

## Helping NICU families connect to one another

The NICU Family Support Specialist provides new parents of a precious, premature baby peer-to-peer emotional, inspirational and informational support during their stay in the NICU. Sarah Vogt is the Family Support Specialist at Providence St. Vincent Medical Center. She knows firsthand what it's like for the families as both her son and daughter were in the NICU. Thank you for your support of her position.



Sarah has many duties but her main focus is to improve the NICU experience for families to help them through a very trying time. She visits with families at the bedside and plans monthly activities and meals. "I really think my position makes a difference," she said. "If there wasn't a position like this, then families wouldn't have these opportunities to connect with each other and have their spirits uplifted. It's been really cool – I love it." ●

### Our Mission

As expressions of God's healing love, witnessed through the ministry of Jesus, we are steadfast in serving all, especially those who are poor and vulnerable.

### Our Values

Compassion, Dignity, Justice, Excellence, Integrity

## Newborn research to give babies a strong start

20 percent of all Oregon babies start their lives at a Providence hospital, with about 10 percent receiving care at one of the two Portland-area NICUs. Our team of physicians and researchers continue to pioneer neonatal medicine to help ensure the next generation starts strong:

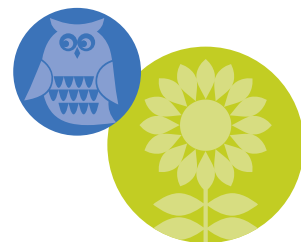
- Thanks to your support, the Providence Newborn Research team recently completed a national phase II clinical trial to evaluate if a new aerosol drug administered through the nose is more effective than the longstanding practice of using an invasive tube to help premature babies breathe. The trial proved the aerosol works and can deliver needed proteins in a less aggressive manner. The trial will be moving to phase III to become available to more of our tiniest patients.
- Feeding a premature baby can be one of the biggest challenges new parents face. These babies often continue to struggle with weight and development well into childhood. The Feeding Clinic at Providence Children's Development Institute is becoming the fastest growing clinic within Providence Children's Health.



Our research team is investigating feeding problems of premature babies and developing a standardized assessment for health care providers to use. The study aims to present an evidence-based assessment to avoid unnecessary hospitalizations and emergency room visits for feeding problems. ●

### Contact info:

**Crystal Logan, Development Officer**  
Providence Children's Health Foundation  
830 NE 47th Ave., Portland, OR 97213  
503-216-2200  
Crystal.Logan@providence.org



Inspiring Generosity ♥



# The Power of giving

January 2019

## You're giving Oregon babies a strong start

Thanks to you, the 2018 Festival of Trees raised more than \$1.6 million to make life a little easier for the families who come to Providence for care. Proceeds provide continuing support for these programs and services:

### Support for underserved and at-risk pregnant women

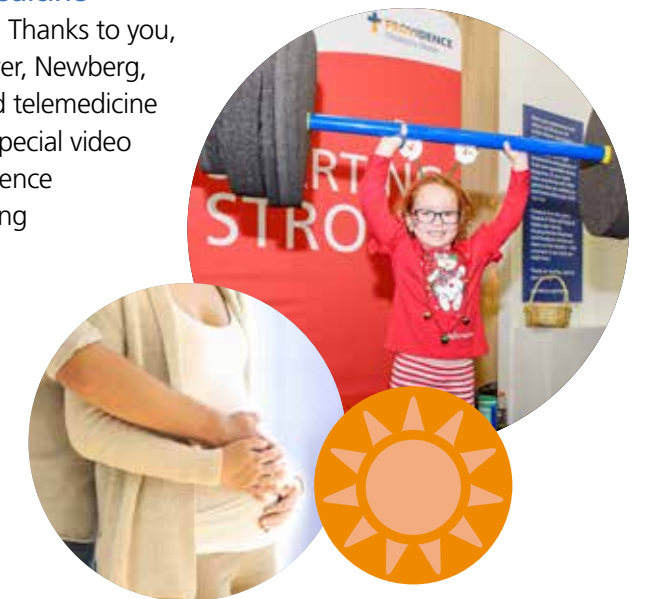
Your gifts will help create a new Safety Net for Families fund. Providence Beginnings social workers will use the fund to help support pregnant women who already have accessed or tried other community resources. The Safety Net for Families Fund will help provide pregnancy supplies (prenatal vitamins, diabetes supplies, compression socks, etc.), rent assistance, transportation vouchers and other services not covered by insurance.

### Increasing access to care through training and telemedicine

High-risk birth complications can occur suddenly at any time. Thanks to you, staff at our smaller community hospitals in Seaside, Hood River, Newberg, Medford and Willamette Falls will have access to training and telemedicine support for these situations. Local providers will connect by special video equipment to specialists at Providence St. Vincent and Providence Portland medical centers giving babies the benefit of life-saving specialized care close to home.

### Research to improve care for mothers and babies

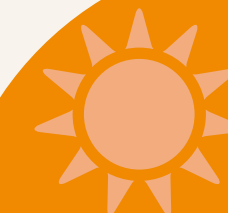
In 2018, the Providence newborn research team, led by Joe Kaempf, M.D., began a three-year international clinical trial to measure and evaluate the importance of the umbilical cord at birth and the best ways to deliver blood from the umbilical cord. The iron in umbilical cord blood increases the infant's iron storage, and iron is essential for healthy brain development, lung function and overall health. ●



Thank you for your support of the special children in our community. You make it possible for children to reach their full potential.

The Providence Child Center Foundation has changed to the Providence Children's Health Foundation. The change better reflects the scope of fundraising we do for all women and children's health, including:

- Enhanced programs and services for behavioral health
- Providing specialized services for children with complex needs
- Giving babies and families resources for a strong start
- Transforming care through clinical research



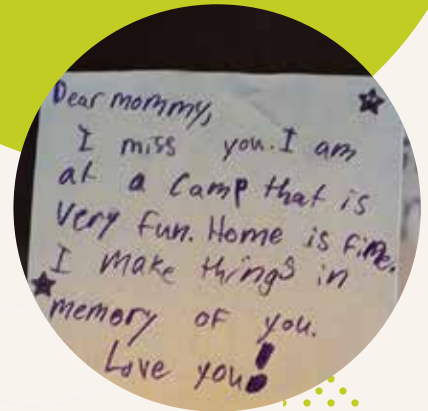
Therapists at the Center for Medically Fragile Children use many forms of recreation to engage and help the children.

Art therapy gives the caregiver team a creative way to understand each child and communicate with them. Plus it's fun and the children are able to express their creativity through various forms of art.



You make it possible for kids to go to camp! At the therapy camps, children with developmental delays have a safe, rewarding experience while learning life skills. Medically fragile children attend two weeks of Camp P.L.A.Y. enjoying a range of multi-sensory activities.

Camp Erin gives children mourning the loss of a loved one a safe place to express their grief.



Children with special needs in the Newberg area have the opportunity to participate in hippotherapy thanks to you.

Hippotherapy is a therapy treatment using horses. A specially trained occupational therapist uses the natural movement of the horse to give the sensory or neurological input each child will benefit from the most.



Children in a mental health crisis often arrive with just the clothes they are wearing. They are scared and confused.

Your support provides clothing, art and craft supplies and books that help calm and comfort the children at the Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Unit at Providence Willamette Falls.



Providence Children's Development Institute opened at Providence St. Vincent Medical Center in 2018. This bright and colorful new space has 31 exam rooms, four audiology rooms, three therapy gyms, education space, teamwork spaces and room for the Swindells Resource Center to help families navigate the world of having a child with special needs.

