

2026 Friends funding goals

Friends
Volunteering Because Every Child Needs a Friend

Benefiting



Children's
Healthcare of Atlanta

Friends is a network of community volunteer organizations that provide opportunities to make a difference alongside your friends and neighbors. As a not-for-profit organization, Children's depends on the generosity of community members to help provide specialized pediatric care to kids.

Friends groups plan fundraisers that engage the community, fostering a sense of camaraderie while also supporting the patients at Children's and fulfilling critical needs. This year, funds raised by Friends groups will benefit Patient Family Experience initiatives and the Greatest Need Fund.



Visit choa.org/friends to learn more and join a Friends group.



There are currently **more than 2,000** Friends volunteers.



Friends groups raised more than **\$4 million** for Children's in the last year.



Over **10,000** people contribute to Friends by attending an event or participating in one of our fundraisers.



Friends groups provide support not only through fundraising, but also by participating in **volunteer events** and **special service projects**.

FRIENDS FACTS



Patient Family Experience

At Children's, we measure success not only by our clinical outcomes and research discoveries, but also by the experience we provide our patients and families when they're in our hospitals and clinics. We're dedicated to creating an environment where kids and caregivers feel comfortable, safe and well cared for.

Through our Patient Family Experience initiatives, we offer a variety of amenities and support services that help us achieve this goal. They include these and more:

- The **Hospital School Program** offers kids educational support during their hospital stay.
- **The Zone** at Scottish Rite Hospital and Arthur M. Blank Hospital are activity spaces designed especially for kids to allow them to play, relax and socialize.
- The **Canines for Kids Program** has 16 facility dogs specially trained to provide comfort, support and distraction during procedures and hospitalization.
- **Music therapy** and the **Artist-in-Residence Program** offer kids creative outlets to promote calm and healing.

Greatest Need Fund

In addition to Patient Family Experience initiatives, Friends is also contributing to the Greatest Need Fund, which supports the most urgent needs of Children's patients, families and staff that might otherwise go unfilled. These needs may include specialized pediatric services and equipment, lifesaving research and physician training programs, as well as many other immediate needs.

