

Annual Report to the Community

2009



... because children need us!

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Mission

The mission of the Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba Inc. is to be an independent agency whose purpose is to raise and distribute funds for the advancement of knowledge and care in the fields of child health and child health research, thereby contributing to the improved health of children everywhere.

Manitoba Institute of Child Health Board of Directors

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Annual Report Photography

Joel Ross Photography

Message from the Chair and Executive Director



Imagine – in 1905 there were 513 infant deaths in Winnipeg due mainly to diarrheal diseases. At that time, one infant in eight born in Winnipeg died before his or her first birthday. That is why Anne A. Bond, a nurse born and trained in England, who settled in Winnipeg in 1903, decided that something needed to be done to look after the specific health care needs of children.

Because of Annie A. Bond and a small group of dedicated ladies who supported her vision through fundraising initiatives, the first Winnipeg Children's Hospital was opened in 1909 in a three-storey home on Beaconsfield Street. Over the last century, incredible strides have been made in the level of care that we provide to the children who pass through the doors of the current Children's Hospital on Sherbrook Street. From its base of operations in Winnipeg, the Hospital now reaches out to children in every part of Manitoba, Northwestern Ontario and Nunavut.

Through ongoing and dedicated community support, our Children's Hospital Foundation was created in 1971 to ensure that our children have the best in health care and research available to them. Over the years we have raised close to \$100 million and have distributed over \$76 million for programs and equipment at the Children's Hospital and in support of pediatric research, through our very own Manitoba Institute of Child Health.

Welcome to our Foundation's 2009 Report to the Community. In the tough economic times we all faced in 2009, the Foundation was still able to raise and disburse \$3.3 million in support of pediatric research at our Institute, as well as \$1.5 million for programs and equipment at the Children's Hospital. In the pages that follow you will be taken through the highlights of the year to see how your community support has enabled us to meet these financial targets.

Annie A. Bond had a vision over 100 years ago that all children deserve the chance to live, learn, grow and reach their full potential. That vision still exists today, especially as childhood diseases and disorders continue to grow and become more complicated. Our children need hope through the possibility of the discovery of causes, cures and treatments of pediatric diseases – especially those made right here in Manitoba. The Foundation is here to guarantee that that hope continues to exist.

DID YOU KNOW?
 The Children's Hospital Centenary Year was kicked off with the unveiling of a commemorative cairn in front of HSC by His Royal Highness, Prince Edward, Earl of Wessex.

On behalf of the Children's Hospital Foundation, thank you
 ... because children need us!

Andrew McPherson
 Chair, Board of Directors

Lesia Sianchuk
 Executive Director

* resigned in 2009

2009

A Year in Review



Book Market

Since 1961, the Children's Hospital Book Market has contributed greatly to the Foundation, and 2009 was a record-breaker. The longest running fundraising event in support of the Children's Hospital Foundation pulled in a whopping \$329,000 with three sales, which included the February paperback sale, the annual April sale and the September paperback sale.



BDO Canadian Open Curling

The Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba and its partners, True North Sports and Entertainment and Insight Sports Ltd. thank curling fans for their support in making the 2009 BDO Classic Canadian Open a great success with nearly \$100,000 raised! A multi-day event of this magnitude is only possible because of the outstanding commitment of the organizing committee, many volunteers, sponsors, media and some of the best curlers in the world.



Direct Mail Appeal

Our two direct mail appeals in 2009 raised over \$165,000, helping to enhance patient care at the Children's Hospital and investing in research in Manitoba. We thank Jordyn Bean, Violet Yoder, and their families for sharing their stories of courage, determination, and hope.



Teddy Bears' Picnic

Approximately 40,000 children, parents, and teddy bears gathered in Assiniboine Park on Sunday, May 31st to take part in the 23rd Annual Teddy Bears' Picnic. A record-breaking 3,400 children took their bears through the Bear Ambulatory Surgical Hospital (BASH) tent to get special treatment for their furry friends. BASH included a new area called Heads-Up Neurology, where bears could have their brain activity examined.

The 2009 Teddy Bears' Picnic raised \$68,785 and could not be the success it was without the tireless work of the steering committee, thousands of volunteers, and the support of our generous sponsors.



Dr. Goodbear Golf Classic

Good weather, good friends, a great round of golf - all for a wonderful cause! The 2009 Dr. Goodbear Golf Classic was held at the Niakwa Golf and Country Club, raising \$33,990 in support of the Foundation.

DID YOU KNOW?

