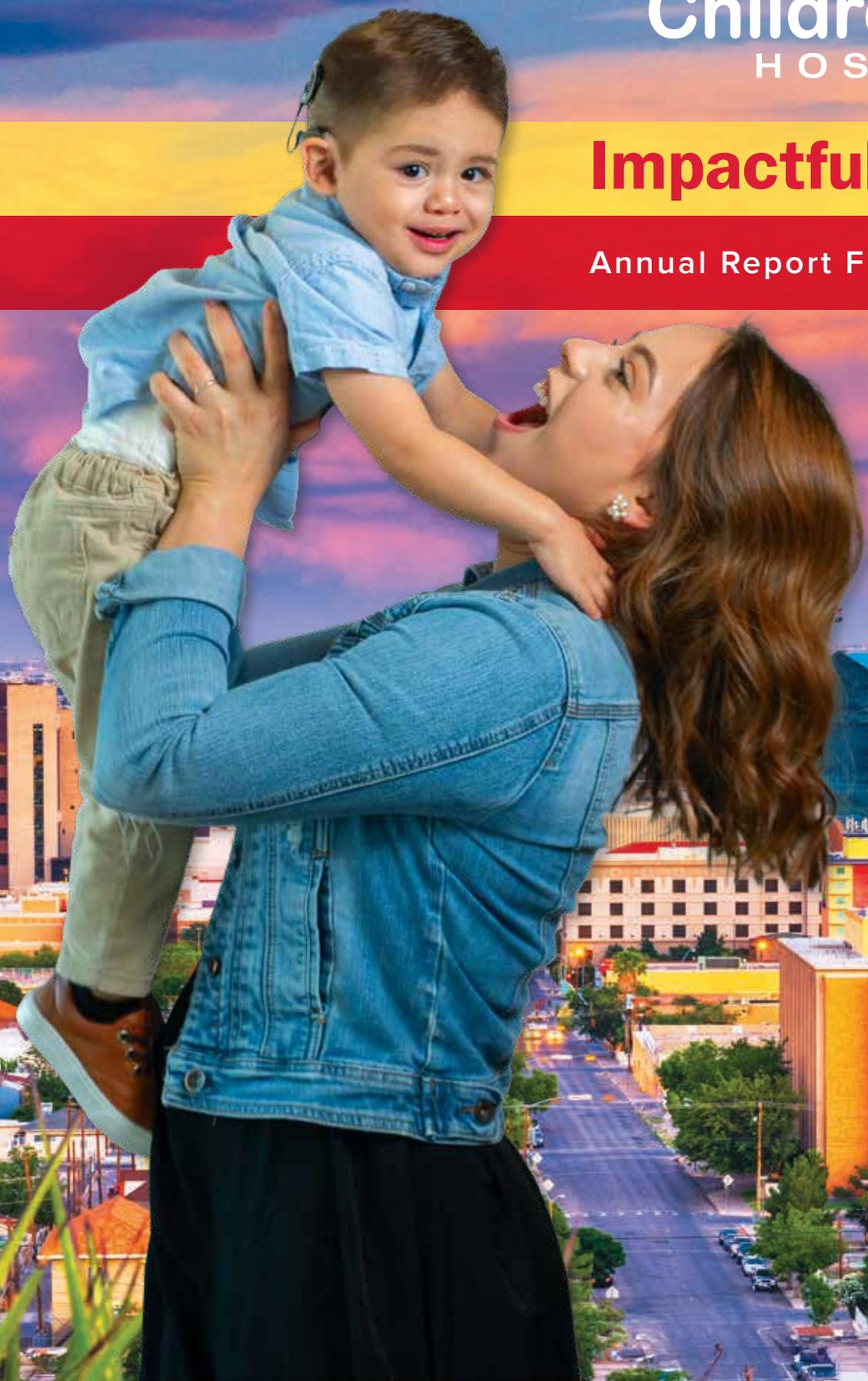




El Paso  
Children's  
HOSPITAL

# Impactful Healing

Annual Report Fiscal Year 2023



## Our Story

The story of El Paso Children's Hospital (EPCH) is the story of the El Paso community. It's the story of our growing population and the continuous need for our sickest children to receive quality healthcare. But it's also a story of a hospital committed to raising the bar on patient care every day. We strive to improve every area – from our Pediatric Intensive Care Unit to our Rehab Services, and from our Case Management Department to our Community Outreach. To meet our mission of providing top pediatric care for any child who needs it calls for people with expertise, compassion, and vision. Our staff consists of individuals with both the hard and soft skills that give patients and their families the confidence they deserve. For over a decade we've given El Pasoans close-to-home access to our board certified physicians, specialty clinic, and the latest medical technology-treating everything from a broken arm to emergency neonatal surgery. In reviewing 2023, we'll also share the stories of several patients and how we became their lifelines in difficult times. It's no surprise that El Paso Children's Hospital has a special place in the hearts of so many in our community.



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# El Paso Children's HOSPITAL



**On the Cover**  
*Josias,  
Cochlear implant*

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# CEO Message

**Cindy Stout,**  
RN, DNP, NEA, BC  
*President and CEO*

Over the past 11 years, El Paso Children's Hospital is the primary and sole pediatric specialty hospital in the region, providing the highest level of specialized health care for the most complex children of our community. As we reflect on how much we've grown and accomplished, we also realize our job is not finished. We continue to invest in our growth and have already achieved some of our biggest goals that we put forth over the past few years, such as opening the doors to our El Paso Children's Urgent Care. We are nearing completion on our new state-of-the-art multispecialty center that will house many of our physicians and staff who specialize in their dedicated field. As we look toward the future, I am confident that we will continue to keep the well-being of our children as the guiding force behind all we accomplish. Before El Paso Children's Hospital opened its doors, on average more than 650 children had to leave the community to seek medical treatment. 11 years later, El Paso Children's Hospital was able to reduce that number by close to 85 percent. As the only pediatric specialty hospital in the region, El Paso Children's Hospital is here to serve the children of El Paso.



# The Leaders

## Executive Team



**Cindy Stout,**  
RN, DNP, NEA, BC  
*President and CEO*



**John Runkles**  
*Chief Operating Officer*



**Roxanne Weisendanger**  
*Chief Nursing Officer*



**Omar Garza**  
*Chief Financial Officer*



**Laurel Huston**  
*Chief Legal Officer*

## Governing Board



**J. Steve DeGroat**  
*Board Chair*



**Steven E. Anderson**  
*Board Vice Chairman*



**Elsa Borrego**  
*Secretary*



**Jose F. Cardenas**



**Cindy Lyons Fields**



**Patrick Gordon**



**Isela Ibarra, MD**



**Amy Ross**



**F. James Volk**

## Physician Leadership



**Jeffrey Schuster, MD**  
*Chief Medical Officer*



**Roberto Canales, MD**  
*Chief Clinical Officer*



**William Spurbeck, MD**  
*Past Chief of Staff, Chief of Surgery, Surgeon-in-Chief*



## Medical Executive Committee



**Ittay Moreno, MD**  
*Chief of Staff*



**William Spurbeck, MD**  
*Past Chief of Staff, Chief of Surgery, Surgeon-in-Chief*



**Ricardo Reyna, MD**  
*Chief of Staff Elect*



**David Yates, DMD, MD**  
*Secretary, Credentials Chair*



**Chetan Moorthy, MD**  
*Chief of Diagnostic & Interventional Medicine*



**Marc Orlandi, MD**  
*Chief of Anesthesia*



**Vernon Burke, DMD, MD**  
*Chief of Oral Maxillofacial Surgery*



**Carlos Guterrez, MD**  
*Chief of Pediatrics*



**Rodolfo Fierro-Stevens, MD**  
*Chief of Neuroscience*



**Sadhana Chheda, MD**  
*Quality and Patient Safety Committee, Chair*

# 2023 Physician of the Year

## Dr. William Spurbeck,

Board Certified Pediatric Surgeon, has been a member of the medical staff at El Paso Children's Hospital since it opened in 2012. Dr. Spurbeck is commended by his peers and staff for his professionalism and work ethic. He recently has served as the Chief of Staff and Chief of the Department of Surgery, and is currently the hospital's Surgeon-in-Chief. We'd like to thank Dr. Spurbeck for his dedication to El Paso Children's Hospital and the overall community.



