



# Working together to save children

*Annual report July 1, 2010 — June 30, 2011*



“...The most important thing I've learned is not something technical, but seeing the spirit, the dedication...to be a very effective part of a cardiac team. I learned how to spread what I learned to other people, to every member of this team. To be an educator and a trainer is very important, too, because a team cannot win if there's only one champion.” — *Dr. Gan, West China Hospital*



# United in fighting congenital heart disease

Letter from Elizabeth Perlich Sweeney . . . . .	4
Letter from Joseph A. Dearani, M.D.. . . . .	6
Our Programs: Collaborating for Children . . . . .	8
Highlights of Our Accomplishments . . . . .	10
Summary of Events . . . . .	12
Donors. . . . .	14
<b>Sidebar:</b> Our Work in India: Building on Success, Together . . . . .	17
<b>Sidebar:</b> Improving Quality and Outcomes, Saving Lives . . . . .	20
Visionary Circle. . . . .	24
<b>Sidebar:</b> Cardiac Training Visit: Vietnam . . . . .	25
Medical Volunteers . . . . .	26
Organizational Volunteers . . . . .	28
International Advisory Board . . . . .	30
<b>Sidebar:</b> Cardiac Training Visit: China . . . . .	32
Staff and Board of Directors . . . . .	33
Our Financial Health. . . . .	34



## Dear **Friends** of Children's HeartLink,



The incidence of heart defects knows no geographic or socioeconomic border. Approximately one in 120 babies is born with one — almost anywhere you go. Also universal is a parent's love and concern for a sick child. It is as fierce in Brazil, Vietnam, India or China as it is in the United States. The inconsistency, however, is in the access to health care. Many children with heart defects, who could have a good quality of life with surgical or interventional repair, do not have access to treatment or even accurate diagnosis. Many of them die. Children's HeartLink is working to change that by building capacity in pediatric cardiac care. The knowledge exists; it just needs to be shared with those who need it. We make the connections. We connect doctors to doctors, nurses to nurses, teams to teams, learners to education and training, and patients — children — to medical care.

Our business model is to help build and support sustainable programs with carefully selected partners around the world. We nurture long-term training and mentoring relationships so that our partners can become regional centers of excellence. And we empower them to continue the spread of education and training in their own communities.

Our model works because we have eager and committed international partners, outstanding and giving medical volunteers, generous financial contributors, a dedicated and experienced staff, and a wonderful board — all of whom come together to engage and support us in our continuing efforts to extend Children's HeartLink's unique way of caring for children even further into the world. I'm thrilled to report that Children's HeartLink has had a tremendously successful year. We finished our fiscal year especially strong, with just over eleven percent growth in revenue. Another highlight is the addition of a new partner site in Chandigarh, India, which will work in partnership with medical volunteers from Children's Hospital Boston. These are new and very promising relationships for us. We are growing, and we are expanding.



*A patient's grandmother expresses her gratitude that her granddaughter will receive treatment at Inova Children's Heart Hospital in Hyderabad, India.  
Photo: Sam Moban, yolksstudio.com*

We are also building our reputation as a global leader in sustainable pediatric cardiac care. This year, we introduced our new International Advisory Board, co-chaired by former Secretary of Health and Human Services Tommy G. Thompson and former Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle. We look forward to the expertise, advocacy and new connections this advisory board will bring to our organization.

On behalf of everyone who is a part of the Children's HeartLink family, thank you for your concern, your skills, your financial support and your friendship. Thank you for another amazing year!

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Perlich Sweeney  
President, Children's HeartLink

## Working together, **in concert**



Congenital heart disease (CHD) is a global problem, and the majority of children suffering from it do not receive adequate care. For example, each year in Brazil, an estimated 28,000 children are born with CHD. However, only about 6,000 Brazilian children receive cardiac surgery per year. The disparity is even starker in India, where an estimated 215,000 children with CHD are born each year, yet only about 6,000 children receive a heart operation annually. For the rest of the affected children, the reality is that many won't survive.

This gap between patient need and accessible treatment is a story told again and again in the countries where Children's HeartLink works, and it is not an easy one to hear. But for over 40 years, Children's HeartLink has been working alongside our partners and medical volunteers to support our partner health care programs in strengthening the knowledge, skills and abilities of their pediatric cardiac teams. By providing training and mentoring programs that each site needs, we help our partners become sustainable centers of excellence so that ultimately, our vision of children the world over having ready access to quality cardiac care will be realized.

