

# Children's Healthcare of Atlanta at Hughes Spalding

Our Commitment  
For Their Future

Funding Goal  
**\$30+ million**

There is no greater cause than ensuring that our community's children have the promising futures that they deserve—the basic foundation of which is good health.

Children's Healthcare of Atlanta understands that improving a child's health depends in great part on access to quality pediatric healthcare. Yet many families do not have the ability to pay for needed medical attention, and children are left without a regular source of care. The plight of Georgia's children is particularly severe. As of 2003, 19 percent of the state's children are living in poverty, far above the national average, and 13.7 percent have no health insurance. The fact that so many children are growing up under such conditions is heartbreaking.

When you consider that impoverished children typically face greater health challenges than other children, these statistics become even more sobering. Children's understands the profound responsibility to meet the community need, as well as the overwhelming operating challenges that are being faced. That's why, as part of **One to Grow On: The Campaign for Children's Healthcare of Atlanta**, we are working to garner the community support necessary to ensure the future of Children's at Hughes Spalding—an effort that will renew this true Atlanta legend for the benefit of the fragile lives it serves.

one to **grow** on

The Campaign for Children's Healthcare of Atlanta

# Children's Healthcare of Atlanta at Hughes Spalding



## A Worthy Cause An Urgent Need

**Downtown Atlanta is attracting the attention of community leaders dedicated to revitalizing the area as part of the Brand Atlanta Campaign—established to distinguish the city as a preferred destination for visitors, residents and businesses alike. Blueprints have been drawn and ground has been broken for new businesses and cultural attractions thanks to this effort to breathe new life into a once thriving district.**

But we cannot in good conscience neglect the true heart of the city—the place so many children turn to for quality care when they need it most. Children's at Hughes Spalding deserves the same, if not greater, level of commitment and support.

### Overview of Children's at Hughes Spalding

- Many of the Emergency Department's more than 50,000 annual patient visits are for non-urgent care. Uninsured families turn to the Emergency Department for primary care (routinely managed in a doctor's office) because Children's at Hughes Spalding accepts them regardless of their ability to pay.
- Ninety percent of the organization's inpatient cases are either uninsured or dependent on Medicaid. With continued reductions in Medicaid reimbursement rates, the cost of providing healthcare to this population will continue to soar.
- The Primary Care Clinic manages more than 17,000 well-child and sick visits each year. In addition, the clinic provides immunizations and acute care follow-up.
- The Dental Clinic sees approximately 300 patient visits each month, providing regular and disease-related care.
- In 2003, Hughes Spalding managed more than 3,000 child abuse assessments. The expert staff understand that medical tests, psychological evaluations and notifications of proper authorities are the keys to preventing future abuse.
- Beyond basic healthcare needs, Children's at Hughes Spalding provides specialty services through areas like the Georgia Sickle Cell Center, which followed almost 550 pediatric patients in 2004 under the care of renowned experts in sickle cell disease.

### Donate to One to Grow On: The Campaign for Children's

- Call 404-785-GIVE
- Visit the Children's Web site at [www.choa.org/give](http://www.choa.org/give)
- Write to Children's at:  
Children's Healthcare of Atlanta  
Foundation  
1687 Tullie Circle NE  
Atlanta, GA 30329



## A Call for an Immediate Response

The vision of Children's at Hughes Spalding is to enhance programs and advance delivery of services. Fulfilling this vision, however, is dependent upon expanding and renovating the current facility, which for more than 50 years has relied upon piecemeal improvements. That approach no longer suffices. This effort needs a grander approach. The time has come for us to make a substantial investment.

The most pressing concern is limited, inefficient space for adequate care and lack of patient privacy. For example:

- Inpatient rooms are outdated and lack the warm, comforting atmosphere so critical to helping children heal. In addition, the rooms do not have private bathrooms, forcing patients and loved ones to share communal facilities far too often.
- During peak times, like last winter's harsh flu season, the Emergency Department is easily overwhelmed. The 10 chairs in the check-in area quickly fill, forcing anxious parents and frightened children to crowd into the already cramped hallway. In the chaotic environment of an Emergency Department, patient privacy is of utmost importance, but here, it is at a premium.
- Children's at Hughes Spalding only has enough space for one Family Counseling Room, forcing the staff to choose which family crisis warrants this small retreat. A family should never have to learn their child's fate in the company of strangers.
- The current facility layout also impedes operational efficiency. In a pediatric healthcare setting, every second counts. Yet minutes and hours are wasted transporting children to areas that should be located side by side.

### ACCESS TO CARE

**Situated in the heart of Atlanta, Children's at Hughes Spalding is readily accessible by public transportation to the children and families it serves.**

- The hospital is centrally located near its patient population. For example, 80 percent of Emergency Department patients come from within 10 miles of the hospital and 80 percent of inpatient cases come from within 13 miles.
- Three rail stations and 10 bus lines stop at or are located near the hospital.
- During peak hours, a public transit train or bus stops near Children's at Hughes Spalding about every three minutes.

FOUNDATION



**Children's**<sup>®</sup>  
Healthcare of Atlanta

# A Visionary Beginning

## Children's at Hughes Spalding History

**Late 1940s** – The Fulton-DeKalb Hospital Authority, led by Atlanta attorney and civic leader Hughes Spalding Sr., recognized the need for a hospital to serve the growing number of African-Americans able and willing to pay for quality healthcare, but limited in their choices of providers. The proposed hospital would also serve as a training facility for African-American doctors. At the time, no such hospital existed in Atlanta.

**1952** – The Hughes Spalding Pavilion officially opened as a private hospital for paying African-American adult patients. For more than 30 years, the Hughes Spalding Pavilion continued to serve the city's healthcare needs as a general, broad-based hospital.

**1989** – After numerous transformations, the Hughes Spalding Pavilion temporarily shut its doors for renovation.

**1992** – The facilities re-opened as Hughes Spalding Children's Hospital—an 82-bed, free-standing facility dedicated to serving Atlanta's inner-city pediatric population.

**2004** – Children's Healthcare of Atlanta and Grady Health System jointly announced the evaluation of a plan for Children's to provide pediatric services at Hughes Spalding Children's Hospital.

**2005** – An anonymous donor made an \$18 million challenge grant to The Campaign for Children's toward the Hughes Spalding initiative.



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