# Services



## The Woody and Gayle Hunt Family Pediatric Intensive Care Unit

The Woody and Gayle Hunt Family Pediatric Intensive Care Unit is composed of dedicated certified specialists in high level pediatric care, holding certifications such as CCRN and TNCC, available 24/7.

Our department is committed to family-centered care where we involve family members in daily discussions with the care team. This practice contributed to an increase in patient satisfaction. A huge role in increasing patient satisfaction are our nurses. Two of our PICU nurses received prestigious Daisy Awards, highlighting their exceptional contributions. We take pride in offering our nurses targeted training programs and dedicated education to enhance the department's capacity to handle complex cardiac procedures locally. We love our patients, they are the reason why we do what we do. A memorable story to highlight is Jason, a sepsis patient who returned to express gratitude for the staff's role in saving his life. Kids just like Jason keep us going strong.

We've actively engaged in 25 community events this year, underlining our commitment to community outreach and participation. Along with playing a pivotal role in the Celebration of Life event, honoring patients who have passed.

## Critical Care Transport Team

Our Critical Care Transport Team is composed of dedicated certified specialists in high level pediatric care, holding certifications such as C-NPT and ENPC, available 24/7. We represent world-class care represented through immediate Sepsis screenings upon patient contact, unique transport algorithms developed in collaboration with the military and birthing centers, and consistently achieving 100% satisfaction in Referring Facility Surveys. Additionally, we offer advanced therapies like High Flow Nasal Cannula Therapy during transport.

We've also seen remarkable improvements in compliance indicators for infection prevention and patient transfer protocols.

Looking ahead, our department plans to implement electronic charting to enhance turnaround times and introduce EPCH's dedicated ground ambulance, equipped with advanced safety features through our new Stryker stretchers. Overall, our achievements in patient care, research, and community engagement reflect its dedication to excellence and innovation in pediatric critical care.



**We've shown significant growth and progress, witnessing a surge in transport volumes from 584 in FY 2012 to 768 by the end of FY 2023. Our NICU transfers have increased from 24 in FY 2012 to 59 in FY 2023, indicating an expanding scope of our services.**



## The James A. “Buddy” Davidson Charitable Foundation General Pediatric Floor

Our pediatric unit demonstrates unwavering dedication to providing specialized, compassionate care to ill children from newborns to adolescents. Our multidisciplinary team, including board-certified physicians, skilled nurses, and various specialists, prioritized patient-centered care and personalized attention for each child and family. Initiatives such as renovated playrooms, interactive play zones, and family support services were introduced, enhancing the overall experience for our young patients. Our commitment to open communication, daily patient rounds with the pediatric team, and a consistently high level of patient satisfaction underscored our patient-centric approach is what sets us apart.

Our pediatric unit continues to shine at a state level, reflecting our commitment to excellence, by delivering specialized care with a team of highly trained and board-certified physicians committed to staying updated on the latest advancements in pediatric medicine.

We offer a comprehensive range of specialized services, including Craniofacial, Behavioral Developmental, Psychiatry, Cystic Fibrosis, Dermatology, ENT, General Surgery, Neurosurgery, Spina Bifida, Urology, and more. The unit is distinguished by its child-friendly environment, meticulously designed to alleviate anxiety, featuring a dedicated team of child life specialists focused on pain reduction and coping techniques. Emphasizing family-centered care, our multidisciplinary team actively involves parents and family members in daily collaboration, providing essential support, education, and resources throughout the care journey.

Our pediatric unit had 3,417 admissions, including 300 surgical patients in 2023. Community outreach involves visiting different areas of the city to educate communities about available resources. Our vision involves continuous improvement, expanding services, and staying at the forefront of pediatric medicine and technology. Our key focus is to continue enhancing interdisciplinary care, incorporating digital health technologies, building community partnerships, and prioritizing ongoing education.

*Jeremiah,  
Craniosynostosis*



## Southwest University Pediatric Blood and Cancer Center

Our Southwest University Blood and Cancer Center is marked by compassionate care and pioneering advancements. With a patient count nearing 7,000, our commitment to excellence was evident throughout the year.

We celebrated significant designations—holding both the COG (Children’s Oncology Group) and the newly acquired North American Consortium for Histiocytosis designations. These accolades underline our commitment to cutting-edge care and involvement in progressive research studies. Our dedication to COG protocols is what really sets us apart from local hospitals in our community. These proven protocols, known for their success rates, guide our treatment plans, offering a clear roadmap toward better outcomes for our patients. Our department embodies world-class care through a combination of Oncologists, Hematologists, Nurses, Child Life Specialists, and Social Workers. Within our 24-bed unit and outpatient clinic, our specialized staff tackles pediatric cancers, blood disorders, and engages in COG research studies, all part of our Comprehensive Treatment Plan.

Our department is set to move its outpatient clinic to become an integral part of a multi-disciplinary clinic, enhancing our collaborative approach to care. Every year patients and their families organize events to highlight our dedication to their well-being during Pediatric Cancer Awareness Month. In our quest to engage with the community, we visited local Pediatricians to educate and streamline the referral process to our outpatient clinic. Dr. Ranjan Bista, our Pediatric Hematologist & Oncologist, showcases our dedication to research and outreach through his educational efforts on Oncological emergencies and the acquisition of the Hyundai Hope On Wheels Grant. In tribute to Pediatric Cancer Awareness Month, we celebrated our staff’s dedication with heartfelt events and recognitions. Collaborating with esteemed professionals like Dr. Bista and Dr. Carcamo, we proudly finalized the El Paso Mayoral Proclamation and El Paso County Commissioners Court Resolution, underscoring our unified commitment to combating pediatric cancer.



**We have celebrated 17  
ringing of the bells in 2023.**

*Christopher,  
Oncology Department*





FY 2023 saw 745 patient admissions, marking a consistent upward trend since FY 2020.



This year was our 2nd redesignation of the Laura & Pat Gordon Family Neonatal Intensive Care Unit Advanced Level IV.

## The Laura & Pat Gordon Family Neonatal Intensive Care Unit Advanced Level IV

The Laura & Pat Gordon Family Neonatal Intensive Care Unit Advanced Level IV attained Level IV Redesignation and celebrated Neonatal Nurses Week, emphasizing our elite status as one of two Level IV NICUs in the El Paso area. Our uniqueness extends beyond designation, hosting specialized clinics such as brachial plexus, craniofacial, and audiology services.



