Meet Addy,
Taking the world on with his smile
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Dear Friends,

As we enter the holiday season, there are so many things we are thankful for at Children’s Specialized Hospital Foundation. I would like to extend a warm thank you to everyone who joined us at our 31st Annual Umbrella Gala to celebrate the numerous innovations that are driving care for the over 34,000 children and families we serve. A special heart-felt congratulations and thank you to Paul and Barb Krieger and our Gala Committee for all the hard work that went into bringing an amazing, sold-out event to life.

A highlight of the evening was the recognition of the many contributions of our Distinguished Individual Honoree, Amy B. Mansue and Corporate Leadership Honoree, Mark Montenero and Autoland. Their outstanding dedication to our children is unwavering.

Between raindrops this summer, we were able to raise significant funds with two successful golf outings; the PSE&G-DP&C Vendor Golf Outing and our 2nd Annual Open. We are grateful for the commitment and volunteer spirit of our Open co-chairs Eric Jensen and Denise Porter as well as our PSE&G partners, Vic Viscomi and Kim Hanemann.

We are all moved by the story of our cover child, Addy Mena, and his family. As I read their story, I am reminded of all the amazing work that goes on within the walls of our 13 sites every day. Together, we can meet the challenges and seize the limitless opportunities of our world. We know that as we grow and evolve significantly through discovery and research, the impact is real and the results are life-changing.

Thank you for your continued support. It is with your help that we are able to continue our mission. I look forward to the start of the new year and hope you will join us in achieving incredible goals.

Best wishes for a healthy and happy holiday season and a very Happy New Year,

Philip Salerno III
Foundation President and Chief Development Officer

“I look forward to the start of the new year and hope you will join us in achieving incredible goals.”

Philip Salerno III
Lightning Wheels Team Finishes Second Overall at National Paralympic Competition

Children’s Lightning Wheels Paralympic Sports Club (PSC) competed at the 35th annual Adaptive Sports USA Junior National Championships July 22-27, 2018. Ten athletes from the nationally ranked team traveled to Fort Wayne, Indiana to compete in the Paralympic-style competition in swimming, table tennis, track and field, and powerlifting where they finished second in the large team division. The athletes earned 57 first place medals, 19 silver and six bronze and achieved a total of 32 personal best and set six national records in powerlifting and field events.

With only ten participants, the Children’s Lightning Wheels was the second smallest competing team. Athletes included Aidan Cairns, 11, Nicholas DaPonte, 10, Matthew Fertig, 22, Sarah Maher, 13, Kiko Mina, 14, Eva Niemeijer, 20, Vanessa Strunk, 19, Isaac Sullivan, 18, Joel Tapia, 9, and Matt Tomain, 18. The team was accompanied by coaches Paul Kolterjahn, Anne Marie Santos and Trisha Yurochko.

Kiko Mina, of Lake Hopatcong, received the Spirit of Excellence Award in table tennis. He was acknowledged for his dedication to training and knowledge of the sport. The award is given to an athlete who shows an exemplary display of vision, focus, commitment, persistence, discipline and sportsmanship. Mina has competed in table tennis for the past two national championships and serves as an ambassador for the sport.

“All of the events were very competitive which you would expect when over 200 high caliber athletes from across the country come together. Our Children’s Lightning Wheels PSC athletes dug deep within themselves to rise to the challenge and by doing so had great success. The amount of personal records that our team achieved this year was incredible. All of the hard work paid off and our coaching staff could not be more proud of their commitment, passion and pure athleticism,” said Trisha Yurochko, head coach.

The Children’s Lightning Wheels PSC welcomes those aged 6 – 22 who have a primary diagnosis of a physical disability and are interested in being part of an athletic team. The program is not only an athletic team but also a place where the participants can build their confidence, independence and self-esteem as well as developing a healthy lifestyle and creating life-long friendships.

For more information on Children’s Lightning Wheels PSC, visit www.childrens-specialized.org/activityconnection.
Join us on Sunday, December 9 at Jersey Gardens Mall for the Jingle Bell 5k Run.

Raising a total of over $50,000 since 2012 for Children’s Specialized Hospital Foundation, the success of this annual USATF-certified race is the result of the dedication and commitment of the Elizabeth PBA #4 Civic Association.