For Children's HeartLink, doing this work requires a commitment to work together in a spirit of collaboration, shared responsibility, open communication and commitment of resources. As Ron Kalich, a supporter who accompanied us on a training visit to Brazil, said, "What I saw in the operating room was like a symphony — on the Brazilian side, you could see that people were really trying to absorb what they were seeing, what they were learning. It was excellent."

Producing a symphony requires the talents and the collaboration of numerous musicians, and we are thankful for the remarkable contributions of our medical volunteers, who share their experiences and expertise gained at outstanding medical institutions from around the world, including Birmingham Children's Hospital in the United Kingdom, Children's Hospitals and Clinics of Minnesota, Children's Hospital Boston, Mayo Clinic, New York Presbyterian Hospital, The Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto, Seattle Children's Hospital,



*A patient smiles with her mother at Hospital de Base in Brazil. Photo: Eloisa Mattos*

Stanford University's Lucile Packard Children's Hospital, University of Minnesota Amplatz Children's Hospital, and Gleneagles, National University and KK Women's and Children's Hospitals in Singapore. By capitalizing on their kindness, generosity and skill, Children's HeartLink is able to build capacity and promote sustainable, high-quality cardiac care for children, touching thousands of lives around the world.

Thank you for your continuous support.

Sincerely,

Joseph A. Dearani, M.D.  
Medical Director, Children's HeartLink  
Chair, Division of Cardiovascular Surgery, Mayo Clinic

# Our Programs: Collaborating for Children

Our purpose is to assure that children around the world have access to quality care for the treatment of heart disease. In partnership with key stakeholders, we aspire to achieve our purpose by:

- Supporting the development of self-sustaining centers of excellence in pediatric and congenital cardiac care in areas of need
- Empowering medical professionals to meet the needs of children with heart disease
- Supporting communities surrounding partner sites to coordinate resources that facilitate access



*Niya Antony, a patient at Amrita Institute of Medical Sciences in Kochi, India, received treatment during an interventional cardiology training workshop conducted with support from St. Jude Medical, Inc. Photo: Bistra Zheleva*



Approximately 1 in 120 children  
is born with a heart defect.

## Our Programs: How we work

Children's HeartLink improves access to quality pediatric cardiac care by helping pediatric cardiac programs in areas of need become sustainable regional centers of excellence. Children's HeartLink works in partnership with our many dedicated medical volunteers to provide training, mentoring and capacity-building opportunities that meet the unique needs of our partner sites. Our work with partner sites can include:

- Organizing and facilitating full team cardiac training visits
- Sponsoring specialized off-site training in the developed world for partner site staff
- Organizing consultant or small team visits to meet the specialized needs of our partner sites, such as infection prevention and control
- Supporting distance learning opportunities
- Supporting participation in quality measurement, monitoring and improvement activities
- Supporting partner sites in educating parents and other family caregivers in the most effective ways to care for their child at home after open heart surgery

When local circumstances call for it, we also work with governments and other organizations. In all our work on behalf of children, we rely on the tools of collaboration, capacity building, accountability and, most important of all, friendship.

Children's HeartLink has been facilitating capacity building for pediatric cardiac care for many years. Our phased support approach guides our clinical and organizational capacity building with partner sites. Our volunteers provide the core clinical expertise, as well as training and mentoring resources, for all phases of the approach. The phased approach is flexible, allowing Children's HeartLink to support our partner sites effectively while maintaining focus on the long-term goals of sustainability and improved quality and accessibility of care, so that ultimately, more children will receive the care they need.

## Highlights of Our Accomplishments

Children's HeartLink reached out in new and exciting ways in fiscal year 2011, to our partner sites and beyond. We dedicated increased human and financial resources to capacity building for pediatric cardiac care — supporting clinical training and organizational and leadership development in six countries, and reaching out to the communities and regions surrounding our partner sites through expanded training initiatives for groups of medical practitioners.

We provided a range of educational and technical assistance opportunities for pediatric cardiac professionals in the developing world, including:

- Eight full team cardiac training visits to partner sites by our volunteer teams
- Six small team and consultant visits to partner sites
- Four off-site training experiences for partner site staff to visit and learn from leading pediatric cardiac programs
- Four workshops in India for groups of medical professionals from our partner sites' communities

Children's HeartLink also:

- Convened two meetings involving representatives of several of our partner sites to encourage networking and sharing of best practices
- Added a new partner site — Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research in Chandigarh, India



Children's HeartLink welcomed long-time partner site Amrita Institute of Medical Sciences in Kochi, India, as the first Children's HeartLink Global Partner in Pediatric Cardiac Care and Training.