Representing world-class care, patients from around the globe benefit from unique treatments offered at EPCH, showcased through tools like the NICView graph. We've witnessed tangible growth and advancements, including certifications for our employees, expanding our Baby Leo beds, and ongoing improvements in our NICU facilities.

A standout story from the year featured Baby Francisco, an ex-22 weeker who successfully transitioned home—an inspiring testament to our hospital's impact.

Our department actively engages in physician-led outreach programs and contributes to medical literature, enhancing community outreach and advancing medical knowledge.



*Liam,  
Advance Level IV NICU*

## Emergency Department

Our Emergency Department provides the highest quality emergency care 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, giving families peace of mind.

Our ER Nurses Week celebration honored our specialized nursing team, unique for their pediatric care expertise in the region. With extensive certifications and skill sets, they provide top-tier care for pediatric patients. Our ED nurses received notable recognitions, including Ilse Herrera named as Nurse of the Year and multiple Daisy Award recipients, surpassing previous acknowledgments.

Equipped with pediatric-sized medical tools and a child-friendly environment, the ED ensures a comforting atmosphere for young patients undergoing treatment. Beyond medical care, the department's response to the migrant influx showcased their dedication to providing attention and care to migrant children, often arriving in critical situations.

Our involvement extends to receiving critical patients from across the region via the helipad for immediate care.

Future plans involve striving for excellence by aiming for 100/100 points in a national pediatric readiness survey and participating in national pediatric-specific disaster planning programs.

Our community outreach included participation in a national collaborative focusing on pediatric mental health, implementing evidence-based practices for treating children in acute situations. One of our dedicated ED members was appointed as the region's BorderRac pediatric chair, aiming to elevate pediatric care standards in the region and highlight EPCHs expertise in pediatric care.

## Perioperative Services

Our surgical department celebrated remarkable growth, witnessing an increase in surgical procedures, with several months exceeding 400 surgeries. The dedication and excellence of our staff was recognized through prestigious awards like the Daisy awards and multiple Employee of the Month honors. We also honored our Surgical Technologists during Surgical Tech Week in September.

What distinguishes us is the exceptional care our providers offer, coupled with a compassionate culture among our staff, setting us apart from other pediatric providers in the region. Our influence extends globally, drawing patients worldwide seeking specialized surgeries like Endoscopic Craniosynostosis.

With board-certified pediatric surgeons and anesthesiologists and certified sterile processing staff, we stand as a symbol of excellence, surpassing our competitors.

Looking ahead, our focus remains on expanding our surgical specialties, aiming to keep patients closer to their families and support networks. Among the memorable moments was a heartwarming story involving a patient who received care locally after undergoing fetal surgery and multiple surgeries elsewhere, fostering trust and resulting in a successful recovery.

Our department actively engages in impactful research, including fellowship programs and pioneering surgical approaches, ensuring our commitment to innovation. Encouraging staff engagement remains a priority, marked by engaging team-building events and initiatives that foster camaraderie and unity among our team.



**Our ED volume continues to grow. We had an increase of 10,000 visits from FY 2021 to FY 2022. We increased our visits again for FY 2023 and hit over 28,600 visits.**



**Notably, our surgical procedures surged to 16,442 in 2023 from 15,424 in 2022, demonstrating substantial growth across various specialties.**



**Our department offers exclusive procedures such as Advanced Congenital MRI Cardiac Imaging, MRI Urography, and Advanced Neuroimaging. These services are unique to EPCH and are unavailable elsewhere in the region. The only cardiac MRI in the region for children and adults.**



**Our imaging volumes increased significantly from FY22 to FY23, from 45,000 to 49,592 exams, marking a nearly 5,000-exam increase.**



**In 2023, there was a rise of 12,882 cases in our Lab Department volume, while the Pathology Department saw an increase of 858 cases.**

## Outpatient Imaging and Cardiac Services

Outpatient Imaging and Cardiac Services had impressive growth in cutting-edge imaging and interventional procedures, distinguishing us from other pediatric providers in the region. Notable achievements include the expansion of our American College of Radiology (ACR) Certification, where we successfully incorporated the third modality into our ACR certification in Pediatric Diagnostic Ultrasound. We take pride in our unique expertise, with two board-certified pediatric radiologists possessing advanced specialties – a distinction not available elsewhere in the region. Additionally, we’ve earned ACR Accreditation for MRI, Nuclear Medicine, and Pediatric Diagnostic Ultrasound. What sets us apart even more is our unmatched specialized services.

Behind these accomplishments is our dedicated pediatric team, comprising certified and specialized pediatric physicians, technologists, and nursing staff. Their expertise further enhances the exclusivity of our services, ensuring top-notch care for our patients.

We anticipate continued growth, including the enhancement of our facilities with new X-ray, Ultrasound, Echocardiogram, and Panorex machines.

Our commitment to community outreach remains steadfast, with ongoing rounds and engagement with community doctors and groups.

## Pediatric Lab Services

Our Pediatric Lab Services commitment to world-class care is evident through the global reach of our patients and the specialized treatments we offer such as Sweat Chloride testing for diagnosing Cystic Fibrosis, alongside our CAP accreditation. We provide specialized phlebotomy procedures that other hospitals do not. We collaborate across departments to ensure children receive the specialized care they require. Our Lab department celebrated Lab Week in April and engaged in community events, like the science fair at James P. Butler Elementary and notably, two of our lab employees received EPCH Employee of the Month recognition. We’ve enhanced the lab waiting area with virtual fish tanks, cartoons on TV screens, and kid-friendly decorations, ensuring a pleasant experience for our young patients. Distinguishing ourselves from other pediatric providers, we employ unique techniques for pediatric phlebotomy, like using numbing spray to ease the process for our children. Looking forward, we’re expanding our services with new multispecialty clinic laboratories. We aim to add coagulation testing and broaden our offerings pending space expansion. Additionally, our team actively engages in community outreach and contributes to medical publications. Moreover, our lab’s involvement in fun events like the costume contest demonstrates our commitment to bringing joy to our El Paso Children’s Hospital experience.



## Zachary Bowling Pediatric Outpatient Diabetes Education Services

Our Zachary Bowling Pediatric Outpatient Diabetes Education Services achieved remarkable milestones. We've orchestrated a meaningful event during Diabetes Awareness Month, fostering connections among families at the La Union Corn Maze. EPCH stands as the sole ADA-recognized facility, ensuring top-quality diabetes education and support in the region.

Our team commitment to pediatric diabetes care is upheld by our Pediatric Certified Diabetes Care and Education Specialists (CDCES) team who excel in providing exclusive, expert pediatric diabetes education.

Plans are set for our services to move to the new Multispecialty Center in Spring 2024. Our community engagement included inventive virtual cooking classes and impactful research presented at prestigious conferences.

Thanks to our partners at El Paso Health, we are able to provide the region's first teaching kitchen that helps to educate families about healthy eating habits. This kitchen brings world-class chefs and local talent for kids with diabetes.