Come for the run and stay for the fun because it doesn’t end at the finish line. The top male and female finishers receive awards and everyone is invited to stay for a pancake breakfast courtesy of IHOP. Runners eat for free! Also, there is a costume contest sponsored by The Mills at Jersey Gardens. Race day registration begins at 7:00 a.m.

For more information or to register, visit https://events.childrens-specialized.org/event/jinglebell5k

Runners line up and embrace the spirit of the Jingle Bell 5K.

Sleigh Bells Ring, Are You Listening?
Tune in to Our Holiday Radiothons

Save the Dates! December 5 and 6, 92.7 WOBM; December 13, 95.5 WPLJ-FM; and December 14, 94.7 NASH-FM will each be broadcasting live with special stories about our kids in support of programs at Children’s Specialized Hospital and area Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals. These Radiothons aim to raise awareness and critical funds supporting kids with special healthcare needs.

Tune in to hear from our patients and their families, as they share stories of the life-altering impact the doctors, nurses and therapists at Children’s Specialized Hospital have had on their lives.
Children’s Specialized Hospital Foundation
31st Annual Umbrella Gala

Celebrating INNOVATION, Raising Over $375,000

Children’s Specialized Hospital Foundation celebrated the 31st Annual Umbrella Gala on Thursday, October 25, 2018 at the Pleasantdale Chateau in West Orange, NJ with Master of Ceremonies Katie Neal, Midday Host at NASH-FM 94.7. Raising over $375,000, the proceeds from this year’s Umbrella Gala benefit Children’s Specialized Hospital’s Center for Discovery, Innovation and Development (CDID), whose mission is to develop, innovate and discover solutions for the advancement of children with special healthcare needs and their families.

Amy B. Mansue, President, Southern Region for RWJBarnabas Health, was the Distinguished Individual Honoree of the gala. Former President of Children’s Specialized Hospital, Mansue was instrumental in the development of PSE&G Children’s Specialized Hospital in New Brunswick. A champion for children with special healthcare needs, Mansue has dedicated her career to navigating the changing landscape of healthcare and advancing the concept of family-centered care.

“I have worked with Amy for many years and seen first-hand the deep dedication she has to improving the lives of our patients,” said Philip Salerno, III, Children’s Specialized Hospital Foundation President and Chief Development Officer. “The work she has done on behalf of Children’s Specialized Hospital is inspirational and extraordinary. We were thrilled to honor her at the gala this year.”

The evening also paid tribute to Corporate Leadership Honoree, Autoland, represented by President and Owner Mark Montenero, who made a tremendous donation of $100,000 on behalf of Autoland to Children’s Specialized Hospital Foundation at the event. The Foundation’s partnership with Autoland has resulted in hundreds of thousands of dollars raised to benefit children with special healthcare needs, as well as enabling a corporate sponsorship with Toyota to support the innovative Go Baby Go program at the hospital. Montenero also volunteers his time, serving on the Board of Trustees for Children’s Specialized Hospital Foundation.

“We are so grateful for the incredible support our foundation receives from Autoland and Mark Montenero,” said John Crisan, Children’s Specialized Hospital Foundation Board Chair. “Our collaboration has led to new innovative programs that have a profound impact on our patients and their families.”

“We look forward to this night all year. We have an amazing Gala Committee, led by our dedicated co-chairs Paul and Barb Krieger, working to make it a night to remember, celebrating our honorees and innovation – inventing a better future for our children,” said Beth Anne Dobosh, Director of Corporate and Foundation Partnerships at Children’s Specialized Hospital Foundation.
“We thought we had lost everything,” said Uma, “but Children’s gave Addy back to me. The doctors and nurses taught me how to see Addy through the tubes and wires. They taught me how to handle him, how to play with him. While we were in New Brunswick, I learned how to accept and live the life we were now facing.”

