealthfund.org/planned-giving) that names Children's Health Fund as a beneficiary, you will become a valued member of CHF's Legacy Society.

Ask Your Company if They Match Your Charitable Gifts. Matching gifts from your employer means your gift can be doubled or even tripled.

Host a Networking Event: Help us spread the word about CHF and introduce us to new potential donors and friends from your circle of friends and colleagues.

Become an Institutional Partner: Children's Health Fund offers opportunities nationwide for foundations to improve healthcare access for underserved children. Join us in creating healthier futures and stronger communities. Explore how your foundation can drive meaningful change today.

Make an Online Gift.



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A VISION FOR THE FUTURE

Dear Supporters,

When I rejoined Children's Health Fund in September 2021, I did so because of my belief that there is no organization better poised to be the change agent our country's children need. More than three years in, I am even more confident about our capabilities.


For nearly four decades, we have been developing innovative solutions to ensure that marginalized and underserved children have the opportunity to thrive and succeed. Through our national network of 24 programs, we bring comprehensive health services into under-resourced communities in 15 states, Puerto Rico, and Washington, D.C. Skilled pediatricians, mental health specialists, dentists, social workers, administrators, and others work together on mobile clinics, at school and community sites, and through telehealth to deliver the best care possible. The professionals throughout our national network could work anywhere, though choose to dedicate their careers to make sure that all children, regardless of background, have the opportunity to be healthy and happy.

Through your support, we have provided more than 7.5 million health visits since our humble beginnings in 1987, along the way translating lessons learned on the ground into informed policy. We give children a voice.

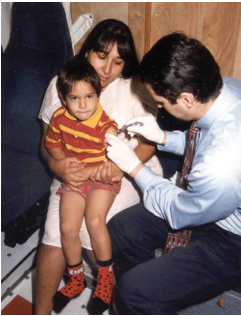
With your continued support, we can secure a brighter future for all children, and the time could not be more critical: Children and youth everywhere are facing unprecedented challenges that are centered around fractured healthcare and public health systems, increased social isolation, and a growing mental health crisis exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

We are grateful for all you have done and hope that your support will continue during this challenging time. We also ask that you help us spread the word about Children's Health Fund by introducing us to your friends and colleagues. Tell them about the work we do everyday to make sure Johnny has his asthma medication to keep him out of the hospital; or that Maria can see a dentist in school, preventing her from getting cavities so that she can focus on learning; or that little Riley receives the services they need to appropriately grow and develop. Most of all, tell them we are committed to making sure that all children in our nation have the opportunity to thrive and succeed. Together, let's plant the seed for a healthier, more productive country.





Sincerely,



Arturo Brito, M.D., M.P.H.
President and CEO



Please help us amplify our message by connecting with us on social media:

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