Dear Valued Supporter of The Children’s Heart Foundation,

2022 was an incredible year, with so many wonderful fundraisers and events taking place across the country, thanks to our dedicated volunteers and supporters. We were able to fund a record-setting amount of CHD research in 2022 and it’s only possible because of people like you. From all of us at The Children’s Heart Foundation, THANK YOU for all you do to help further our mission. We are so grateful and hope this annual report will shine a light on some of the incredible things CHF was able to do this year, thanks to you.

Entering into 2023, we’re honored to welcome Tamara Thomas as the new Chairman of our Board of Directors. Tamara is a longtime volunteer and supporter of CHF and has held leadership roles at both the Board and local levels, including serving as Leader of the CHF Ohio Region. Tamara is also a proud Heart Mom and is deeply passionate about our mission. I hope you’ll join me in saying “Welcome, Tamara!”

Please also help us give a big thank you to Kevin Slawin, outgoing Board Chairman, for all of the incredible accomplishments that were achieved under his leadership. We thank you for your service, Kevin!

Since 1996, The Children’s Heart Foundation has funded over $16.5 million of research. Our work would not be possible without the contributions of our passionate volunteers and the support of our donors. The Children’s Heart Foundation’s Board of Directors, volunteers, and staff thank you for your continued support as we build for future growth and success as the leader in CHD research funding.

Sincerely,

Gail Roddie-Hamlin
President & CEO

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**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Kevin Slawin  
Chairman of the Board

Tamara Thomas  
Chairman-Elect

Martha Hauber  
Immediate Past Chairman

Jim Bolotin  
Treasurer  
Chair, Audit & Finance Committee

Lori Jones  
Secretary  
Chair, Marketing & Communications Committee

Dr. John Costello  
Chairman, Medical Advisory Council

Tawanna Williams  
Board Member  
Co-chair, DEI Committee

Kathryn Osteen  
Board Member  
Chair, Advocacy Committee

Sally Powers  
Board Member  
Co-chair, DEI Committee

Danielle Pradas  
Board Member  
Chair, Development Committee

William Roach  
Board Member  
Chair, Governance & Nominating Committee

Kelly Wittich  
Board Member
2022 was an outstanding year for The Children’s Heart Foundation. Key highlights include:

- More than $1.5 million in CHD research and scientific collaborations funded - the largest amount in a single year in CHF history!
- Our Congenital Heart Walk series implemented 31 Walks in major markets across the country and raised over $2 million, a record-setting amount!
- Exceeded overall revenue by a projected 7% increase year over year, estimated at $3.1 million.
- Recruited dozens of volunteers who are ready to help spearhead The Children’s Heart Foundation’s advocacy and community engagement initiatives through its 15 Regions.

We thank Kevin Slawin, outgoing Board Chairman, for his outstanding leadership over the past two years.

“My time as Chairman of the Board of The Children’s Heart Foundation has been a life-enhancing experience. I wish to extend a heartfelt thanks to my fellow board members, region council chairs, donors, and volunteers for your steadfast dedication and support of The Children’s Heart Foundation. It is because of each and every one of you that we can achieve these tremendous goals.

Thank you for all that you are doing on behalf of Heart Warriors and Heart Angels. With your help, we will continue to support our mission of funding the most promising research.”

Kevin Slawin
Chairman of the Board of Directors (2021–2022)
2022 RESEARCH FUNDING

The Children’s Heart Foundation funded over $1.5 million of congenital heart defect research and scientific collaborations in 2022 – the largest funding amount in a single year – thanks to the incredible support of our volunteers, donors, and sponsors.

As in years past, our research funding spanned four initiatives:
1. Independent research funded by The Children’s Heart Foundation
2. Collaborative research with the American Heart Association through joint Congenital Heart Defect Research Awards
3. Funding the American Academy of Pediatrics’ Pediatric Cardiology Research Fellowship Award
4. Funding of Cardiac Networks United research initiatives

Since 1996, The Children’s Heart Foundation has funded $16.5 million of CHD research and scientific collaborations.
Samantha Butler, PhD, (Boston Children’s Hospital) received funding from The Children’s Heart Foundation for her work on “Developmental Intervention in the Cardiac Intensive Care Unit for Newborns with Congenital Heart Disease”. This study will serve as the needed pilot study to request funding for a larger multicenter trial that could impact hospital-based care for infants with CHD and their families around the world.

The researcher who received the Cortney Barnett Research Award through The Children’s Heart Foundation is Vahid Serpooshan, PhD, (Emory University) for, “A 3D Bioprinted Platform for Modeling and Treatment Planning of Hepatic Disorders in Fontan Patients”. Results from this study may create the first class of laboratory models of Fontan-associated liver disease that can find answers to several key questions in both diagnosis and treatment of these life-threatening injuries.