Uma Mena, Addy’s mom
Children’s Specialized was the Mena’s home for nine months. Having moved to the United States from India, the Menas had no relatives to rely on for support and were so grateful to the Family Faculty for their help and guidance. Family Faculty are family members whose children have received or are still receiving services at Children’s Specialized Hospital. Their own day-to-day experiences provide a unique perspective, understanding and empathy for families going through similar situations. Now that Uma has many years of experience at Children’s, she too has joined the Family Faculty to help guide new families at the hospital.

After Addy was discharged from inpatient care, he continued to receive outpatient occupational, speech and physical therapies in New Brunswick. Lauren Castagna, Addy’s physical therapist for many years in New Brunswick, described how they practiced exercises for sitting, rolling and standing, all of which are very difficult for Addy. Castagna says, “Addy is so engaging, his smile is infectious and he’s always happy. Even when he is exhausted he is always working hard.”

Due to low muscle tone, Addy is in a wheelchair and he is also non-verbal, but his eyes tell you he is very engaged and fun-loving. His smile is bright and wide when his mom sings to him. He gives lots of high-fives and at school he is a good student, hard worker and loves to play ball. One of his favorite activities is taking family trips to Hurricane Harbor!

The Menas continue to research and pursue new treatments and therapies for Addy. They recently began appointments with the Special Needs Primary Care practice in Hamilton, NJ, and are exploring the possibility of teaching Addy to use an Augmentative Communication device. They are also considering a bone marrow transplant down the road.

Addy and his family have faced many difficult days, but the Menas are optimistic, “Even after all the difficulties he goes through, Addy loves to laugh. He’s always cheerful and he keeps us happy.”

“Addy is so engaging, his smile is infectious and he’s always happy. Even when he is exhausted he is always working hard.”

Lauren Castagna, Physical Therapist
Children’s Specialized Hospital
Congratulations TCS New York City Marathon Runners!

Congratulations to the members of Children’s Specialized Hospital Foundation TCS New York City Marathon Team who completed the 26.2 mile run on Sunday, November 4. The Children’s Specialized Hospital team comprised of Dan Beirne, Chris Monacelli, Jen Moore, Tom Morgan and Shannon Tambini who together raised over $14,000 to benefit the Foundation. Dan Beirne, runner and supporter of Children’s Specialized Hospital through the annual Elizabeth PBA Battle of the Badges, shared his reasons for running and raising money for this cause close to his heart, “I’ve been involved with Children’s Specialized Hospital for the last 5 years through the Battle of the Badges hockey game. Over that time I have had the opportunity to visit the hospital and get to know the patients and staff who are true heroes! These courageous children and the everyday perseverance they display despite their challenges helped me get through race day!”

We are so grateful for the support of these amazing runners!

Golfers Tee-Up to Support the Special Needs Primary Care Program

On August 2, over 300 players and 65 sponsors united for an exciting day of golf at Fiddler’s Elbow Country Club in Bedminster, NJ, for the 7th Annual PSE&G-DP&C Vendor Golf Outing raising over $415,000 to benefit the Special Needs Primary Care Program at Children’s Specialized Hospital’s Hamilton Site.

Special Needs Primary Care at Children’s Specialized Hospital provides children with special healthcare needs, and their siblings with, comprehensive care. The practice strives to address the developmental and medical needs of children, in addition to behavioral health services. This is done through highly coordinated and effective family-centered medical care involving social workers, patient care coordinators, behavioral health therapists, doctors and nurses.

Guest speaker, Dr. Matt McDonald, Vice President and Chief Medical Officer at Children’s Specialized Hospital, expressed his gratitude to PSE&G for hosting the event. “The support of dedicated partners like PSE&G and DP&C is essential in advancing programs for the kids at Children’s Specialized. Having experienced first-hand the great work of the Special Needs Primary Care Program, I know how beneficial the funds raised by these gracious community members will be for our children.”

Deborah and Tom Acerno, parents to Children’s Specialized Hospital patient Adeline Acerno, were also in attendance to share their story. “Children’s Specialized has made a significant impact on our family and we’re appreciative to have been able to share the impact that fundraising events like this golf outing have on the lives of children and their families.”
Donor Spotlight: Meet Ruth Davie

A long-time donor and friend, Ruth Davie, has been supporting Children’s Specialized Hospital since she was a nursing aide at what was then known as Children’s Country Home in 1948.