In 1971, the Children's Hospital Book Market was honoured with a special visit from Prime Minister Pierre Elliot Trudeau and Winnipeg's Lloyd Axworthy.





Radiothon

An incredible \$650,000 was raised - in just 12 hours - at the Winnipeg and Brandon Astral Media Caring for Kids Radiothons with proceeds going directly to the Children's Hospital Foundation. Bear hugs go out to our event sponsors and the families from Winnipeg, Brandon and surrounding areas for sharing their stories of courage and hope.



The Guilds of the Children's Hospital

Together the guilds raised \$68,615 through events like the Chown Guild Bear Essentials Fashion Show and the St. Agnes Guild Big Band Night. The McKinnon Guild continues to manage the Nearly New Shop and the St. Agnes Guild keeps the doors of the gift shop within Children's Hospital open.

We thank all members of the Annie A. Bond, St. Agnes, Chown, McKinnon, and St. John's Guilds for their ongoing efforts and support.



Ice Crystal Gala 2009 Presented by the Tolaini Family

Dressed to the hilt, children and families made their way to the Winnipeg Convention Centre for the 3rd Annual Ice Crystal Gala. Over 650 people attended this family-oriented, black tie event, which raised more than \$100,000 for the Foundation.

"The Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba was privileged to work with the Tolaini Family on the Ice Crystal Gala," said Ardelle Kipling, Event Chair. "We are so proud to be part of a community which truly values the health and well-being of our children. Many thanks go out to all of our Gala sponsors and supporters."



Kids Helping Kids

The Foundation is incredibly fortunate to have the support of many children and teens who take the initiative to raise funds for the Children's Hospital.

These events and projects help build leadership skills and a sense of community and philanthropy, in addition to supporting the work of the Children's Hospital.



Donor Dollars Making an Impact on Child Health

Spending time in the hospital can be a stressful experience for anyone – especially a child. Each year, the Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba provides funding for Programs and Health Promotion and Prevention, as well as new initiatives that help make a child's stay in the hospital a little easier. These programs help children and their families cope with the stress and anxiety of a hospital stay and would not be possible without ongoing donor support.

Enhancing Preschool and School Readiness Services to Neonatal High-Risk Follow-up Children | \$84,768

The goal of this initiative is to enhance multidisciplinary services, including occupational therapy (OT), speech language pathology (SLP), and neurodevelopment services to the existing Neonatal High Risk Follow-up Program. By enhancing these services through consolidation, more children will have access to services recommended by national and international guidelines.

Acute Care of the at-Risk Newborn (ACoRN) Education Program | \$83,365

ACoRN is a course that focuses on the stabilization and pre-transport care of at-risk or unwell newborns. The program is a priority-based, clinically oriented framework that sequentially integrates assessment, monitoring, diagnostic evaluations, intervention and ongoing management for at-risk and unwell newborns. The excellent work implementing ACoRN in Manitoba was noted by the National ACoRN Society and the work of the ACoRN group in Manitoba has been met with many accolades.

Building A Centre for Pediatric Sleep Medicine | \$79,140

In 2009 the number of sleep studies, particularly in children with complex care needs has more than doubled. As a result of this grant, we can now diagnose sleep disorders in children with complex medical conditions that require the presence of two experienced polysomnography technologists. Furthermore, we can expedite sleep studies in children who may need close monitoring after a tonsillectomy, thereby shortening the wait for surgery and easing the pressure on monitored beds at the hospital.

Surgical Navigation | \$66,097

A Surgical Navigator was hired for the Children's Hospital to coordinate the slates and manage patients through the pre-surgical process. This position has proven to be very effective as is evident by a success factor of 100% utilization of pediatric slates. The hiring of this individual through the Foundation grant has allowed the department to pursue many different process improvements and to identify duplication of activities which were evident throughout the surgical experience.

Medication Reconciliation Project: The Discharge Process | \$19,065

The purpose of the Medication Reconciliation Discharge project was to establish a comprehensive discharge medication reconciliation process that can be sustainably implemented across varied hospital disciplines, which reduces the risk of medication discrepancies for all children at discharge. As a result of this grant, a process flow chart was developed, ward pharmacists were educated regarding the new discharge process and were involved in the trial process. Over 100 electronically generated Medication Reconciliation Discharge forms have been printed, reconciled by physicians and provided to families during the course of this project.