The Mend a Heart Foundation Award, new in 2022, was awarded to Nimrod Goldshstrom, MD, MS, (Columbia University Irving Medical Center) for research on, “Cerebral Autoregulation and Neurodevelopment Outcomes in Neonates with Single Ventricle Congenital Heart Disease”. This will look at using autoregulation tools to reduce short and long-term neurologic injury in babies who undergo surgery.

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS: Funding the researchers of tomorrow

The winner of the American Academy of Pediatrics’ 2022 Pediatric Cardiology Research Fellowship Award was Kari Phillips, MD, of University of Utah Health.

Dr. Phillips’ research is titled, “Exploring Patient and Family Decision Making in Pediatric Heart Transplant”. Parents and guardians of children with severe heart failure often face a series of life changing decisions including the decision to proceed with heart transplant and employ intensive therapies such as dialysis and ventricular assist device while waiting for a transplant. This research aims to understand what is important to families as they make these decisions.

This award is made possible by a $35,000 educational grant from The Children’s Heart Foundation.
CARDIAC NETWORKS UNITED: Using data to make an impact

The Children’s Heart Foundation is proud to support Cardiac Networks United (CNU), a pediatric and congenital cardiovascular research network that encompasses two-thirds of all congenital heart centers in the U.S.

Through 2023, The Children’s Heart Foundation will provide a total of $1.5 million to CNU.

CNU is comprised of eight collaborating networks who together, touch on all aspects of CHD care – Cardiac ICU, single ventricle disease, neurodevelopment, fontan care and outcomes, and more. Multiple CNU efforts and that of partner organizations were highlighted at the American Heart Association’s 2021 Scientific Sessions.

Some of their current research efforts include:
- Optimizing Fontan care across the lifespan
- Cardiac arrest prevention
- Standardizing post-operative recovery
AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION & THE CHILDREN’S HEART FOUNDATION:
Working together to fight CHDs

The Children’s Heart Foundation has been collaboratively funding congenital heart defect research with the American Heart Association for ten years now through the Congenital Heart Defect Research Awards.

“We’re thrilled to be marking 10 years of partnership with the American Heart Association,” said Gail Roddie-Hamlin, President and CEO of The Children’s Heart Foundation. “The research we’re funding together is truly moving the needle and helping babies and children with CHDs live longer, healthier lives. I’m very proud of the work we’ve accomplished together.”

In February 2023, AHA and CHF announced the joint funding of $650,000 to support the following research projects:

- Shweta Karnik, M.S. at Georgia Tech Research Corporation for the development of a novel pediatric LVAD leveraging engineering and material science to improve physiologic interface
- Dulguun Amgalan, Ph.D. at The Board of Trustees of the Leland Stanford Junior University, for regulatory maps of endothelial cell differentiation to connect congenital heart disease risk variants to function
- Junichi Saito, M.D., Ph.D. at Yale University for investigating the role of sphingosine kinase 1 in supravalvular aortic stenosis
- Clifford Liu, M.S. at Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai for investigating mechanisms of cardiac valve disease in Noonan Syndrome
- Nirmal Vadgama, Ph.D. at The Board of Trustees of the Leland Stanford Junior University for defining the neural crest’s role in CHD and associated comorbidities using single-cell epigenomics and deep learning
- Kathryn Henshaw, B.S. at Boston Children’s Hospital for simulation of native valve extracellular microenvironment to enhance in vitro cellularization of valvular scaffolds
CONGENITAL HEART WALKS:
Walk for One More Heartbeat

31 Congenital Heart Walk events took place in 2022. For the first time since 2019, all walks were back to in-person events, and so many of our heart families and teams joined together again in our walk for CHD research!

We thank the thousands of participants, teams, volunteers, donors, and sponsors for their generous support, which helped the 2022 walk series raise more than $2 million! Together, we walk to raise funds for research that will help improve outcomes for Heart Warriors everywhere, and honor all Heart Angels.

We look forward to seeing everyone again in 2023 as we walk in a city near you! Scan the QR code below to find a walk near you and register to join us.
FINANCIALS

2021 Audited Financials

REVENUE
Donations                                                   $1,111,000
Congenital Heart Walk                              $1,628,000
Special Events                                            $325,000
Third Party Events                                      $104,000
Paycheck Protection Program Grant        $134,000
Other                                                           $22,000

Total Revenue                                            $3,324,000

EXPENSES
Research and related programs             $2,166,000
Operations                                                 $305,000
Fundraising                                                $574,000

Total Expenses                                           $3,045,000

INCREASE IN NET ASSETS                            $279,000

NET ASSETS AT DECEMBER 31, 2020
Unrestricted                                               $1,287,000
Restricted to Research                              $167,000

$1,454,000

REVENUE SOURCES

Audited financial statements can be found at www.childrensheartfoundation.org
Together, we can fund research that makes life-saving medical advancements possible for babies born with – and millions of children and adults living with – congenital heart defects.

To learn more about getting involved, volunteer opportunities, or to make a donation, please visit ChildrensHeartFoundation.org

Thank you for being a part of our heart community and Placing Children at the Heart of Research.

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www.youtube.com/CHFNational

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