**Significant increases in diabetes related admissions underscore the growing impact of our services.**



**Provides personalized dietary plans for children with type 1 diabetes**

## Department of Developmental & Rehabilitative Services

A team of Pediatric Certified Specialist Physical Therapists, Certified Neonatal Therapists, and pediatric-trained Audiologists make EPCH stand out, giving us a unique edge in the region's healthcare landscape. We provide world-class care, serving patients from various global locations and offering specialized treatments exclusive to EPCH. What sets us apart is our team's genuine passion for pediatric care, ensuring engagement with children while securing family support.

Our achievements in FY23 include remarkable increases in Inpatient and Outpatient Rehab visits, Modified Barium Swallow studies, and successful initiation of audiology services. Simultaneously, our staffing has grown significantly across various specialties, indicating our commitment to expanding services. We will continue to collaborate efforts across departments to enhance therapist skills and support the expansion of cardiac and neurosurgery programs.

Our involvement in multidisciplinary clinics, national conferences, and community collaborations demonstrates our commitment to advancing healthcare. Additionally, our team's achievements and contributions continue to drive our success, reflecting dedication and excellence in pediatric care.



### REHAB VISITS OUTPATIENT

<b>FY 22</b>	<b>FY 23</b>
<b>3,757</b>	<b>6,270</b>



**In the fiscal year 2023, our clinic extended crucial services, including preventative measures, to benefit over 1,100 children and their families.**

## C.A.R.E.S. Clinic | Child Abuse Resources Education Services

The C.A.R.E.S. Clinic at El Paso Children's Hospital remains a pivotal force in addressing child abuse, neglect, and prevention within El Paso and its neighboring regions. This service is led by Dr. Ricardo Reyna, Medical Director.

Our expansion efforts mark a significant milestone. Welcoming two new Licensed Masters Social Workers (LMSWs) to the C.A.R.E.S. Clinic bolsters our capabilities. Furthermore, the clinic has broadened its spectrum by initiating specialized counseling services tailored to our specific patient demographics. This strategic move enhances our ability to offer comprehensive counseling services to our valued patients. Members of our team have received esteemed invitations to contribute their expertise to the International Association of Forensic Nurses (IAFN) 2023 Conference Planning Committee. Their involvement showcased our dedication and elevated the profile of El Paso Children's Hospital within the esteemed realm of forensic nursing. After extensive collaborative efforts with committee members nationwide, our C.A.R.E.S. team represented our institution at the 2023 IAFN Conference in Phoenix, Arizona. Their role as a moderator and host to the keynote speaker at the conference further underscored our commitment to advancing forensic nursing practices on a global platform.

# El Paso Children's Hospital

Look at Our Patient Impact Around the World!





Feature Story

# Scarlett, Craniosynostosis

## Washington family travels to El Paso Children’s Hospital to treat craniosynostosis

Over the past several years El Paso Children’s Hospital has gained a reputation not just locally but across the country and around the globe for its team of experts specializing in minimally invasive endoscopic craniosynostosis surgery.

Morgan, Brandon, and their daughter Scarlett are from Spokane, Washington. They drove about 24-hours finding themselves in El Paso, Texas.

Arriving here was what the family called a matter of intuition from start to finish. “We noticed something was just a little off with her head so we went to three doctors and everyone told us she was fine, she’s healthy and just to wait. But I had done some research and I saw if you wait too long and it does end up being craniosynostosis, it can cause problems and the treatment options aren’t available if you wait too long,” said Morgan. After doctor’s visits and an ultrasound found nothing wrong with Scarlett, the Hovde’s still felt it in their heart that something just wasn’t right. They went on to request a C-T scan and it was then that Scarlett was diagnosed with craniosynostosis. Medical Director for the Cranial and Facial Clinic at El Paso Children’s Hospital, Dr. David Yates said it was more common than many might think. “Craniosynostosis occurs in newborns when one of the sutures of the skull, such as the sagittal, lambdoid, and coronal sutures, is fused. These sutures, located at specific points on the skull, are vital for normal skull growth. In approximately one in 2000 live births, the fusion of one of these major

• sutures happens, leading to the condition  
 • known as craniosynostosis.”, said Yates.  
 • After reaching out for help on a support  
 • page on Facebook Morgan found Dr. Yates.  
 • “As soon as we started talking to Dr. Yates  
 • after a video call, there was no doubt in my  
 • mind that we were going to El Paso,” said  
 • Morgan.

• This method of treating craniosynostosis  
 • was brought to El Paso Children’s Hospital  
 • by the pioneer behind the procedure, the  
 • late Dr. David Jimenez. Dr. Jimenez had  
 • been performing endoscopic surgery for  
 • years before he researched and invented  
 • and brought the minimally invasive cranial  
 • surgery to EPCH. “We were interviewing for  
 • a Pediatric Neurosurgeon and Dr. Jimenez  
 • and I met and we just hit it off. We became  
 • best of friends and we really enjoyed  
 • working with each other. We were able to  
 • take care of hundreds of kids together,” said  
 • Yates.

• The legacy continues as Dr. Ziyad  
 • Makoshi, Pediatric Neurosurgeon now  
 • joins Dr. Yates in further continuing Dr.  
 • Jimenez’s endoscopic approach to treat  
 • craniosynostosis. Both Dr. Yates and Dr.  
 • Makoshi along with their entire team of  
 • experts were prepared to put the Hovde’s at  
 • ease during this stressful time in their lives.  
 • After 45 minutes Scarlett was out of surgery,  
 • with an incision less than an inch wide.  
 • “We are just so grateful, I don’t really have  
 • words, we are just so happy and we will  
 • never be able to thank everyone enough for  
 • what they have done for us,” said Morgan.

# Specialties & Services

## Services



### ALLERGY & IMMUNOLOGY

Provides education and treatment for allergies, asthma and immune dysfunction disorders



### BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Treats conditions related to pediatric mental and behavioral health



### BRACHIAL PLEXUS

Treats obstructed movement in the shoulders, arms and hands



### CARDIOLOGY

Treats disorders of the heart and the blood vessels



### C.A.R.E.S.

Provides medical services, emotional support, education and social work for the mistreatment of children



### CRANIAL AND FACIAL

Treats children with facial, jaw and skull abnormalities



### CYSTIC FIBROSIS

Treats mucus caused problems in Spina Bifida the lungs, pancreas, and other organs



### DERMATOLOGY

Treats diseases and problems of the skin, hair, and nails



**EMPOWER PROGRAM**  
Provides personalized dietary plans for children with type 2 diabetes



**EAR, NOSE & THROAT**  
Treats conditions that concern the ear, nose and throat



**GENERAL SURGERY**  
Treats various conditions through surgical procedures



**NEUROSURGERY**  
Provides surgical treatment for brain, spinal cord, and nervous system conditions in children



**SPINA BIFIDA**  
Treats spine and spinal cord organs birth defects



**UROLOGY**  
Treats kidney, urinary tract, congenital anomalies, and complex urological disorders



**VASCULAR MALFORMATION**  
Treats non-cancerous lesions



*Andrea,  
Cranial and  
Facial Clinic*

# Growth/Vitals

## Statistical Overview for Fiscal Year 2023

**122**  
BEDS

**73.7** AVERAGE  
DAILY  
CENSUS

**26,669**  
PATIENT DAYS

**823**  
Employees

**4,422**  
INPATIENT  
ADMISSIONS

**78,675**  
OUTPATIENT VISITS

**28,625**  
ED VISITS

**4,355**  
SURGERY CASES

**918**  
ENDOSCOPY  
PROCEDURES

## Multispecialty Center (MSC)

Our MSC will open Spring 2024. It will include Pediatric Allergy and Immunology, Cardiology, Dermatology, Endocrinology, Gastroenterology, General Surgery, Nephrology, Neurosurgery, Otolaryngology, Orthopedic Surgery, and Urology.