# Children's HeartLink Partner Program Locations



## Ecuador

Tropical Disease Institute of Ohio University, Catholic University of Ecuador

## Brazil

Hospital de Base, São José do Rio Preto

## South Africa

Red Cross War Memorial Children's Hospital, Cape Town

## Ukraine

Ukrainian Children's Cardiac Center, Kyiv

## India

Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh

Innova Children's Heart Hospital, Hyderabad

Narayana Hrudayalaya Institute of Cardiac Sciences, Bangalore

Amrita Institute of Medical Sciences, Kochi

## China

Jilin Heart Hospital, Changchun

First Hospital of Lanzhou University, Lanzhou

West China Hospital #1 of Sichuan University, Chengdu

Shanghai Children's Medical Center, Shanghai

## Vietnam

Nhi Dong 1 (Children's Hospital 1), Ho Chi Minh City

## Malaysia

Institut Jantung Negara (National Heart Institute), Kuala Lumpur

## An eventful year

Children’s HeartLink is fortunate to partner with globally oriented businesses and individuals who are passionate about the welfare of children suffering from heart disease. While fundraising is the focus of Children’s HeartLink events, the combination of exciting entertainment, showcase venues and enthusiastic guests makes each one better than the last. This year’s events were a testament to the imagination and dedication of the volunteers, whose gifts of time and talent yield incredible dividends for our partner programs and the people they serve.



*Volunteers Bess Heyer (left) and Emily Dale (right) hand out tiramisu samples at the Highland Park, Minnesota, Lunds store. Dale is a former Children’s HeartLink intern, now working in birth defects prevention, monitoring and analysis. Heyer was born with Ebstein’s anomaly and has had two open heart surgeries (by none other than Children’s HeartLink Medical Director, Dr. Joseph A. Dearani).*

### Heart to Heart 2011

Our Valentine’s Day event helped raise nearly \$60,400 for Children’s HeartLink. Gourmet supermarkets Lunds and Byerly’s created Tiramisu for Two, the perfect Valentine’s Day dessert, and proceeds from each sale benefited Children’s HeartLink. Lunds and Byerly’s also created \$1, \$5 and \$10 tear-tags for customers to make donations to Children’s HeartLink at check out during the Heart to Heart campaign. Lunds and Byerly’s sponsored a tiramisu tasting in every Twin Cities location, featuring blue ribbon baker Marjorie Johnson, TV personalities Sven Sundgaard and Pat Evans, as well as Cities 97 radio host Brian (BT) Turner.

### **The Leadership Emergence and Development Project (LEAD)**

LEAD, a nonprofit organization that engages young professionals in the charitable and philanthropic community of the Twin Cities, hosted a Valentine’s Day party benefiting Children’s HeartLink. From LEAD with Love: A Benefit for Children’s HeartLink was held at Theatre de la Jeune Lune and featured a silent auction, dancing, drinks, a cupcake bar and DJ Strange Love. The event raised \$7,500 for Children’s HeartLink.



In India, less than 5% of babies born with critical CHD actually undergo cardiac surgery or any other form of intervention.

*Saxena, Anita. "Congenital cardiac surgery in the less privileged regions of the world," Expert Review of Cardiovascular Therapy. 2009 Dec. 7(12):1621-9.*



*Students of Ragamala Dance perform at the 2010 HeartLink Gala.  
Photo: Kate Botwinski*

## 2010 HeartLink Gala

The 2010 HeartLink Gala brought together nearly 650 guests and volunteers at the Hilton Minneapolis to celebrate the beauty of healing. Dedicated honorary chairs Wendy Bennett and Ken Powell, chief executive officer and chairman of the board at General Mills, helped us surpass our sponsorship goal, which, combined with the results from our silent and live auctions, helped us reach our fundraising goal. The 2010 HeartLink Gala raised approximately \$640,000 for our work on behalf of children. The guests were treated to performances by the Modern Indian Dance Academy, R.G.K. Dance and Fitness Studio, Students of Ragamala Dance and the Minnesota Boychoir — all of whom donated their time and talents.



*Children's HeartLink board member Eric Olsen golfs at the heartLinks Golf Invitational.  
Photo: Phoetic Images*

## 19th Annual *heartLINKS* Golf Invitational

The 19th Annual *heartLINKS* Golf Invitational was held at the Golden Valley Golf and Country Club. Hosted by Mark Rosen, WCCO-TV sports director, the event featured an exciting day of golf, the MillerLite Oasis, cocktail reception, award ceremony, silent auction, raffle and heart-warming program from volunteer pediatric cardiologist Shanthi Sivanandam, M.D. Contests such as Chipotle's Beat-the-Pro, Putt to the Summit, Longest Drive and Closest to the Pin provided a competitive atmosphere for golfers' enjoyment. This year's event raised \$86,500 for Children's HeartLink.