During that time, nursing aides worked and lived in the hospital. Ruth and her best friend lived on the third floor and worked shifts from 7am to 7pm every day with one day off during the week. Her fondest memories are of the children. Ruth loved the children, many of them suffering terribly from polio. To relieve their pain the children were able to exercise in the pool and taught relaxation techniques. But most importantly, Ruth remembers administering the now famous Sister Kenny Hot Pack Treatment that helped to dramatically relieve the pain of polio patients.

Ruth worked on the girls’ ward and on Saturdays she would wash the girls’ hair and prepare them for their weekly family visits on Sundays. Ruth affectionately reminisces, “Children’s Specialized Hospital was a special place at that time, so loving and caring. It still is today. I like to support it any way I can because I know firsthand the good work that goes on there.”

In 1953, Ruth got married at the Presbyterian Church in Westfield. She has pictures of herself, in her wedding dress, with her mother and friends sitting in the original White House located in Mountainside, NJ. The settee they sat on is still there! She continued to live and work at Children’s Specialized until her first daughter was born in 1954. Ruth’s career goals were shaped by her time at Children’s Specialized and she went on to become an elementary school teacher for many years and continues to live locally.

It is because of so many loyal and generous supporters, like Ruth, that Children’s Specialized Hospital is still able to provide the best medical care possible to our patients – over 125 years later! Please join Ruth in helping each of the children who come to us for care to reach their full potential.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

Children’s Specialized Hospital Foundation acknowledges the generous support of its donors. Gifts to Children’s Specialized Hospital Foundation ensure that our patients receive the best possible care from the most skilled doctors and therapists.

We would like to recognize the following major donations from July 1, 2018 to September 30, 2018:

Visionary Society Donors ($500,000 +)
- Costco Wholesale

Benefactor Society Donors ($250,000 +)
- 2018 PSE&G-DP&C Vendor Golf Outing

Leadership Society Donors ($100,000 +)
- Lillian Ainscough Irrevocable Trust

Founder Society Donors ($25,000 +)
- Estate of Marian Andryscak
- Autoland of New Jersey, Inc.
- Dr. Heinz K. Hofmeister
- Kean Dance Marathon at Kean University
- Kohl’s Department Stores
- Ms. Amy B. Mansue
- Mr. Nicholas J. Paola
- StevensTHON at Stevens Institute of Technology

Cornerstone Society Donors ($10,000 +)
- The Baby Rocco Foundation
- C. R. Bard, Inc. & Foundation
- Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Fischer
- Football Coaches Assoc., Greater Middlesex Conference
- Grampy’s Charities Gives
- HighlanderThon at NJIT
- Kean University Greek Senate
- New Jersey Hospital Association
- Ocean County Thunder Harley Owner’s Group Chapter
- OceanFirst Foundation
- Timothy J. Piazza Memorial Foundation
- Spicehandler Family Charitable Fund
- Walmart
Timothy J. Piazza Memorial Donates $20,000 to Children’s Specialized Hospital Foundation: Supporting Innovative Solutions and Care

The Timothy J. Piazza Memorial Foundation donated $20,000 to Children’s Specialized Hospital Foundation to help fund Bioness devices for children with paralysis in their leg and/or hand.

Sixteen-year-old Ariana McGuire is one of many patients at Children’s Specialized who have benefitted from a Bioness device. Ariana’s mom, Luciana, describes Bioness as a game-changer for Ariana. “It is so wonderful for her to be able to walk without restrictions. It enables her to take regular steps and controls her foot drop. And as a teenager, Ariana loves that she can wear any shoe she chooses!”

“We’re so grateful to the Timothy J. Piazza Memorial Foundation for this generous donation to help fund Bioness devices that help our patients improve the efficiency of their walking, running, jumping and playing,” said Dr. Cheng, Section Chief in Physiatry at Children’s Specialized Hospital. “Bioness devices improve strength and motor control over time. With the day-to-day functional improvement, we are able to see longer term improvement for our patients.