- **45 Patient Exam Rooms**
- **17 Infusion Rooms**
- **Audiology Services**
- **Laboratory Services**
- **Radiology Services-Ultrasound, Echo, X-ray**

## New Equipment, Programs, Services, Advancements, Facilities and more

In 2023 El Paso Children's Hospital invested close to **15 million dollars** in equipment and capital projects for the future of the hospital contributing to its continued growth.

- IV Pumps
- Holter Monitors
- Rosa Robot (Neurosurgery)
- Baby Leo's
- Urodynamic and C-Arm Equipment (New Urology Services)
- Ultrasound/XRay Equipment
- Pharmacy Carousel
- RetCam Envision System
- Monitoring Systems for Neurosurgery
- Construction and equipment for the New Multispecialty Center due to open Spring 2024.



## New Services

El Paso Children's  
Urgent Care

# People



VOTED  
THE BEST  
HOSPITAL  
2022

*By The City Magazine  
El Paso*



## Human Resources

At El Paso Children’s Hospital our Human Resources (HR) department showcases extraordinary achievements. HR hosted four (4) Employee Engagement Forums, each themed differently, and conducted four leadership development events to foster the growth of our directors and above. Monthly, HR acknowledged Employees of the Month and Daisy Award recipients for their outstanding contributions, celebrating their dedication with treats.

While we didn’t have specific theme weeks or unit recognitions, our commitment to excellence stood out in our dedication to staff development. Every HR team member joined EP SHRM, emphasizing our focus on continuous learning. Tom, our Director, was appointed as a 2024 El Paso SHRM chapter board member, showcasing our commitment to HR leadership in the community. Setting us apart is our dedication to cultivating an engaging, educational, and supportive environment for our staff, fostering a workplace that values growth and teamwork.



**From 2021, our HR team has significantly increased facility staff while successfully reducing turnover rates, demonstrating our dedication to staffing and retention growth.**

## Medical Staff

Our hospital witnessed remarkable achievements and recognitions that underscored our commitment to excellence. Dr. William Spurbeck was honored as the Doctor of the Year, celebrated with great success on March 30th, 2023. Throughout the year, our dedication to professional growth and patient safety shone brightly through various initiatives. Physician Forums in May and November provided crucial updates to our Medical Staff, while our June General Staff Meeting delivered an impactful Ethics CME session on “Enhancing Communication to Improve Patient Safety.” On top of that, we proudly acknowledge the long-standing contributions of Subspecialty Pediatric Physicians in our community, who have been sole representatives in their specialties for many years—something that echoes our commitment since inception.

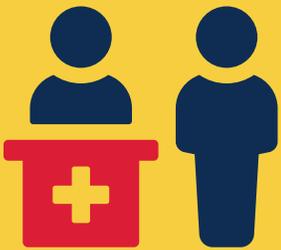
Our global reach and the unique treatments makes us unique. Our care knows no bounds, extending across the globe to patients seeking our specialized treatments.

Our impact stretches beyond the hospital walls. Through research and community outreach, our physicians and staff have contributed significantly. We’ve had publications, authored articles, and opportunities to contribute to important publications, showcasing our dedication to advancing medical knowledge and engaging with our community beyond clinical care.



**Our department boasts 453 dedicated Medical Staff Members, and in the fiscal year 2022-2023, we credentialed 49 new physicians—a testament to our continued growth and commitment to quality care.**

*Victor,  
General Surgery*



**A total meaningful encounter between the hospitals and community physicians, 2,289. Over 2,200 unique one-on-one face-to-face interactions with physicians, highlighting the depth and frequency of engagement.**

## Growth

Our comprehensive efforts foster growth and development through the establishment of new programs, recruitment of talented physicians, and enhancement of community relations.

Our commitment to advancing healthcare includes growing Pediatric Urology, Allergy Clinic, Ear, Nose, and Throat (ENT), and a clinic dedicated to Cystic Fibrosis (CF), solidifying our commitment to providing a broad spectrum of specialized care.

Through the Cystic Fibrosis Clinic, we were able to partner with the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, reinforcing our dedication to advancing treatment options for patients with CF. We are proud of the imminent launch and growth of our Urgent Care Center, Neurology Clinic, Heart Department, Audiology Clinic and Cochlear Implant Program.

We are dedicated to delivering comprehensive healthcare services tailored specifically for the youngest and most vulnerable members of our community. Our range of services spans multiple service lines, and each is meticulously administered by a team of physicians and clinicians who have undergone specialized training in pediatric care. This commitment ensures that every child receives the highest standard of healthcare, addressing their unique needs and contributing to the overall well-being of the community's young population.

The engagement between us and our community physicians was marked by significant and meaningful interactions, with key statistical points to share with stakeholders.

## Recognitions



### EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

This year's first award is awarded to

**Lillian Rodriguez**  
*Neurosciences Coordinator*



### NURSE OF THE YEAR

This year's first award is awarded to

**Ilse Herrera, RN**  
*Emergency Department*

## TOP 100 HOSPITALS

Selected as one of **Becker's Hospital Review** Top 100 Hospitals and Health Systems in the nation with great oncology programs.



### WOMEN OF IMPACT

Named 2023 El Paso Inc. Women of Impact.

**Cindy Stout, RN, DNP, NEA, BC**  
*President and CEO*



### DAISY NURSE LEADER OF THE YEAR

**Stephanie Espinosa, RN, PICU**  
*Charge RN*

### STATE OF TEXAS RECOGNITIONS

Every year the State of Texas recognizes outstanding nurses in the Lone Star State.

This year two of our own were honored by the Texas Nurses Association in the honorable mention category they are:



**Alexa Ramirez, BSN, RN**  
*General Pediatric*



**Monserrat Frossard, BSN, RN**  
*Emergency Department*





Feature Story

# Francisco, NICU

## Baby born at 22 weeks beats the odds after utilizing all specialties at Laura & Pat Gordon Family Advanced Level IV NICU

Francisco was born at University Medical Center at just 22 weeks old. He was rushed over to El Paso Children’s Hospital where the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit began care the second he was born. Dr. Sanjeet Panda, NICU Medical Director and Board-Certified Neonatologist said the one special ingredient when it came to Francisco’s success is the dedication from his family. “This family was really special, both parents were on the bedside from day one and throughout the four months so it is great to have the family involved,” Dr. Panda said. Francisco, with the statistics against him had a village behind him. His journey led him here to our village at El Paso Children’s Hospital where every resource was utilized

in order to provide Francisco every opportunity to make it and to beat the odds. Francisco stole the hearts of everyone in the NICU including that of Registered Nurse, April Chilensky. “It’s beautiful to say the least. That you see this baby grow and he’s meeting all these different goals, like watching him finish his first bottle, he’s an inspiration. I think for all the babies he sets a completely different standard for me and for what I see,” said Chilensky. Francisco was discharged from El Paso Children’s Hospital after four months and was able to start his life at home with his mom, dad and his two big sisters. Now months after being home his Mom says Francisco is doing great and is spoiled by his entire family.



