



ENDOWMENT IMPACT SUMMARY

Pediatrics Department Endowments

Thank you for your support of our work in Pediatrics at MetroHealth. Your generosity helps patients receive the best care possible, and it provides tomorrow's caregivers with invaluable experience. Your partnership makes it all possible. I'm pleased to share an update and highlights from the past year.

NEW DEVELOPMENTS

Sensory-Friendly – Through the generosity of The Clark Family Foundation, MetroHealth established a unique space on the Pediatric floor for sensory-challenged children. The therapeutic, multi-sensory room is a place where a child can engage with and respond to a variety of sensory experiences such as touch, sound, visual and spatial awareness and motion. Anticipated opening is late 2024.

Beads of Courage – Funded by The Leprechaun Foundation, this program helps children and teens coping with serious illness or injury, their families and the clinicians who care for them by using beads to tell the story of their healthcare journey.

- The program is being implemented on the Burn Unit as well as the Pediatric Outpatient Clinic, starting with the Hematology and Endocrine Clinics.
- MetroHealth's Burn Unit is the only such unit in Ohio with this program.

Child Life & Education/TreeHouse Endowment

Funds two certified Child Life Specialists (CCLS) who provide support and teach coping skills to families in crisis.

- A certified Child Life Specialist (CCLS) spends 30 hours a week in the Emergency Department on Main Campus and provides support to children of adult patients at the end of life or those experiencing a life-changing event. This CCLS also provides inpatient support as needed.

- A second CCLS spends 40 hours a week in the Pediatric Outpatient Clinic on main campus and provides coverage at Canopy Child Advocacy Center as part of a collaborative Child Protection Team (CPT) dedicated to detecting and preventing sometimes severe and hard-to-spot cases of child abuse and neglect. Clinicians from The MetroHealth System, Cleveland Clinic and University Hospitals Rainbow Babies and Children joined forces with the multidisciplinary Canopy team to form the CPT in an unprecedented collaboration between organizations.

Child Life Patient Care, Education and Research Endowment and The Child Life & Education/TreeHouse Endowment

– Offer support for Child Life interventions, like supplies used for assessment and intervention through play. This includes books, toys, craft supplies, games, distraction items (e.g., stress balls, light-up fans and globes, pinwheels, bubbles, Play-Doh, sensory toys), Buzzy (a bee-shaped device that uses vibration and cold to relieve pain) for non-pharmacological pain management, bereavement supplies (e.g., embossing material, bereavement books) and more.

PEDIATRIC LITERARY EXCELLENCE

Four Pediatric research papers were accepted for publication in 2023 and 2024 and two are currently pending:

- Michaud M., Dietz I.C. "The Effects of the SARS-CoV-2 Pandemic on Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs." *Frontiers in Pediatrics*. January 6, 2023.
- Birnkrant D.J., Black J.B., Carter J.C. "A Process-Based Approach to Conflicts of Interest." *Journal of Pediatric Pulmonology*. June 2023.
- Ali M., Phillips L., Kaelber D.C., Bukulmez H. "Characteristics of Pediatric COVID-19 Infections and the Impact of Influenza and COVID-19 Vaccinations During the First Two Years of the Pandemic." *Frontiers in Pediatrics*. October 12, 2023.
- Alvarado J., Yerigeri K., Boakye A., Randolph C., Roy A., Onimoe G. "Impact of SARS-CoV-2 Infection on Pain Crisis and Acute Chest Syndrome in Patients with Sickle Cell Anemia: A Retrospective Multi-Cohort Study Based on U.S. National Data from 2020 to 2022." *eJHaem*. February 29, 2024.
- **Pending:** Alkilany R., Phillips L., Anthony D., Kaelber D., Bukulmez, H. "The Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on The Incidence of Adult and Pediatric Inflammatory Arthritis." MetroHealth Medical Center and Cleveland VA Medical Center, Case Western Reserve University.
- **Pending:** Bukulmez H., Dennis A., Reese-Koc J., Sieg S., Claggett B., Kleinsorge-Block S., Singer N., Emancipator S. "Pre-treated Mesenchymal Stromal Cell-Based Therapy for Treating Diffuse Alveolar Hemorrhage in Pristane induced Murine Model, HXB-319."



Thank you again for your generous support. It is especially important as we strive to help improve access and become a safety net for all pediatric patients in the area.

With gratitude,

Aparna Roy, MD, MPH, MBA
Chair, Pediatrics
Associate Professor, Pediatrics

Kimberly Green, MSN, RN-C-EFM
Vice President, Women and Children's Services