Tim was known for helping others in need and The Timothy J. Piazza Memorial Foundation’s generous donation is a tribute to his memory. “Children’s Specialized Hospital Foundation is immensely grateful for this donation that will help to improve the lives of our patients,” said Philip Salerno III, President and Chief Development Officer of Children’s Specialized Hospital Foundation. Salerno continued, “The Piazza family’s love and strength through one of the most trying times is truly moving and we can assure them that Tim’s legacy of helping others will always be a part of Children’s Specialized Hospital.”

A Rain Delay Can’t Dampen the Spirits of our Golfers: Children’s Specialized Hospital Foundation Open Raises over $90,000

Rescheduled to October 2nd due to rain, golfers at the 2nd Annual Children’s Specialized Hospital Foundation Open didn’t let the delay dampen their giving spirit. Held at the beautiful Metedeconk National Golf Club in Jackson, NJ, the Open raised over $90,000 directly benefitting our newest outpatient site in Monmouth County anticipated to open in 2020.

“I’m so grateful to our amazing golf committee headed by our co-chairs Eric Jensen and Denise Porter for their flexibility and support in running the Open this year,” said Toni Schweizer, Director of Special Events. “We may have been delayed, but we appreciate the amazing support all the golfers and sponsors give our kids.”
Do you know about the gift that pays you back?

How it works
Very simply – make a donation using cash, marketable securities or other assets, and, in turn, we pay you a fixed amount for life. With this type of gift, you can feel secure knowing you will receive stable payments for as long as you live.

You Get
• Steady cash flow for the rest of your life
• A rate of return that is guaranteed regardless of market fluctuations
• An immediate charitable tax deduction
• Avoid capital gains tax when you fund your gift with appreciated stock

You Give
• Years of income to Children’s Specialized Hospital Foundation
• Support to future generations of children in need
• A lasting statement to the world about who you are and what is important to you

You Make a Difference
With your help, we can continue to make an impact on so many children and families in need.

Request your free, personalized, no obligation, Illustration today. Please call 908-301-5462 or email eherskowitz@childrens-specialized.org
$1 Billion Raised by Walmart and Sam’s Club

Since 1987, Walmart and Sam’s Club associates, members and customers have raised over $1 billion dollars in support of Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals, of which over $3.5 million has gone to the over 34,000 children located at Children’s Specialized Hospital. This year’s balloon campaign held from August 27 – October 7 raised $268,377 to support the patients at Children’s Specialized Hospital.

“The impact of $1 billion raised by Walmart and Sam’s Club customers, members and associates is hard to fathom,” said John Lauck, President and CEO of Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals. “Because of their generosity, literally millions of kids across the U.S. and Canada are truly living better.”

Northern Elite Gymnastics Raising Funds with Olympic Gymnast, Laurie Hernandez

On Sunday, October 7, Northern Elite Gymnastics and Cheer reached a lifetime fundraising total of $250,000 for Children’s Specialized Hospital in their 11-year partnership. This year alone, they raised over $30,000 at their annual “Miracles” gymnastics demonstration and tricky tray and at a very special event featuring Olympic gymnast, Laurie Hernandez. In partnership with Lucas Sports, Northern Elite students worked to fundraise for Children’s Specialized Hospital with Laurie Hernandez generously providing incentives for students who reach certain levels. Laurie visited with the top ten fundraisers including lunch, photos and autographs.

What started out as a national initiative with USA Gymnastics became a true partnership between Northern Elite and Children’s Specialized Hospital. We were so honored that when the national initiative moved on, Northern Elite continued to raise more funds than ever to fund the vital programs and services at Children’s Specialized. We are grateful to Northern Elite leadership, especially Noreen and Maggie Cacchione, Sergio, Jackie Estrada and students, past and present, for supporting us at Children’s Specialized Hospital!
Welcome New CMNH Partner:

**GameStop**

The Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals team welcomed new partner, GameStop this fall! GameStop locations participated in a month-long register campaign for children’s health benefitting both Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals and Make-A-Wish. Locally, over 80 New Jersey locations benefitted us at Children’s Specialized Hospital raising over $11,200 for our kids! Thank you to the top three fundraising locations, Woodbridge Mall (#1), Garden State Plaza (#2) and Ocean County Mall (#3)!