# Outreach

## Education

Our Training & Development/Education department diligently refined processes, strengthening annual mandatory education and nursing skills fairs. Our focus extended to nurturing school affiliations, refining clinical rotations, and elevating nursing continuing professional development.

The embodiment of world-class care within our department emanates from our diverse staff and educators. Their unique perspectives enable us to offer inclusive and balanced services, enriching our approach to care.

These included impactful conferences and regular series that focused on various healthcare specialties, ensuring a comprehensive and enriching experience for participants.

Furthermore, 25 of our employees received Mental Health First Aid certification through training conducted by Emergence Health Network. In our commitment to professional development, we organized 17 diverse nursing continuing professional development activities.

**Providing stakeholders with valuable insights, we facilitated engagement with 556 clinical rotation students within our department.**



*University of Texas at El Paso Group*



*Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso Group*

## External

### COMMUNITY PARTNERS

#### EL PASO COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT PARTNERS



UNIVERSITY  
MEDICAL CENTER  
OF EL PASO

The story of healthcare in El Paso is a story of transformation throughout the decades. The power of partnerships help in building stronger relations and alliances that empower the organizations to have a greater positive impact on the community.

The hospital district includes El Paso Children's Hospital, University Medical Center of El Paso, El Paso Health, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso Foundation and El Paso Children's Hospital Foundation, El Paso Children's Hospital and University Medical Center of El Paso are also the primary teaching institutions for Texas Tech Health Sciences Center El Paso.

El Paso Children's Hospital also maintains an affiliation with University Medical Center. This relationship allows its patients access to the only Level 1 Trauma Center in a 350-mile radius, collaboration with maternal services and a wide range of access to other resources available to the hospital district.



In 1958, El Paso voters approved the creation of the El Paso County Hospital District and in 1961 construction was completed on the 300-bed Thomason Hospital tower. In 1999, the hospital district created El Paso Health which is a Texas-licensed Health Maintenance Organization contracted with the Texas Health and Human Services Commission. Then in 2007, voters approved bonds to construct an East Tower for El Paso Children's Hospital. In 2009, Thomason Hospital changed the name of the hospital to University Medical Center of El Paso. The citizens created the El Paso County Hospital District (d/b/a University Medical Center of El Paso) to ensure that quality healthcare services would be available to all county residents.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY  
HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER  
EL PASO

El Paso Children's Hospital is one of only 250 hospitals across the country that specialize in pediatrics and one of seven members of the Children's Hospital Association of Texas, and provides the highest level of pediatric care in West Texas and Southern New Mexico. El Paso Children's Hospital is a not-for-profit corporation whose purpose is to provide pediatric care services to the pediatric residents of El Paso and the surrounding region. El Paso Children's Hospital is the only separately licensed, freestanding, not-for-profit children's hospital providing exclusive pediatric healthcare.

The relationship with Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso Residents and Providers ensures that patients at El Paso Children's Hospital have access to the latest treatment methods and diagnostic service available from leading physicians in the field of pediatrics.

Through these networks and affiliated pediatricians, the hospital is impacting the health of more children than ever. Together with its partners, El Paso Children's Hospital is coordinating care to create better experiences for patients and families, creating an epicenter of care for the regional pediatric population.

## SYMPOSIUM, CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION AND NURSING & DIETARY EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

We've held significant educational events hosted by our distinguished team members this year. Dr. David Jimenez, a Board Certified Neurosurgeon, led a Cranio Symposium, while Dr. David Yates, Medical and Craniofacial Director, hosted our Cleft Symposium. These symposiums provided valuable opportunities for learning and collaboration in our medical community.

Additionally, a diverse range of pediatric medical topics were covered in our Continuing Medical Education sessions led by expert physicians such as, Dr. Shawn Diamond, Dr. Jonathan Chiao, Dr. Sanjeet Panda, Dr. Shumyle Alam, Dr. Abraham Lopez, Dr. Ziyad Makoshi, Dr. Ijeoma Ibeanu, Dr. Shauna Goldman, Dr. David Yates & Dr. Ranjan Bista. Topics included pediatric brachial plexus birth injury, ototoxicity, tracheostomy safety, hypoxic-

ischemic encephalopathy (HIE), pediatric urology, neuropsychological testing, epilepsy, attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), autism spectrum disorders (ASD), skin diseases in children, craniosynostosis, and pediatric acute leukemia. These sessions provided valuable insights and updates for healthcare professionals involved in pediatric care.

In addition to physician-led Continuing Medical Education sessions, nursing and dietary education credits were also offered, including the Pediatric Diabetes Conference. This conference provided essential updates and insights into the management and care of pediatric diabetes, ensuring that nurses and dietary professionals stay informed and equipped to address the unique needs of pediatric patients with diabetes.

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

EPCH contributed over **\$75,000** to the El Paso Community.

### 2023 HIGHLIGHT CONTRIBUTIONS

- Expo Familia Community Health Fair
- Greater El Paso Showcase
- El Paso Library (Día de los Niños)
- YWCA (Walk a Mile)
- Ronald McDonald House
- Rotary Club of El Paso (Par-Tee for Head Start Christmas Program)
- Paso del Norte Children's Foundation
- Lee & Beulah Moor Children's Home (Operation Pumpkin)
- SHAC (SISD Winter Wellnessland)
- EPISD (Unidos Games)
- Junior League Christmas Fair

### COMMUNITY BOARD INVOLVEMENT

- Southwest University (Nursing) Advisory Board
- Southwest University Advisory Board
- Autism Society of El Paso Board
- Southern Association for Child Life Professionals (Serving as Board Chair-student education committee)
- Paso Del Norte YWCA Board of Directors
- Candlelighter's Board
- Children's Hospital Association of Texas
- Children's Miracle Network Advisory Board
- Desert Mountain AHEC Advisory Board
- Florida Association of Child Life Professionals
- Diabetes Alliance Member
- El Paso Community College, Diagnostic Medical Sonography Advisory Board
- El Paso Community College, Diagnostic Echocardiography Advisory Board
- Emergence Health Network (EHN) Texas Systems of Care Governance Board
- EPCH/Texas Tech Physicians of El Paso Pediatric Journey Newsletter Board
- FEMAP
- FEMAP Foundation Board
- GECU Board
- Gold Out El Paso, Co Founder and Board Member
- Hospice El Paso
- Medical Advisory Board for Heart of Passion
- National Association of Hispanic Nurses
- OneSource Federal Credit Union.
- Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC) "Paso Del Norte" Chapter in El Paso (Serving as President)
- Rio Grande Cancer Foundation
- Southwest University Board for the Imaging School
- THA (Texas Hospital Association) Council on Policy Development
- TT, EPCC, DACC, NMSU School of Nursing Advisory Committees
- University of Texas at El Paso School of Pharmacy Regional Advisory Board
- UTEP School of Nursing Advisory
- Veteran's Non-Profit



# Financials and Vitals



**THROUGH  
A RANGE OF  
ACCOMPLISHMENTS,**  
*such as naming rights,  
granted awards,  
endowments, major  
donor contributions, and  
impactful campaigns,  
the Foundation doubled  
its contributions  
compared to 2021.*

## Foundation

The El Paso Children's Hospital Foundation made significant strides, contributing nearly \$4.5 million to enhance El Paso Children's Hospital. This substantial support encompassed various vital areas, including equipment, salaries, programs, and software. Prioritizing crucial programs like GetWell Network, Child Life, the Empower Program, Endo Craniosynostosis Symposium, and Cleft Lip Symposium remained a top priority, with increased support this year.