Enhancement of the Children's Asthma Education Centre's Website | \$7,500

The Children's Asthma Education Centre (CAEC) has a successful website (www.asthma-education.com) which has been in existence since 2001. In 2007 – 2008, website hits ranged from 5,273 – 53,754 per month, including local, national and international visitors. The grant ensures that the CAEC website remains a current, engaging and relevant source of asthma information for families and other health care providers, and that it supports recognition of the CAEC team as pediatric asthma education leaders in Canada.

Education for Biofeedback/Urodynamics Program | \$2,100

Biofeedback is beneficial for children with voiding dysfunction and normal neuroanatomy. This is a computer program that provides auditory and visual information to patients, thus promoting behavioral modifications. This grant allowed staff to go off-site to observe the Biofeedback program at SickKids Hospital in Toronto and put together information and instructions in order to design and improve the current Children's Hospital Biofeedback program.

Other Initiatives that received grants through the Foundation

Development of a Caregiver Educational Resource and Enhancement of Existing Staff

Educational Resources Regarding the Management of Children with Abnormal Muscle Tone | \$67,504

Project Coordinator to Establish a Bone Health Protocol for the Child Health Program | \$47,369

Data-driven Decision Making and the Quest for Improvement:

The Development of a Centralized Pediatric Clinical Neurology Database System | \$38,633

Development of a Pediatric Pulmonary Rehabilitation Program | \$38,149

Support Worker for Families of Children with Hearing Loss | \$23,752

Infant Nutrition Preparation Room: Determining Logistics of Best Practice | \$17,000

Dedicated Hearing Screener for High Risk Infant Hearing Screenings | \$8,953

Foot Abnormalities in Children with Type 2 Diabetes:

A Quality Initiative Project to Improve Detection and Treatment | \$8,000



DID YOU KNOW?

Dr. Goodbear debuted in 1987 and continues to visit hundreds of schools, corporate fundraising and special events across the province, and children in the hospital.

Ongoing Programs in the Child Life Department | \$336,237

CHTV (Children's Hospital Television Station, Channel 7)

The Children's Hospital closed-circuit television provides alternative, non-commercial television programming for patients in the Children's Hospital. One extremely therapeutic tool that is utilized is a personal, interactive live show that occurs for one hour every weekday, titled "The Good Day Show". CHTV includes programming specific to young children, adolescents, First Nations and Inuit populations.

Music Therapy Program

Music is a natural part of childhood and it is a means of expression and identity for the adolescent population. Music is able to access all levels of health (physical, mental, emotional and spiritual) simultaneously. Furthermore, the use of music is painless, non-invasive, portable and accessible. The Music Therapy Program is able to offer and provide a complementary, non-pharmacological form of pain management within a hospital setting in addition to promoting music as a positive coping mechanism.

Family Libraries – The Family Information Library & The Book Corner

The Family Information Library enables families to become better-informed members of the health care team. Families are able to participate more fully in the health care of their children through the library's offerings of child health information suitable for the layperson in a non-threatening environment. Consequently, the lines of communication between the family and health care provider are opened.

The Book Corner, our in-patient library, provides patients with the normalizing option of choosing reading materials and DVDs, and providing reading-related activities for recreation, stimulation, humour and diversion during the stressful time of hospitalization. The Book Corner also supports the School Room in providing developmentally appropriate materials for the school curriculum while patients are in hospital.

Child Life Humor Program

The Winnipeg Children's Hospital is the only hospital to employ a Child Life Specialist/Therapeutic Clown. This program strives to reduce the stress and anxiety of hospitalization on children and their families by being diversional, entertaining, and therapeutic for patients. Through a variety of play activities such as bubble blowing, face painting, magic tricks, music and mime, the clown offers the patients experiences which are humorous, supportive and healing. The use of mime is also empowering and is effective when communicating with non-verbal, non-English speaking and even very shy patients.



DID YOU KNOW?

The Children's Hospital was the first in Canada to offer a therapeutic clown program (established in 1986). Through the use of humour, mime, magic, music and juggling, our Clown/Child Life Specialist offers patients distraction, support, choices in their play, creativity, and laughter. The therapeutic clown makes over 4,000 visits to hospitalized children and their siblings each year.

Children's Miracle Network[®]



Children's Miracle Network's mission is to generate funds and awareness programs in partnership with and for the benefit of member hospitals/foundations and the children they are privileged to serve.

Who is Children's Miracle Network?