## Please accept our heartfelt thanks

Thank you to all of our donors for their devotion and their concern for children. We are proud and honored to recognize their contributions.

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of contributions made between July 1, 2010, and June 30, 2011. Please inform the development office at (952) 928-4860, ext. 23, of any oversights or inaccuracies and accept our apologies in advance.

### Corporations, foundations and organizations

#### \$100,000+

Medtronic Foundation

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Boston Scientific

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St. Jude Medical, Inc.

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#### \$500—\$999

Airline Tariff Publishing Company

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Faegre & Benson, LLP

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Employees of Kaiser Permanente

Minnesota Children's Museum

PGN Foundation

\*AGA Medical Corporation is now part of St. Jude Medical, Inc.



*Children's Hospital Boston volunteers Ruth Brediger, R.N. (far right) and Bev Small, R.N. (second from right) work with nurses at Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research in Chandigarh, India. Photo: Bistra Zheleva*

Phileona Foundation

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SUNY Geneseo Women's Leadership Institute

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**Up to \$249**

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Combined Federal Campaign of Onslow County

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*Staff at Innova Children's Heart Hospital welcome medical volunteers during a cardiac training visit.  
 Photo: Sam Moban, yolkstudio.com*

## Our Work in India: Building on Success, Together

Children's HeartLink believes there is much to be gained for India's pediatric cardiac care system and for the children of India by encouraging collaboration and communication among our partners in India. To that end, we have begun to facilitate development of a network of pediatric cardiac centers and stakeholders across the country. In October 2010 in Chennai, Children's HeartLink convened its first meeting of this group. The overall goal of the meeting was to build relationships and encourage collaboration among our partners, in order to catalyze changes that will move the country toward a more effective system of pediatric cardiac care. As resources allow, Children's HeartLink plans to convene the group annually to promote relationship building and to generate specific ideas and proposals for advancing pediatric cardiac care in India.

At the Chennai meeting, three of our partners, Dr. Krishna Kumar with Amrita Institute of Medical Sciences in Kochi, Ms. Rohini Paul, R.N., with Narayana Hrudayalaya in Bangalore, and Dr. K.S. Murthy of Innova Children's Heart Hospital in Hyderabad, reflected on what has been accomplished through their organizations' years of collaborating with Children's HeartLink. All three reported on meaningful changes and improvements in the care they provide to children as a result of their affiliation with Children's HeartLink. They also discussed challenges, opportunities and hopes for the future of what they, Children's HeartLink and others can do together to continue to improve pediatric cardiac care across India.

- Dr. Krishna Kumar noted that in India, support in building institutions is very much needed. That is something Children's HeartLink has done for Amrita and can do for other pediatric cardiac programs.
- Ms. Rohini Paul, R.N., noted that Narayana has benefited from Children's HeartLink's "goodness, kindness, generosity and fellowship." She pointed out that Narayana Hrudayalaya is a complete multispecialty hospital, and that Children's HeartLink support for Narayana has helped the hospital well beyond the pediatric cardiac program.
- Dr. K.S. Murthy pointed out that, partly because of the support provided by Children's HeartLink, the Indian pediatric cardiac community has reached a point where their experience can benefit other developing countries. He recommended that Children's HeartLink work with national pediatric and cardiology societies as a catalyst and facilitator.



One cardiac center caters to a population of 120,000 in North America. In Asia, the ratio is one to 16 million. In Africa, one to 33 million.

*Pezzella, T. Worldwide maldistribution of access to cardiac surgery. Letter to the editor. Journal of Thoracic Cardiovascular Surgery. 2002; 123:1016.*

#### Up to \$249

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*Italo, a young patient in the ICU at Hospital de Base, waits with his father for his heart operation. Photo: Eloisa Mattos*

## Improving Quality and Outcomes, Saving Lives

### Six Children's HeartLink Partners Participating in the International Quality Improvement Collaborative

One of the largest challenges in improving health care, in developing and developed countries alike, is the ability to collect data and measure outcomes. To address this issue in pediatric cardiac care in the developing world, in 2007 Children's HeartLink joined a number of like-minded humanitarian organizations to found the International Quality Improvement Collaborative for Congenital Heart Surgery in Developing Countries (IQIC). The IQIC is managed by Children's Hospital Boston and has a mission to reduce in-hospital and 30-day mortality and major complications for children undergoing congenital heart surgery in developing world programs. Partners work together to identify risk factors related to mortality, provide data to evaluate program performance, and construct a framework for sustainable quality improvement. Monthly educational webcasts also take place, focusing on topics such as team-based practice, infection prevention and safe operating room practices.

