

## **Building what we believe in**

Learn more about our new Chairman of the Foundation Board of Trustees.

**Who:** Mark Chancy, Vice Chairman and Co-Chief Operating Officer, SunTrust



When: Mark joined the Children's Board in 2004 and was named the new Foundation Chairman in January, replacing Paul Bowers.

Why: When Mark's son, Henry, was just 11 years old, he contracted an unusual neurological disease associated with strep throat—Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorder Associated with Strep (PANDAS). After about a year of tests and three hospitalizations, doctors were able to heal Henry with a high dose of steroids.

"We got a bird's-eye view of the challenges of working with a neuro patient, but also the commitment from the Children's medical team to figure it out and design a solution that was ultimately successful. It was really special to see the intense personal care that all of the staff showed Henry and our family."

This experience furthered Mark's desire to support Children's and serve on the Board. It also led to his daughter, Hannah, attending nursing school and becoming a nurse in our Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU).

What: In his new role as Chairman, Mark will help manage the multiple committees associated with the Children's Foundation, working diligently with the executive team to engage the community to raise funds to support the facilities, services and programs that benefit the children and families we serve.

**How:** The development of the North Druid Hills Campus off Interstate 85 and North Druid Hills Road will include the Center for Advanced Pediatrics, a new hospital, two support buildings, and more than 20 acres of greenspace and trails.

We are building an industry leading, preeminent campus, which will be critical to the future of Children's.

And, it's another reason why donors should feel confident supporting our mission through charitable gifts.

## Accomplishing more together

Over the past four years, Children's has achieved so much for kids with the help of generous donors like you.

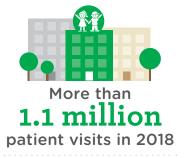


5,800 patients participating in clinical research





More than 400 clinical trials







The Southeast's first ever procedure using **3D-printed** 

materials helps a child breathe

# Largest

pediatric cancer program in the Southeast

## Paying it forward



The Lassiter family has established a fund in support of Children's brain tumor research. Pictured, (L-R): Rich, Tyler, Carrie, Ethan, Marianne and E.G. Lassiter.

It wasn't until Ethan Lassiter was diagnosed with a brain tumor in the fall of 2017 that his parents, Rich and Carrie, really understood the value Children's Healthcare of Atlanta adds to our community.

When Ethan was just 7 years old, Rich—Ethan's dad and an emergency department doctor—noticed his son was experiencing an early onset of puberty, which he explains is very unusual for a child that age. After having an MRI at Children's, Ethan's doctors determined he had a brain tumor.

Ethan had a brain biopsy in November 2017, and then started weekly chemotherapy treatments shortly thereafter. "He was in a constant state of fatigue, mentally and emotionally," Carrie recalls. "He was always happy and in good spirits, knowing what he had to do, but you could tell he had this layer of exhaustion."

While Ethan was being treated at the Aflac Cancer and Blood Disorders Center

of Children's, his parents launched a fundraising campaign, #TeamEthanGray, and sold T-shirts in support of the center's Patient Family Assistance Fund that supports families with children undergoing procedures and treatment for childhood cancer and blood disorders. The campaign raised nearly \$12,000.

After 50 weeks of treatments, Ethan completed his final round of chemotherapy in November 2018.

66 He's happier. His energy is back," Carrie says. "We have another son, Tyler, and they are playing again. It's just been really awesome since he stopped chemotherapy.

The T-shirt campaign came to a close when Ethan completed chemotherapy, but the Lassiters wanted to do something even more substantial to show their immense gratitude to Children's.

Together with Ethan's grandparents— E.G. and Marianne Lassiter—Rich and Carrie committed a major gift in December 2018 to establish the Lassiter Family Innovation Fund for Brain Tumor Research, which will be used for practical research on inoperable brain tumors, with a specific focus on low-grade glioma outcomes and survivorship.

"Children's leads the largest brain tumor program in the country," Rich explains. "They are uniquely positioned to do this type of research based on volume. We want to help support the Neuro-Oncology Program in a way that will positively impact the quality of life of patients."

While Children's has immediate treatment available for certain brain tumors, they have less research on the long-term effects that these medicines will have on the overall health and quality of life these patients experience. Rich says their goal in establishing the fund is to help find innovative ways to improve the lives of children living with inoperable brain tumors.

"We ended up creating very close relationships with the people in the Foundation who supported us throughout Ethan's treatment," Carrie adds. "They have really held our hands through setting up this fund. We want to invest in a place where children are actually being treated."



Ethan Lassiter (left) posing with his brother, Tyler, in front of the hospital on his last day of chemo.

## Your donations at work

For the first time ever, our community raised more than \$100 million for kids at Children's—a record-breaking total for donations. This generous support from donors like you is essential to our not-for-profit organization, allowing us to offer specialized care and enabling our staff to treat a wide range of pediatric conditions. Below, you can see how your support is making a difference.





# **Center for Advanced Pediatrics**

\$2,386,279.92



#### Clinical

\$29,971,197.53



#### **Facilities**

\$5,454,883.87



#### **Marcus Autism Center**

\$27,446,510.17



#### Training

\$6,227,354.15



#### **Unique patient services**

\$7,113,550.43



#### Unrestricted

\$20,631,385.59



#### Wellness

\$899,186.92

### **Every little bit counts**

No matter how much you give to Children's, we appreciate you believing in us as we continue to strive to accomplish more. Every single dollar allows us to provide quality pediatric care, in addition to offering support services like Canines for Kids, child life services, and music and art therapy that help our patients' journeys to happier and healthy lives as easy as possible. **Thank you for your generosity.** 

## From the heart



Children's is consistently ranked as a top pediatric heart program by U.S. News & World Report.



At just 3 years old, Kristen declared war on leukemia. This summer, our thriving high school sophomore will take her driver's license test.

– Jennifer, Kristen's mom



After being born with bilateral club feet, Sarah is now a starter on her varsity soccer team thanks to the Children's rehab, orthopedics and sports medicine teams.

– Pam, Sarah's mom



# **Looking forward**

As a not-for-profit organization, we rely on support from donors like you to help fund everything from new technology and advanced research to books, bears and video games for our patients. Every gift—every single dollar—makes a difference in the lives of kids.

Here are just a few ways you can give:

- Schedule a monthly gift.
- Start your own fundraiser.
- Purchase toys or supplies from our wish list.
- Attend an event benefiting Children's.

Visit **choa.org/waystogive** to learn more about how you can support our patients and make a donation today.



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