Children's Miracle Network is an international non-profit organization that raises funds for more than 170 children's hospitals, 14 of which are in Canada. Compassionate organizations, media partners and countless individuals unite with Children's Miracle Network hospitals to help sick and injured kids in local communities. Donations to Children's Miracle Network create miracles by funding medical care, research and education that saves and improves the lives of more than 2.6 million Canadian children each year.

Children's Miracle Network's partners conduct thousands of special events and grassroots fundraisers year-round. Corporate partners sell Miracle Balloons, radio and television stations broadcast stories of medical miracles, banks conduct monthly donation programs, vendors support walks and events - just a few of the programs generating millions of dollars each year to provide the life-saving care and crucial services kids need.

Through its continuous efforts to help kids, Children's Miracle Network has raised more than \$3.4 billion to date, most of which is donated a dollar or two at a time by caring individuals. Through its continuous efforts to help kids, Children's Miracle Network has raised more than \$400 million for Canadian children's hospitals since its inception.

The Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba is a proud member of the Children's Miracle Network and is privileged to have the support of many invaluable national sponsors who raise funds that are used right here in the province of Manitoba. In 2009, Children's Miracle Network sponsors raised more than \$1.4 million for the Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba.



Champions Across Canada Launch

Each year, the Foundation takes part in the Children's Miracle Network Champions Across Canada, presented by WalMart Canada, which selects a child to represent the Children's Hospital. This child embodies what it means to be a survivor. In 2009, the Foundation announced Jordyn Bean as their Champion Child. See her story on page 17.

WalMart

From CMN balloon icons to round-up campaigns to the WalMart Walk for Miracles, WalMart helped raise more than \$350,000 in 2009. WalMart employees are always ready to pitch in for any fundraising effort, even doing weekend BBQ's to ensure they top goals from previous years.

Costco Wholesale

Costco raised more than \$100,000 for the Children's Hospital Foundation through their sale of Miracle Balloons, dog tags and other individually initiated fundraising events. Costco employees held numerous events to ensure that their fundraising goal was met.

TD Bank Financial Group

TD Bank is a longtime friend of Children's Hospital Foundation and raised \$142,000 in 2009. TD Bank is committed to partnering with the community each year, asking customers to make a monthly pledge to the Children's Hospital Foundation which is in turn matched by TD Bank.

RE/MAX Canada

Throughout the Miracle Home Program and the RE/MAX Miracle Makers Golf Classic, RE/MAX agents raised almost \$139,000 in 2009. RE/MAX agents were creative in staging a Texas Hold'em tournament which pushed their fundraiser goal to new heights.

DID YOU KNOW?

In 2009, across North America, in areas where the population base is between 1-3 million, fundraising for our Children's Hospital ranked fifth on a per capita basis.

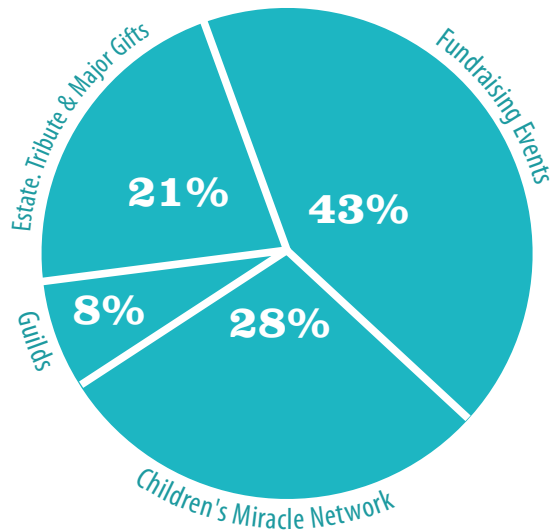
In 2009, per capita, Manitobans donated \$1.21 each to CMN fundraising activities. Across the country, we had the 6th lowest change in dollars raised, compared to 2008.

Source of Funds Donated to the Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba

HOW A DOLLAR IS RAISED

The Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba strives to be responsive to the needs of our donors, working diligently to find ways to make giving the most efficient and effective for each donor. Supporting the Children's Hospital Foundation is as easy as sending in a cheque, becoming a member of the Dr. Goodbear Miracle Club (monthly giving club), participating in a community fundraising event, hosting a bake sale with friends and family, or taking part in our signature events - The Teddy Bears' Picnic, Ice Crystal Gala, or the Dr. Goodbear Golf Classic.

