



Providence Children's Health Foundation

Darrick Stiff, speech language pathologist, helps Ever Calderon with his new specialized communication device.

The gift of communication

On any given day in 2021, Providence Children's Development

Institute helped an average of 150 individuals for a total of 40,000 visits annually. Thanks to your generosity, Providence provided patient-specific resources for infants and children with special needs and their families.

For families with children who are unable to communicate verbally, we were able to purchase specialized communication devices through the Augmentative and Alternative Communication program. Providence has 10 therapists who are specially trained to help children and families communicate, but a therapist may see a child for only one or two hours a week. Providing funds to offset the cost of a communication device means a child has access to this resource wherever and whenever they need.

"A communication device can cost thousands of dollars. During the pandemic and as resources are scarce, foundation funds have been a light during a very dark time for families who are left home with their child who is unable to communicate. Your donations helped reduce the financial burden of helping their child grow and thrive," said Darrick Stiff, MS, CCC-SLP, who oversees the Augmentative and Alternative Communication program.

The Calderons received funds for a communication device for their son this year and were forever touched by your kindness. "Thank you on behalf of my son, my family and all those who stand beside my child to support his development," said José Calderon.

José's son has longed for a learning device to help him wherever he goes. It keeps him more engaged in learning and will help in his pursuit of a career in technology.

Thank you for helping to provide specialized equipment to the Calderon family and fulfill a dream for a child with special needs.

2021 Highlights

Bequest helps families with unmet needs

Elsie Clements was a passionate community teacher in Oregon. When completing her will, she asked her niece, Theresa Taylor, to select a cause that would make a powerful impact on families. Theresa selected Providence Safety Net Fund for Families that supports unmet needs of families receiving care in Providence women's clinics, family practices and pediatric specialty clinics. "There was nothing more important to Aunt Elsie than family," said Theresa. "Knowing that her gift helps provide assistance for families would make her happy. It is an expression of her faith and belief that we are called upon to love and take care of one another."

Respite care gives family time to recharge

Ellie's family is grateful for respite care available at Providence Center for Medically Fragile Children. Before they learned about the respite care program, Scott and Vicki McCracken were not getting away nor taking time for themselves. With respite care, "we can take care of our marriage, take care of ourselves and know that Ellie is in a place where she is being well cared for," said Scott. Proceeds from the more than \$962,000 raised through the 2021 Festival of Trees supported the Center for Medically Fragile Children including respite care, the Safety Net Fund for Families and Swindells Resource Center.



2021 total dollars raised by fund

- Area of Greatest Need | 17%
- Center for Medically Fragile Children | 12%
- Children's Health | 11%
- Festival of Trees | 33%
- Swindells Resource Center | 14%
- Women and Infants | 4%
- Other Funds | 9%