**SAVE THE DATE**

October 29 - December 24, 2018
Nordstrom Campaign

November 26 - December 31, 2018
Columbia Sportswear

November 27, 2018
Alex and Ani Charmed by Charity
(Ridgewood and Westfield locations)

November 29, 2018
Phi Mu Casino Night

December 5 & 6, 2018
WOBM Making Miracles Radiothon

December 14, 2018
94.7 NASH-FM Miracle for the Kids Radiothon

February 1 - March 12, 2019
IHOP Balloon Icon Campaign

March 12, 2019
IHOP National Pancake Day

March 18 - 22, 2019
Children’s Hospital Week

March 20, 2019
Dairy Queen’s Free Cone Day

April 1, 2019
CMNH NJ Miracle Summit

This holiday season there are a number of ways you can get great gifts for the important people on your list and support Children’s Specialized Hospital Foundation at the same time:

**Kendra Scott** will donate 50% of proceeds from the sale of every Kendra Scott “Children’s Charm,” available in Gold, Rose Gold, Vintage Silver and Vintage Gold.


**Coca-Cola** will donate $1.00 from the purchase of every personalized holiday Coca-Cola bottle bought online at CokeStore.com to local CMNH member hospitals thru January 1, 2019.

**NORDSTROM**

Shop at [Nordstrom](https://www.nordstrom.com) through December 24 and see the beautiful “Giving Trees.” Gift tags from these trees will support local CMN hospitals. You can also make donations online at [nordstrom.com/cmnh](https://www.nordstrom.com/cmnh).

Join us at Alex and Ani in Ridgewood, NJ and Westfield, NJ on **Tuesday, November 27 from 4-7 pm** for a Charmed by Charity event! During this time, 15% of all proceeds in-store will be donated to Children’s Specialized Hospital. PLUS, all year long you can purchase Alex and Ani’s “Unicorn Charm,” with 20% of each charm sold online and in store going back to Children’s.
Children’s Specialized Hospital Foundation celebrates Christmas in July with a toy delivery courtesy of Weichert Chatham!

OceanFirst Foundation presented a check for $18,000 to support Children’s Specialized Hospital’s newest outpatient site in Monmouth County, anticipated to open in 2020.

Kohl’s volunteers gathered for a photo at a service day in Mountainside. Through their volunteer efforts this summer, Kohl’s has raised over $26,000 for Children’s Specialized Hospital.

As part of the game week festivities leading up to the Snapple Bowl XXV, all-star Union County high-school football players and cheerleaders visited with patients at Children’s Specialized Hospital in Mountainside.

Dr. Carla Cangemi presenting a check from the Baby Rocco Foundation for the new Center for Parent Education with Warren E. Moore, President and CEO of Children’s Specialized Hospital, Colin O’Reilly, Section Chief of Inpatient Service at Children’s Specialized Hospital and Philip Salerno III, Foundation President and CDO.
That transformational gift you want to make doesn’t have to wait – you can create a better future for our children today with a gift that costs nothing during your lifetime.

A planned gift to Children’s Specialized Hospital through your will or trust (a “bequest”) makes it possible.

- You can make a generous commitment to their future right away.
- It will not reduce your savings or your cash flow.
- It is revocable, so you can make changes if you choose.

Making a bequest is easy – you don’t have to rewrite your will. You can leave your mark on the future. *Start being remembered today.*

For more information, please contact Elena Herskowitz at eherskowitz@childrens-specialized.org or call 908-301-5462.
Mission

Children’s Specialized Hospital Foundation’s mission is to inspire and secure philanthropic support for Children’s Specialized Hospital, the preeminent provider of specialized healthcare for children and adolescents facing special health challenges—from chronic illnesses and complex physical disabilities like brain and spinal cord injuries to developmental and behavioral issues like autism and mental health. Working with parents and families, award-winning doctors, researchers and pediatric specialists, Children’s Specialized Hospital depends on the generosity of donors to discover new innovative ways to help more children overcome their health challenges. All donations go directly to help pioneer new specialized children’s care and serve more children in need.

To learn more about Children’s Specialized Hospital Foundation

Visit:  www.childrens-specialized.org/giving
Email:  foundation@childrens-specialized.org
Call:   908-301-5561

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