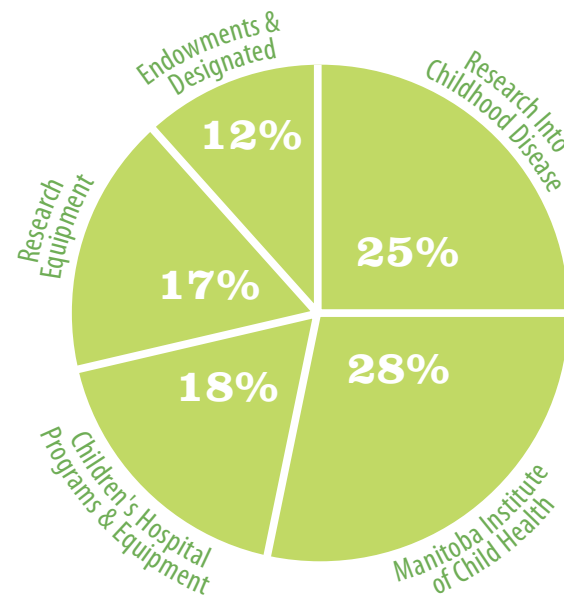
The Foundation also relies on the commitment and generosity of community and corporate partners who donate funds, implement innovative fundraising initiatives, and give selflessly of their time.



Use of Funds Donated to the Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba

WHERE THE DOLLARS ARE SPENT

As a charitable organization, the work of the Foundation is legislated and regulated by policies and practices outlined by the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA). In fiscal year 2009, over \$3.3 million was raised and disbursed in support of pediatric research at our Institute (Manitoba Institute of Child Health), as well as \$1.5 million for programs and equipment at the Children's Hospital.



Auditor's report available online at www.goodbear.mb.ca

Manitoba Institute of Child Health – Continuing to Grow

The Manitoba Institute of Child Health (MICH) continues to develop. In 2009, Phase 1 of the construction project to expand the MICH facilities was completed. This phase included the creation of an open-concept wet lab space on the 6th floor of the John Buhler Research Centre (JBRC) where researchers of different disciplines can now work side by side, strengthening our thematic approach to research, and enhancing the transfer of discoveries that happen at the lab bench to applications in bedside and clinical care.

Recruitment continues to be vital in growing the competitiveness of MICH on child health research levels nationally and internationally. Fourteen new researchers were welcomed as new MICH Members in 2009, a 10% increase in membership. They represent areas ranging from asthma allergic disease in the pediatric population to bioactive compounds in infant foods.

In 2009, partnerships in training, operating grants, and competitions produced twice the amount of awards available to trainees and students. MICH partnered with the Manitoba Health Research Council on their Trainee Competitions, which included Graduate Studentships and Postdoctoral Fellowships. MICH also partnered with the Manitoba Medical Service Foundation on two operating grants. The partnerships work on a 50/50 fund-matching contribution program allowing the foundations/council to support more training and for MICH to double the number of trainees we fund through our Institute.

MICH is in the final stages of recruitment of a new Director of Research and anticipates a 2010 start date for this key position. Until then, the three current Research Directors sharing the role have agreed to continue to provide leadership.

MICH hosted a number of events in 2009 including:

Origins of Lung Disease and Allergy; Translating Research into Practice

This international symposium attracted several international speakers and doubled in size from the 2007 event, jointly hosted by MICH's Biology of Breathing Theme and the Canadian Institute of Health Research National Training Program in Allergy and Asthma.

Scientific Symposium:

State of the Art Pulmonary Medicine Research in Canada

Co-hosted by Dr. Andrew Halayko and MICH's Biology of Breathing Theme and in partnership with the Canadian Thoracic Society and the Canadian Lung Association, this symposium aimed at promoting awareness of the national lung research landscape and its strengths and roadblocks.

5th Annual Child Health Research Day

MICH welcomed more than 200 participants and had 56 poster presentations. Speakers presented on themes relating to child nutrition and dental health.



Dr. Joanne Embree

Director of Research, Relationships

Dr. Kent HayGlass

Director of Research, Grants and Research Support

Dr. Barb Triggs-Raine

Director of Research, Facility and Space

Ms. Karen Sparrow

Director of Operations and Business Development



2009 Operating Grants

Each year the Manitoba Institute of Child Health, with support from the Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba Inc., awards operating grants based on scientific excellence and relevance to child health research. All grants are reviewed by experts in their respective fields and by the Institute Research Committee (IRC). Operating grant funds are used to support the direct costs (personnel, materials and supplies) of pediatric research. In 2009, 23 applications were received and 11 projects were funded.