Participation in the IQIC has grown from five pediatric cardiac programs in 2008 to 24 sites, six of which are Children's HeartLink partners. Children's HeartLink hopes that three more of its partner sites will join the IQIC in the near future. In fiscal year 2011 Children's HeartLink invited participating partner sites to attend the annual IQIC meeting in Geneva, where they were able to connect with representatives of other IQIC sites, share experiences and best practices, and begin to build professional relationships with their peers around the world.

IQIC founding partners included: Children's Hospital Boston, Humanitarian Association Coeurs pour Tous in Geneva, Switzerland, KM Cherian Foundation in Chennai, India, and International Children's Heart Foundation in Memphis, Tennessee.



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90% of newborns with congenital heart disease live  
where medical care is inadequate or unavailable.

Source: Tchervenkov, C., Jacobs, J., Bernier, P., et al. "The improvement of care for paediatric and congenital cardiac disease across the World: a challenge for the World Society for Pediatric and Congenital Heart Surgery," *Cardiol Young* 2008; 18 (Suppl. 2): 63-69. Cambridge University Press.

# Visionary Circle

The Children's HeartLink Visionary Circle recognizes the most generous investors in our mission to save lives and heal hearts around the globe. Members of the Visionary Circle are individuals who contribute \$10,000 or more and corporations, foundations and organizations that contribute \$25,000 or more in a given year. Thank you for your support!

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*\*AGA Medical Corporation is now part of St. Jude Medical, Inc.*



*A patient at Children's HeartLink partner site First Hospital of Lanzhou University in Lanzhou, China. Photo: Estelle Brouwer*

## Cardiac Training Visit: Nhi Dong 1, Vietnam



*A surgeon at Nhi Dong 1, Children's HeartLink partner site in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. Photo: Bistra Zheleva*

In February 2011, a medical volunteer team from Singapore, led by Dr. Sriram Shankar, pediatric cardiac surgeon from Gleneagles Hospital, spent four days teaching and training at Children's HeartLink partner site Nhi Dong 1 (Children's Hospital 1) in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. Other medical volunteers joined from National University Hospital and KK Women's and Children's Hospital. This was the third full team visit by this team to Nhi Dong 1 (and the fifth visit for some volunteers who have visited separately) to provide more focused teaching and to collaborate on advanced levels of diagnostic and treatment services.

The February visit concentrated on teaching the local team about the management and treatment of a particular type of heart defect — atrioventricular septal defects (AVSD). The visit started with a briefing to the ICU staff on the anatomy of the defect, details on AVSD repair, and what postoperative issues to anticipate. The team spent the rest of the visit screening patients with AVSD defects and discussing management options and treatment. Seven children — most under one year old — received treatment. The training emphasized a team approach to diagnosis and treatment by involving the surgeon, cardiologist and intensive care staff at all stages of the process.

The pediatric cardiac program at Nhi Dong 1 has grown and expanded significantly since Children's HeartLink's initial involvement in 2008. Under the guidance of Dr. Shankar, the Nhi Dong 1 surgical team has improved their skills and can now perform more complex procedures.

Nhi Dong 1's participation in the International Quality Improvement Collaborative for Congenital Heart Surgery in Developing Countries (see p. 20 for details) has also supported their quality improvement efforts, helping them lower infection rates and improve nursing knowledge. Mary ML Tan, an ICU nurse educator from the National University Hospital in Singapore, has volunteered several times in Nhi Dong 1's ICU — helping to coach and evaluate the nursing staff, providing high-quality nursing care and nursing education. Over the course of the four cardiac training visits Ms. Tan has made to Vietnam, she is proud to see that more than half of the ICU nurses at Nhi Dong 1 have completed a three-day basic nurse training workshop, and plans are under way for more advanced training.

Children's HeartLink plans to continue to work with Nhi Dong 1 as they move toward becoming a regional center of excellence in pediatric cardiac care.



# Collaboration

## Medical Volunteers

**Grace Arteaga, M.D.**

Mayo Clinic, Rochester,  
MN, United States

**Harris Baden, M.D.**

Seattle Children's Hospital  
Seattle, WA, United States

**Steve Baisch, M.D.**

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**Roxann Barnes, M.D.**

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**Lisa Belch, R.N.**

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*Dr. Croti (left) from Hospital de Base and Dr. Dearani (right) from Mayo Clinic operate together on a young patient during a training visit in Brazil. Photo: Eloisa Mattos*

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**Keng Yean Wong, M.D.**

KK Women's and Children's Hospital, Singapore, Singapore

## Organizational **Volunteers**

Children's Heartlink relies on a network of volunteers for support with our organization's programs, outreach, event logistics and other activities. We would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their tireless efforts and inspiring dedication. Thank you, everyone.