The Foundation played a pivotal role in supporting EPCH's growth and needs, contributing to the purchase of essential equipment like the Leica Microscope, Audiology Booth, Mizuho OSI Trios Table, and more. Notable donors, such as Cesar Ornelas II, generously gave \$250,000, addressing critical needs and providing essential assistance to patients and their families.

A point of pride is EPCH's affiliation with Children's Miracle Network (CMN), being one of 170 children's hospitals in the U.S. and Canada under its umbrella. CMN, with the support of various partners like Aflac, Panda Express, Speedway, and many others, raised funds and awareness for EPCH Foundation, consistently giving back to the community.

The Foundation celebrated impactful events with partners, including the Arriola's Annual Black & White Party, an Interactive Culinary Teaching Experience with Michelin Star Chef Carlos Gaytán, the St. Baldrick's Head Shaving event, the Audi Grand Opening, and a major fundraiser at Top Golf. The ParTEE for a Purpose, hosting 800 attendees, raised over \$200,000. Other notable events included the inaugural Art from the Heart evening hosted by La Viña Winery and the Hyundai Hope on Wheels Hand Painting Ceremony, commemorating a \$100,000 grant for oncology services.

Collaborating with EPCH, the Foundation co-hosted a KTSM-sponsored Telethon, and RAIZ FCU introduced a historic Spirit Debit Card in partnership with EPCH Foundation.

The Foundation expressed pride in the transformative healthcare initiatives made possible by the El Paso community, donors, business partners, and corporate supporters. The unwavering commitment of these contributors has been the lifeblood of EPCH's advancements, from advanced medical equipment to lifesaving services and programs.

Contributions to the Foundation have transcended traditional philanthropy, creating a united force for the El Paso region. The impact of this generosity is evident in every aspect of care, fostering a culture of preventative health care, education, and empowerment. Together, this partnership is creating a healthier, more informed community, and the Foundation expressed eternal gratitude for the invaluable support in the journey of healing, hope, and health.

## GRANTS, NAMING RIGHTS, AND DONATIONS

Cesar Ornelas Naming Rights	\$ 250,000
Martha & Cliff Eisenberg Naming Rights	\$ 100,000
Chip in for Children Naming Rights	\$ 25,000
Hyundai Hope on Wheels Regional Grant	\$ 400,000
Hyundai Hope on Wheels Grant	\$ 100,000
PdNHF Empower Program Grant	\$ 50,398
St. Baldrick's Cancer Research Grant	\$ 50,000
Cardwell Foundation Grant	\$ 30,000
NACHRI Toy Grant	\$ 25,000
Hightower Foundation Grant	\$ 25,000
New York Life Grant	\$ 25,000
Bank of America Grant	\$ 25,000
Blue Cross Blue Shield Grant	\$ 25,000
Texas Women of the Arts Grant	\$ 2,500
Pat & Laura Gordon Endowment	\$ 75,000
Southwest University Endowment	\$ 25,000
Kickpin Foundation Endowment	\$ 20,000
Marcus Family Foundation	\$ 250,000
Eisenberg Family Foundation	\$ 150,000
Anonymous Donor	\$ 100,000
Arriola Family Foundation	\$ 47,745
Abbott Family Foundation	\$ 24,000
Enterprise Holding	\$ 6,400
Dr. & Mrs. David Jimenez	\$ 5,000
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority	\$ 5,000
Just a Closet Self Storage	\$ 5,000
Dunkin' Joy in Childhood	\$ 4,000
Caleb Jolly	\$ 2,500
Fidelity Charitable	\$ 500
Partee for a Purpose, Top Golf Fundraiser	\$ 357,569
Borderless Giving Fashion Show	\$ 118,883
El Paso Health -Teaching Kitchen	\$ 50,000
El Paso Giving Day Event	\$ 29,730
KTSM Telethon	\$ 28,038
Endo Craniosynostosis Conference	\$ 42,781
Cleft Lip Symposium	\$ 68,850
Diabetes Education Conference	\$ 2,580
Children's Miracle Network	\$ 843,748
Other Sources	\$ 155,118
<b>Total Contribution Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 3,550,340</b>
<b>Contributed Services</b>	<b>\$ 899,855</b>
<b>EPCH Foundation Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 4,450,195</b>





Feature Story

# Jason, Sepsis, PICU

## Former El Paso Children's Hospital patient and his family come back to thank nurses and medical staff who saved his life

A mother's love and the compassionate care at El Paso Children's Hospital saved 7-month-old Jason's life. Jason was just 5 weeks old when his mother, Alejandra noticed something wasn't quite right. "I noticed he wasn't eating. We had changed his formula and I started to notice he would turn pale and his lips would turn blue. I knew something was wrong so I took him to El Paso Children's Hospital on Thanksgiving day." said Alejandra. Alejandra says as soon as she brought him into the hospital the attention to care was immediate. Fast acting medical staff knew that Jason's medical situation was a matter of life and death. Jason had sepsis. This is the body's overwhelming and life-threatening response to infection. "Maybe for half an hour after we got there we had, a doctor come out and she tells me, mom I need you to

sign for me, I need to intubate him," said Alejandra. Two days later a mother's worst nightmare happened in the early hours of the morning. "It was maybe about 3 AM when we were asleep in the room, when an alarm started going off. I was asleep but I woke up to a nurse, grabbing me and telling me we need you to step out mom and I kept hearing that it was a code blue." In the middle of her nightmare the moments after shook her into what would be the harsh reality that she was facing. "When Father Ralph came in to baptize him, that's when I realized that I was saying goodbye to my baby," said Alejandra. After the quick action of El Paso Children's Hospital medical staff Jason survived. With gratitude in their hearts months later they returned to the hospital to thank everyone who stood alongside them during the darkest time in their lives.

