

# About Congenital Heart Defects

**Congenital heart defects, or CHDs,** are problems present at birth that affect the structure and function of the heart.

CHDs are America's **most common birth defect** and the most common cause of infant death related to birth defects. Each year, nearly 40,000 babies are born with CHDs; this equates to **1 child every 15 minutes**.



**25%**

Percentage of babies born with a CHD who will need surgery or other interventions in their first year of life to survive

**40,000**

Approximate number of babies born with a CHD each year



**2-3 Million**

Children & adults living with CHDs in the U.S.

**85%**

Percentage of babies born with a non-critical CHD now live to at least age 18 thanks to medical advancements that have been made through research.



## The Children's Heart Foundation

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## Join Our Community!



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**A Legacy of  
Research.  
A Future Full  
of Hope.**

For additional resources and  
to learn more, visit  
[ChildrensHeartFoundation.org/about-chds](http://ChildrensHeartFoundation.org/about-chds)

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## About Us

The Children's Heart Foundation is the country's leading organization solely dedicated to funding congenital heart defect research.

**Our mission** is to advance the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of congenital heart defects by funding the most promising research.

To date, through 2025, The Children's Heart Foundation has funded nearly \$21 million of CHD research and scientific collaborations – driving breakthroughs that have improved survival rates, longevity, and quality of life for individuals living with CHDs in dramatic and life-changing ways.

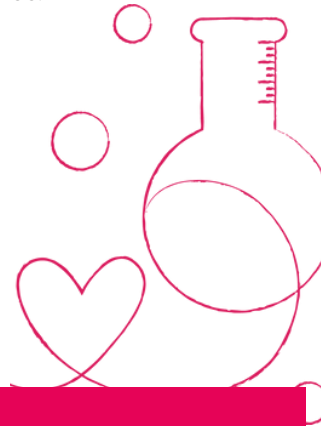


## Three Decades of Impact

For 30 years, The Children's Heart Foundation has fueled groundbreaking research that is transforming the lives of individuals impacted by congenital heart defects— from infancy through adulthood.

Our investments have helped advance the diagnosis, improve treatments, reduce hospital stays, and pave the way for less invasive procedures.

By supporting the most promising scientific discoveries, The Children's Heart Foundation has played a critical role in changing outcomes for Heart Warriors everywhere—turning CHD diagnoses into stories of hope, progress, and longer, healthier lives.



Learn more at  
[ChildrensHeartFoundation.org/our-impact](https://ChildrensHeartFoundation.org/our-impact)



## Make a Difference

The profound impacts achieved by CHD research are the result of thousands of individuals working diligently year-round to make a difference. Whether donating money, giving time, or fundraising, people like you are at the heart of the work we do! To learn more about how to get involved and help drive our mission, please visit

**[ChildrensHeartFoundation.org](https://ChildrensHeartFoundation.org)**.

When you support The Children's Heart Foundation, you are *Placing Children at the Heart of Research*.



## Congenital Heart Walks

The Children's Heart Foundation's **Congenital Heart Walk** series is the nation's largest event series dedicated to raising funds for CHD research. We invite you to join us at our family-friendly walks across the country as we walk to raise funds and awareness for the most promising CHD research.

**Scan the QR code to find a walk near you.**