*Sandy Staveski, R.N., P.N.P. (second from right), a volunteer from Lucile Packard Children's Hospital at Stanford University, discusses a parent education project and a nursing certification course with nurse educators at Amrita Institute of Medical Sciences in Kochi, India. Photo: Bistra Zheleva*



At West China Hospital, the number of children treated per year has risen from 545 when the partnership with Children's HeartLink started in 2006 to 742 in 2010; this is a 36% increase over four years.

Cindy Anderson	Greta Deutsch	Jim Lee	Ken Powell
Diane Anderson	Kim Deutsch	Kelly Linnihan	Randi Raslack
Grace Anderson	Lizzy DeVita	William Morgan Lippit	Apoorva Reddy
Tom Bach	Caroline Dornfeld	Hank Long	James Rice, Ph.D.
Gregory Baire	Kristen Emerick	Susan Long	Gordon Ritz
Emily Baynard	Cheryl Fearer	Elizabeth Lori	Tom Rodgers
Shauna Behr	Megan Flanagan	Mike Lori	Hokan Rosen
Katie Bellows	Mike Fuller	Shanna Lukes	Colleen Ruane
Peter Beniares	Susan Gebelein, M.S.	Kimberly Luong	Brandon Schirmer
Wendy Bennett	Christine Geske	Kathy Manley	Jeff Schirmer
Akos Beres	Rhett Gopaul	Besse Maragos	Lani Schirmer
Kathy Berney	Franck Gougeon	Conor Marrinan	Maija Schmelzer
Alexandra Betzler	Emily Grimshaw	Katie Martinson	Barb Schuh
Rose Betzler	Jim Haas	Jenna McDonald	Brandon Schuh
Brandon Boat	Tiana Hallberg	Laurie Miles	Joe Schwarz
Samuel Boddicker	Joe Hanson	Paulette Mitchell	Andrea Scott
Susan Bordson	Sarah Hartman	Christine Morley	Rachel Servais
Vel Bostick	Bill Hawkins	Emily Najjar	Allan Share
Debbie Bougie	Cindy Heinemann	Andrew Nelson	Charles Shaw
Sarah Bougie	Rosie Heinert	Kathy Nelson	Melanie Sherman
Maurielle Bowers	Daniel Higgins	Essa Nerenhausen	Barb Simonson
Brad Broom	Jessica Hockley	Quan Ni	Jackie Smith
Emmanuelle Brunel	Andrea Holland	Shelley O'Connor Koland	Susan Smith
Steven Brunn	Christina Holm-Sandok	Clare O'Donnell-Coldren	Mary Solberg
Maria Bruun	Stanley S. Hubbard	Kerry Olejniczak	Gauthami Soma
Taylor Burns	Kari Hubbard Rominski	Eric Olsen	Jennifer Spies
Kathie Canepa	Greta Hughes	Marisa Ontko	Doug Steenland
Anna Carlson	Gretchen Jelinek	Kristine Overson	Ying Suo
Jake Coldren	Anthea Johnson	Kurt Paben	Mike Sweeney
Leyah Cole	Peggy Johnson	Omar Palacios	Amanda Symes
Alexa Collodora	Jason Kalgreen	Juliana Junqueira Panetta	Cindy Symes
Robb Collodora	Taylor Kristofee-Jones	Leslie Parker	Doug Symes
John Cushing, Jr.	Dave LaCoursiere	Paul Pearce	Shelby Taylor
Lina Dajani	Leila Larson	Kristin Peters	Cathy Taylor-Sharp
Tane Danger	Rachael Latchana	Tara Pfeifer	Lauren Taylor-Sharp

## International Advisory Board



This year, Children’s HeartLink formed an International Advisory Board, consisting of experts in health care, public affairs and international development who provide Children’s HeartLink expertise and consultation in areas such as strategic planning, capacity building, international relations and medical diplomacy.



**Tommy G. Thompson, Co-Chair**  
Former Secretary of Health and Human Services and four-term Governor of Wisconsin, Tommy Thompson is a partner at the law firm of Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld.