Dr. Judy Anderson | \$38,247

Cerebellar Pathophysiology associated with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy

Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD) is one of the most common inherited diseases among children, affecting 1 in 3300 boys. The disorder occurs from a loss of the protein dystrophin, normally present in muscle, and causes severe muscle weakness that is ultimately fatal. Dr. Anderson's research will support efforts to develop future strategies to improve cognitive functioning and overall quality of life for those with DMD.

Dr. Andrew Halayko | \$43,968

Neutrophil-derived S100A8/A9 as an Inflammatory Mediator in Allergic Airway Disease

Nearly 12% of Canadian children are diagnosed with asthma, and there is a significant trend of increasing prevalence in the past two decades. There is a need to know more about basic mechanisms that contribute to disease progression so that new, more effective therapeutic targets can be identified. The research initiative will be the first studies examining the role of S100A8/A9 and its association with neutrophils in allergic airway inflammation, thus having the potential to uncover a new target for treatment of severe asthma, especially in those patients that are insensitive to current therapies.

Dr. Sara J. Israels | \$41,815

Markers of Platelet Activation in Children with Diabetes Mellitus

The increasing frequency of type 2 diabetes in children, particularly First Nations youth, is a major child health issue in Manitoba. The potential impact of cardiovascular disease on the future health of these children is significant. This research examines the platelets of children with diabetes to determine whether they show the same changes as those seen in the platelets of adults with diabetes. If we learn that platelet abnormalities are already present in young people with type 2 diabetes, this knowledge will add to the evidence that these children are at risk for early cardiovascular disease. Also, platelet activity tests could be useful in assessing the benefits of new approaches to prevention and treatment of type 2 diabetes in children.

Dr. Robert Schroth | \$45,000

Do children with Severe Early Childhood Caries (S-ECC) have lower vitamin D levels and other nutritional deficiencies compared to their caries-free peers?

Early Childhood Tooth Decay is the most common chronic disease of childhood and affects childhood health and wellbeing. Pediatric dental surgery is the most common day surgical procedure at most Canadian pediatric hospitals, including Winnipeg. While we know that Severe Early Childhood Tooth Decay can affect childhood health, we know little about its influence on preschool nutritional status. This proposal will undertake blood analysis to see if there are differences in vitamin D and other nutritional markers between preschool children with Severe Early Childhood Tooth Decay and children who are cavity-free.

Dr. Shyamala Dakshinamurti | \$45,000

Effect of Milrinone on Pulmonary Circuit Hemodynamics in Hypoxia PPHN

Dr. William Diehl-Jones | \$39,500

Genomic Effects of Human Milk and Human Milk Fortifiers

Dr. David Eisenstat | \$45,000

Role of DLX Transcription Factors in Enteric Nervous System and Intestinal Development: Implications for Hirschsprung Disease

Dr. James K. Friel | \$40,669

Evidence Base for Feeding Mother's Milk to Premature Infants

Dr. Mojgan Rastegar | \$41,310

Epigenetic in Disease: Identification of MeCP2 Targets for Rett Syndrome

Dr. Jude Uzonna | \$45,000

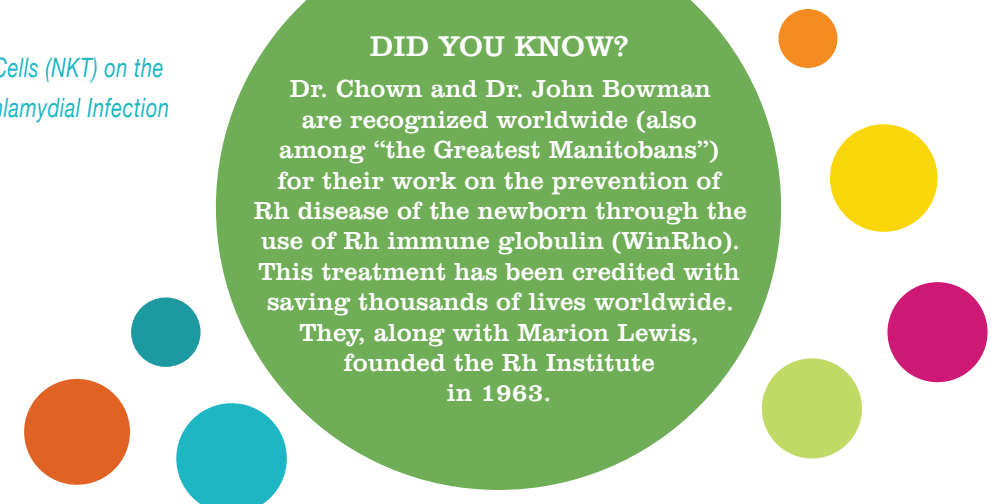
Regulation of Endotoxic Shock by Regulatory T Cells

Dr. Xi Yang | \$45,000

Modulating Effect of Natural Killer T Cells (NKT) on the Function of Dendritic Cells (DC) in Chlamydial Infection

DID YOU KNOW?