# Quality



*Madison, Dermatology*



*EPCH achieved recognition as the Top Hospital in Quality among local hospitals underscoring our unwavering dedication to exceptional patient care.*

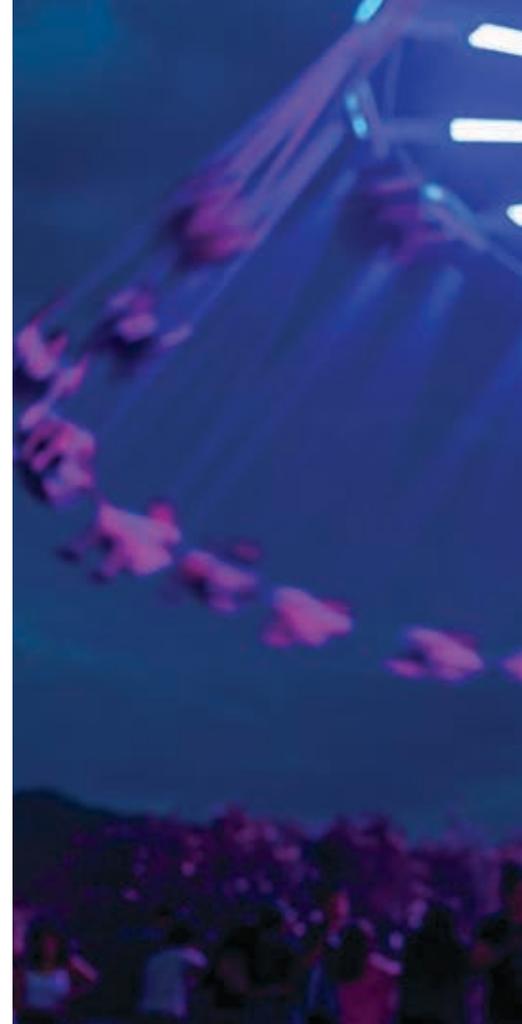
Our dedicated focus solely on pediatric care allows us to provide innovative treatments for rare and complex diagnoses. We stand as the only true pediatric specialty hospital within a 350-mile radius, offering exclusive care to pediatric patients and supporting advanced medical education and research. Our facility represents world-class care through our dedicated Quality team, equipped with formal training in Quality and Patient Safety, ensuring our commitment to patient safety and the minimization of hospital-acquired conditions. Collaborating with leading organizations in patient safety reinforces our evidence-based practices.

Responding to increased demand, we've expanded services to include Behavioral Health, addressing crucial needs in the pediatric population.

Our commitment to excellence is evident through our relentless efforts to minimize hospital-acquired conditions and strive for Zero Harm. Our focus on prompt identification and management of conditions like Sepsis has shown significant growth in infection control measures over the past two years.

*Patients from local and international regions benefit from our specialized treatments, notably experiencing an 85% decrease in outmigration for pediatric care.*





## Infection Control & Employee Health

Our Infection Control department made a significant and impressive impact on the community by leading in vaccination efforts. EPCH hosted over 100 vaccination clinics, showcasing a robust commitment to public health. Proactively addressing the health needs of the community, our department administered boosters for 5-11 year olds starting in December 2022. This initiative contributed to the protection of a vulnerable age group and successfully completed vaccinations for this critical segment of the population.

This achievement reflects our commitment to achieving widespread vaccination coverage, thereby contributing to community immunity. To ensure a sustained effort in enhancing vaccination coverage, our department hosted ongoing monthly booster clinics. This approach underscores our dedication to providing timely updates and further contributing to the overall health and well-being of the community.

Our dedication to tailoring specific processes, addressing unique needs, and delivering specialized care exclusively for the pediatric population. By focusing exclusively on the distinct requirements of children, we ensure a level of expertise, understanding, and precision in our services that goes beyond the scope of general healthcare providers. This commitment allows us to provide a higher standard of care, fostering an environment where children receive the specialized attention and treatment they deserve, setting us apart as the preferred choice for pediatric healthcare. Dr. Gilbert Handal, a pediatric infectious disease specialist at El Paso Children's Hospital, received the prestigious Distinguished Service Award from the Texas Medical Association

With a focus on efficiency and impact, our unit administered over 15,000 doses of vaccines.



*Andrea, Radiology*

(TMA) at TexMed 2023 in Fort Worth. This accolade, TMA's highest honor, recognizes exceptional achievement in medical science, advances in public health, and outstanding service to the medical profession and community. Dr. Handal's nomination highlighted his significant contributions to the local community, region, state, and global health.

In our department, a notable commitment to research, community outreach, and leadership initiatives is evident. Our physicians and staff actively contribute to publications, authoring articles, and participating as contributing authors—a testament to our dedication to advancing knowledge within the healthcare community.

We are working collaboratively with Administrative Directors to expand our BLAST SEPSIS protocol to neighboring areas within our region. This initiative emphasizes our goal of sharing best practices and improving emergency response strategies beyond our immediate vicinity.

Members of our infection control team currently serve on the Association of Infection Preventionist and Epidemiology (AIPE) Paso Del Norte Chapter in El Paso, Texas. The chapter includes 23 members from various hospital systems, with representation from Las Cruces and other healthcare branches. This association provides a valuable platform for members to engage in discussions, analyze, and evaluate infection prevention initiatives and practices in the southwest region, highlighting our leadership in community health and infection prevention.

## Accreditations, Designations, and Memberships



### JOINT COMMISSION ACCREDITATION

Founded in 1951, The Joint Commission is the nation’s oldest and largest standards-setting and accrediting body in health care. As an independent, not-for-profit organization, The Joint Commission seeks to continuously improve health care for the public, in collaboration with other stakeholders, by evaluating health care organizations and inspiring them to excel in providing safe and effective care of the highest quality and value.



### CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION

Children’s Hospital Association hospitals are essential providers, setting the standard for the highest quality pediatric care while training the next generation of pediatricians. The association champions policies, practices, and performance improvements that enable children’s hospitals to better serve children and families. Priorities include areas of greatest impact: policy, quality and patient safety, and analytics to inform the decision making of clinicians, policymakers, payers, and providers.



### CHILDREN’S ONCOLOGY GROUP

The Children’s Oncology Group, a National Cancer Institute supported clinical trials group, is the world’s largest organization devoted exclusively to childhood and adolescent cancer research. The Children’s Oncology Group unites more than 10,000 experts in childhood cancer at more than 200 leading children’s hospitals, universities, and cancer centers across North America, Australia, New Zealand, and Europe in the fight against childhood cancer.

Today, more than 90% of 16,000 children and adolescents diagnosed with cancer each year in the United States are cared for at Children’s Oncology Group member institutions. Children’s Oncology Group’s unparalleled collaborative efforts provide the information and support needed to answer important clinical questions in the fight against cancer.

## LEVEL IV NICU ADVANCED INTENSIVE CARE UNIT DESIGNATION BY THE TEXAS HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

The State of Texas passed legislation requiring all NICUs to undergo a site visit to verify they meet the Neonatal Levels of Care classifications as defined in the Texas Administrative Code.

It is notable that the Texas Children’s NICU is the first to be designated by the Texas Department of State Health Services as a level IV NICU. This is the highest level of care available for premature and critically-ill newborns.

A level IV NICU designation must meet all level III capabilities, plus have the ability to care for infants born earlier than 32 weeks gestation and weighing less than 1,500 grams, provide life support, perform advanced imaging including MRI and echocardiography, and provide a full range of respiratory support, among many other criteria.

## COLLEGE OF AMERICAN PATHOLOGISTS

The Certified Analytics Professional certification is a trusted, independent verification of the critical technical expertise and related skills possessed by accomplished analytics and data science professionals, and valued by analytics-oriented organizations.

## CLINICAL LABORATORY IMPROVEMENT AMENDMENTS

The Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments regulate laboratory testing and require clinical laboratories to be certified by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services before they can accept human samples for diagnostic testing.

## AMERICAN COLLEGE OF RADIOLOGY ACCREDITATION

The American College of Radiology Accreditation helps assure your patients that you provide the highest level of image quality and safety by documenting that your facility meets requirements for equipment, medical personnel and quality assurance.





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