**Thomas Daschle, Co-Chair**  
Former U.S. House of Representatives member and U.S. Senator from South Dakota, Senator Daschle became the only individual to serve twice as both Senate Majority and Minority Leader. Currently, Senator Daschle is a Senior Policy Advisor to the law firm of DLA Piper.



**J. Brian Atwood**  
Brian Atwood is the Chair of the OECD Development Assistance Committee. From 2002 until 2010 he served as Dean of the Hubert Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs at the University of Minnesota and was Administrator of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) from 1993 to 1999.



**Joseph A. Dearani, M.D.**  
Dr. Dearani is a congenital heart surgeon, Professor of Surgery, and Chair of the Division of Cardiovascular Surgery at the Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN. He also serves as the Medical Director for Children’s HeartLink.

“I’ve been a supporter of Children’s HeartLink for many years. Their work to strengthen cardiac care for children in medically underserved areas of the world is an example of the type of medical diplomacy I have long advocated — when we support medical professionals, families and children in other countries, we begin to break down cultural barriers and build long-lasting relationships. I look forward to chairing this advisory group with Senator Daschle and to advising Children’s HeartLink as they plan for their next phase of organizational growth and development.”

— *Former Secretary of Health and Human Services Tommy G. Thompson*

“Cardiovascular disease is a significant global health concern, for children as well as adults. Children’s HeartLink has a unique ability to bring together medical volunteers from the top pediatric programs, such as Children’s Hospital Boston, Children’s Hospitals and Clinics of Minneapolis, Mayo Clinic, Stanford University’s Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital, and University of Minnesota Amplatz Children’s Hospital, with promising hospitals in developing countries, creating valuable mentoring and training opportunities. Children’s HeartLink, Secretary Thompson and I have assembled a diverse group of advisors who can help Children’s HeartLink staff navigate the global development landscape and develop country-specific approaches for their work.”

— *Former Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle*



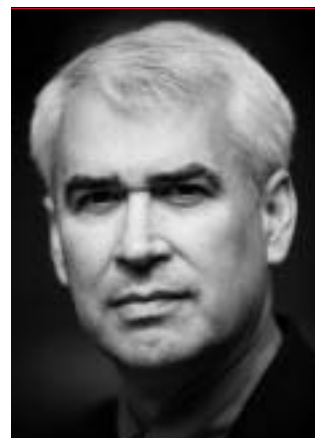
**Kathy Jenkins, M.D., M.P.H.**  
Dr. Jenkins is currently a Professor of Pediatrics at Harvard Medical School and holds the Kobren Family Chair for Patient Safety and Quality. She is a faculty member in the Department of Cardiology and serves as Senior Vice President and Chief Safety and Quality Officer at Children’s Hospital Boston.



**Bongani Mayosi, M.D.**  
Dr. Bongani Mayosi is a researcher, teacher and clinician in internal medicine and cardiology who currently serves as the 7th Professor and Head of the Department of Medicine at the University of Cape Town and Chief Physician at Groote Schuur Hospital in Cape Town, South Africa.



**Richard Smith, M.D.**  
Richard Smith served as chief executive of UnitedHealth Europe, a subsidiary of the UnitedHealth Group that works with public health systems in Europe. He is currently director of the UnitedHealth Chronic Disease Initiative, a program with the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute that has created 11 centers in low-and middle-income countries that work to counter chronic disease.



**Daniel B. Wright, Ph.D.**  
Dr. Wright served at the U.S. Treasury Department as Managing Director for China and the Strategic Economic Dialogue (SED), where he provided strategic counsel to the Secretary of the Treasury. Dr. Wright was also formerly Senior Vice President and China practice head of the Albright Stonebridge Group, a global strategy firm based in Washington, DC. He is founder, President and CEO of GreenPoint Group, using his 26 years of China experience to build bridges between people, resources and public policy.

## Cardiac Training Visit: Lanzhou, China



*A patient at Children's HeartLink partner site First Hospital of Lanzhou University in Lanzhou, China. Photo: Estelle Brouwer*

In October 2010, Children's HeartLink and a volunteer medical team from the University of Minnesota Amplatz Children's Hospital visited the First Hospital of Lanzhou University (FHLU) in Lanzhou, China, for a cardiac training visit. This was Children's HeartLink's ninth visit in over 10 years of partnership with FHLU.