Dr. Chown and Dr. John Bowman are recognized worldwide (also among "the Greatest Manitobans") for their work on the prevention of Rh disease of the newborn through the use of Rh immune globulin (WinRho). This treatment has been credited with saving thousands of lives worldwide. They, along with Marion Lewis, founded the Rh Institute in 1963.



2009 Post Doctoral Fellowships

Joint competition coordinated through the Manitoba Health Research Council

Two year award valued at \$36,750 per annum

Dr. Kimberley Arbeau

Department of Family Social Sciences, Faculty of Human Ecology, University of Manitoba

Project Title: Shyness and Shame in Middle Childhood:

Can the Combination Lead to the Most Detrimental Outcomes?

Dr. Zhirong Mou

Department of Immunology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Manitoba

Project Title: Identification of Leishmania Major Antigenic Peptides that Elicit Protective Memory T Cell Response

Dr. Jingbo Zhang

Department of Immunology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Manitoba

Project Title: Molecular Regulation and Function of Pentraxin 3 in Allergic Asthma

2009 Graduate Studentships

Joint competition coordinated through the Manitoba Health Research Council

Two year award valued at \$17,850 per annum

Joy Armistead, PhD student

Jyoti Balhara, Master's student

Kallesh Danapa Jayappa, PhD student

Janelle De Rocquigny, Master's student

Jena Fediuk, PhD student

Xiaoling Gao, PhD student

Andrea Kroeker, Master's student

Sajid Mahmood, Master's student

Karen Penner, PhD student

Naresh Redhu, PhD student

Anurag Singh Sikarwar, Master's student

Darolyn Walker, PhD student

Robby Zachariah, Master's student

2009 Undergraduate Studentships

These awards provide promising undergraduate students with a summer work experience in a medical research environment at the Manitoba Institute of Child Health for 12 weeks. In 2009, 19 students received awards valued at \$5,000 each.

Amadeus Steen Foundation Raises \$400,000 for Family-Centred Environment

Thanks to the Amadeus Steen Foundation, the Health Sciences Centre Winnipeg opened a new room for acutely-ill infants and children who require constant monitoring. This project is the first undertaking of the Steen Foundation, who host the Annual Steen Classic Golf Tournament in support of Children's Hospital Foundation.

"Winnipeg, and particularly Children's Hospital, was so good to us during our son Amadeus' illness," said Mona Steen, Executive Director of the Amadeus Steen Foundation. "We chose this project as the first of our Foundation so that other families going through similar experiences can be more comfortable while they're going through a child's illness."

Designed to provide a safe, family-centred environment for children who are very sick and require constant monitoring, the room can accommodate up to four patients and their parents.

Many contractors, Winnipeg Jets Alumni and other members of the community contributed to this project. Thomas Steen, a former NHL player with the Winnipeg Jets, and his son Alexander Steen, currently playing with the NHL's St. Louis Blues, have enlisted former and current NHL players for ongoing fundraising efforts. Material costs and some services were also generously donated by many of the contractors who worked on building the space.

The Amadeus Steen Foundation was established in 2007 in the memory of the late Amadeus Steen, Thomas and Mona Steen's infant son. It is a non-profit organization that raises funds to enhance lives of infants and children through non-clinical initiatives in the Winnipeg community.



Jordyn Bean's Story

Chrissy Latimer could not have asked for a better pregnancy. She felt great throughout and everything developed normally. Chrissy remembers the day her baby girl was born. She was the most peaceful newborn Chrissy had ever seen.

Jordyn grew into a happy baby who loved the camera. "She would smile at a remote if you held it up, thinking it was a camera," said Chrissy.

By her first birthday, Jordyn was toddling around like any other child but at 18 months of age, Chrissy noticed some curious changes. Jordyn had a tendency to flap her hands and hum to herself. She rarely made eye contact with those around her.

A trip to the pediatrician around that time also revealed that Jordyn's vocabulary was stunted. She spoke only 10-15 words, while children her age were typically speaking 300. The most distressing fact: she could not convey her most basic needs.