### The teams had several objectives they wished to accomplish:

- To recognize the progress that FHLU has made in establishing itself as a regional center of excellence and to promote the further development of the pediatric cardiac program and its regional capabilities
- To review developments in adding pediatric cardiology services to the hospital's pediatric cardiac program and its regional capabilities
- To discuss ongoing strategic planning efforts begun in 2009
- To diagnose and treat children suffering from heart disease

### As a result of the training visit, the following was accomplished:

- FHLU leadership and Children's HeartLink agreed to continue to work together to support the development of FHLU as a regional center of excellence in care and training for Gansu province
- FHLU accepted an invitation to participate in the International Quality Improvement Collaborative for Congenital Heart Surgery in Developing Countries and began contributing data to the IQIC in January 2011 (see p.20)
- Nineteen children were screened for heart disease, resulting in eight open-heart surgeries. Notably, during the screening, FHLU's cardiology team correctly diagnosed all 19 children, an example of the tremendous gains FHLU has made in accurate echocardiography diagnosis. Children's HeartLink hopes the gains that have been made in echocardiography will encourage FHLU to add a pediatric cardiology specialty to the program

Children's HeartLink is honored to be a part of the FHLU's pediatric cardiac program's continuing development as it explores outreach and referral programs in its community and moves toward becoming a regional center of excellence for the surrounding region.

# Staff and Board of Directors

## 2010–2011

### Children's HeartLink Staff

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### Board of Directors

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**Medical Director**

Joseph A. Dearani, M.D.

**Secretary**

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## Our Financial Health

Children’s HeartLink finished our fiscal year especially strong, despite continuing global economic challenges. Children’s HeartLink finished the year with just over 11 percent growth in revenue. Eighty-one percent of our expenses were directly related to programs.

Children’s HeartLink has been given a “4-Star” rating by Charity Navigator.



### Statements of activities

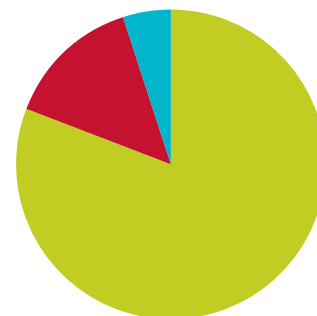
Revenue and other support	Years ended June 30, 2011 and 2010					
	2011			2010		
	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total
Contributions	\$367,919	\$455,123	\$823,042	\$282,974	\$478,770	761,744
Donated goods and services	700,473		700,473	627,609		627,609
Special events revenue <i>(less direct benefits to donors)</i>	786,075 <i>(173,660)</i>		786,075 <i>(173,660)</i>	725,696 <i>(194,347)</i>		725,696 <i>(194,347)</i>
Interest and other income	3,485		3,485	4,803		4,803
Satisfaction of restrictions	454,218	(454,218)	0	386,462	(386,462)	0
<b>Total</b>	\$2,138,510	\$905	\$2,139,415	\$1,833,197	\$92,308	\$1,925,505
<b>Expense</b>						
Program expense	1,691,897		1,691,897	1,578,813		1,578,813
Management and general	100,402		100,402	102,976		102,976
Special events and activities	96,108		96,108	104,800		104,800
Other fundraising	201,453		201,453	175,421		175,421
<b>Total</b>	2,089,860		2,089,860	1,962,009		1,962,009
<b>Change in net assets</b>	48,650	905	49,555	(128,813)	92,308	(36,505)
<b>Net assets (beginning of year)</b>	803,419	500,396	1,303,815	932,232	408,088	1,340,320
<b>Net assets (end of year)</b>	852,069	501,301	1,353,370	803,419	500,396	1,303,815

## Statements of financial position

### Years ended June 30, 2011 and 2010

<b>Assets</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2010</b>
Cash and cash equivalents	\$1,325,822	\$1,246,984
Contributions and other receivables	40,308	11,021
Prepaid expenses and other assets	11,340	6,709
Property and equipment, net	174,221	186,091
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$1,551,691</b>	<b>\$1,450,805</b>
<b>Liabilities and net assets</b>		
Accounts payable	72,515	17,805
Due to hospital sites	---	20,000
Accrued payroll and benefit liabilities	33,306	7,337
Deferred revenue	92,500	80,000
Beneficiary payable	---	21,848
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>198,321</b>	<b>146,990</b>
<b>Net assets</b>		
Unrestricted	852,069	803,419
Temporarily restricted	501,301	500,396
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>1,353,370</b>	<b>1,303,815</b>
<b>Total liabilities and net assets</b>	<b>1,551,691</b>	<b>1,450,805</b>

### Expenses by activity:



81% Program Expenses  
14% Fundraising  
5% Management



A patient at Children's HeartLink partner site First Hospital of Lanzhou University in Lanzhou, China. Photo: John Cushing, Jr.

*Thank You*



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*Cover photo: Sam Moban, [yolkstudio.com](http://yolkstudio.com)*

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