Chrissy and Jordyn were referred to Children's Hospital, where they met with a caring team of doctors and staff. Jordyn was diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

Chrissy felt as though her world was crashing down around her. She worried about obstacles her daughter would face, especially communicating - not only with the world around her, but her own family.

Luckily, the Children's Hospital was there when they needed it most. Since 2005, Jordyn has been an outpatient of the Child Development Clinic, using the occupational and physiotherapy and speech pathology services. At first, Jordyn could only say a few words. Now at the age of six, she has learned hundreds more.

"Without the early intervention and the wonderful staff at the Children's Hospital, Jordyn would not be where she is today, and I certainly would not have the bond we have now," said Chrissy.

... because children need us!



Matthew Elias' Story

Matthew, who is 13 years old, has developed many amazing relationships with the people he has gotten to know through his many visits to Children's Hospital.

Just before the age of two Matthew was diagnosed with an auto-immune disease called Polyarteritis Nodosa. This disease attacks the walls of his blood vessels, causing inflammation. As a result, blood is not able to flow properly through the inflamed vessels.

In August 2004, Matthew awoke with a severe headache and was unable to swallow. After assessment at a local hospital, Matthew was sent to Children's Hospital in Winnipeg. Following testing at Children's it was found that Matthew had suffered a stroke. The tests revealed that this was, in fact, Matthew's third stroke. At that time he was given a feeding tube to survive, and aggressive treatment was started in hopes of better controlling his disease and preventing further strokes.

It has been difficult for doctors to monitor the success of Matthew's treatment plan because the disease is attacking the small and tiny vessels of his brain stem, which are not visible using MRI or CT imaging until there has been an injury/stroke.

Matthew's disease continues to flare through aggressive treatment. To date he has suffered 11 strokes and a brain bleed. With each stroke his treatment plan is fine tuned or altered in hopes of finding the right one.



It is a miracle that after all Matthew has gone through – strokes, a brain bleed, infections, severe allergic reactions to medications and aggressive treatments, that he is still alive. Matthew's spirits have remained incredibly positive, often giving the people closest to him the strength to go on. Matthew's mom states, "Much of his ability to cope is thanks to the staff and programming at Children's Hospital. Matthew and we as a family appreciate the awesome support that we have received from his medical team."

"We're all on a journey. We're thankful that we've been able to walk through it together with a place like the Children's Hospital," says Mrs. Elias.

... because children need us!

New Allergy & Asthma Centre

Jeff and Valerie Thompson have children with asthma and allergy issues. They know first-hand the struggles associated with the two medical conditions. "It's scary as a parent when you see your child having difficulties breathing or not able to eat certain foods," says Mr. Thompson.

While living in New York, the Thompsons discovered their son had severe allergies to certain foods. They were told by doctors there that the best allergy specialists in the world were in the Thompson's own back yard – in Winnipeg. Returning home to Winnipeg, the Thompsons were treated and educated by world-class doctors and staff at the Allergy & Asthma Centre at the Children's Hospital.

Mr. Thompson decided that he wanted to give something back so he approached the Children's Hospital Foundation about updating the space where children's allergies and asthma were treated. That is how the Thompson Children's Allergy & Asthma Centre came to be. At the grand opening on September 16, 2009, the 4,300 sq. ft. facility was unveiled as the first of its kind in Canada. It provides comfortable patient care and testing rooms, workspace for staff, and an education centre featuring two classrooms equipped with high-tech training tools like SmartBoards. Here, kids and their parents can actively participate in learning about their asthma and allergies.

The centre is co-funded through the Children's Hospital Foundation thanks to the major gifts of the Thompson family, RE/MAX, Manitoba Lotteries Employees Care by Helping Others program, an estate gift from Yvonne Piché and numerous other donors, as well as funding from the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority.



The Importance of Giving

Many donors choose to make a lasting investment in the future of child health. The Planned Giving Program of the Children's Hospital Foundation enables donors to make gifts that may take the form of outright cash or gifts-in-kind for immediate use, or to make a deferred gift through wills and bequests, insurance policies and charitable annuities. Thank you to the following donors for their generous gifts to the Planned Giving Program:

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* we regret any errors or omissions

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We are always inspired by the investment and generosity of members of the community. The Children's Hospital Foundation gratefully acknowledges all of our many supporters who understand the importance of supporting child health care. We are unable to publish every gift, but each one is very much appreciated and truly does make a difference; every dollar does count. The following list recognizes major gifts between January and December 2009.

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