

# CHILDREN'S HEROES

NEWS AND STORIES *about YOUR IMPACT on our kids!*

## Your Support Helped Fuel Kamri's "Superpower"

**Donors help make life  
beautiful for every child.**

**W**hen Kamri's parents first heard the words "Down syndrome," they felt completely overwhelmed. But, as they looked into their newborn daughter's eyes, they knew their journey was just beginning — one filled with unexpected joys and challenges that would redefine their understanding of love and resilience.

In fact, they considered themselves part of "The Lucky Few."

You see, Kamri, like many children born with Down syndrome, has the unique ability to bring out the best in others. Her parents call it her "superpower." This special gift became even more apparent as Kamri grew and faced setbacks.

When she struggled in kindergarten, her parents discovered it was because she had significant hearing loss. Through UPMC



Your kindness enables  
Kamri's specialized care.  
You transform her  
challenges into triumphs!

*Cont'd on back page*

**INSIDE  
THIS ISSUE**

See how your gifts  
provide exceptional care.



# At This Moment, Miller's Heart Depends on Yours

**Donor support helps sick and injured children live a full life.**

**W**hen Miller was born with a rare congenital heart condition, his parents, Kelly and Jake, knew this diagnosis would change their son's life. He faced immediate health challenges, including an arrhythmia at 2 days old and his first heart procedure at 10 days.

But with support from donors like you, a child like Miller can receive exceptional care at UPMC Children's.

After two open-heart surgeries and numerous

procedures, Miller was discharged when he was 5 months old.

Miller's journey continues with regular hospital visits. Donor-funded programs like Child Life, the Moulis Library, and medical-free playrooms make these trips easier. And recently, Miller had a surgical procedure and showed noticeable health improvements afterward.



Kelly expresses her gratitude: "At UPMC Children's, Miller receives the most advanced care and the greatest opportunity to thrive."

**Choose to fight with Miller and power the advanced care that can change his life. Make your donation count at [givetochildren.org](https://givetochildren.org).**

## THIS MOMENT PUT A CHILD'S FUTURE FIRST

In a single moment, everything can change for a family. When a child is suddenly injured, or when a family receives a diagnosis they never expected, your support ensures families can receive the best care available right here at UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh. This is why we have launched our largest ever fundraising campaign, entitled *This Moment*.

**Our bold vision is to raise \$200 million to bolster four key priorities:**

Advancing research for diseases with no known cures.

Delivering an unparalleled patient and family experience.

Treating the whole child — their emotional, developmental, behavioral, and physical health.

Dismantling disparities so all children can receive the care they deserve.

By making a gift today, you can be a part of the lifesaving care, treatment, and research that helps a child thrive. Visit [givetochildren.org](https://givetochildren.org) or scan the QR code to learn more about the campaign.





Thanks to you, Kenny received world-class care at UPMC Children's through vital surgeries.

# You Helped Kenny's Recovery

**Together, we can give every child the chance to thrive.**

**W**ithout warning, Emily's 2-year-old daughter, Kenny, faced a life-threatening medical emergency. After weeks of what seemed like a bad virus, Kenny suddenly lost consciousness in her mother's arms. Emily immediately called 911 and waited anxiously for the paramedics to arrive.

Thanks to the generous support of donors like you, UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh was equipped to handle a critical case like this.

At the hospital, doctors discovered a 2-centimeter tumor on Kenny's heart. They worked around the clock to remove it, but it had broken apart, causing her to have three strokes. Nearly every part of her body was affected by this. She required immediate, intensive care.

Kenny was placed on life support. She faced paralysis, unconsciousness, and kidney failure. But the medical staff's expertise saved her life in these

darkest moments.

Over the following weeks, Kenny gradually improved. She had nine additional surgeries to restore limb function. **Your generous donations make state-of-the-art care possible, and it was instrumental in Kenny's remarkable recovery.** And despite initial fears that she would have to have her legs amputated, the skilled Orthopaedic team at UPMC Children's helped her recover.

Kenny's family endured four months of emotional turmoil, facing moments of despair and hope. Yet, throughout the ordeal, her world-class care at UPMC Children's made a life-changing difference.

Kenny's story illustrates how your generosity puts a child's future first.

Thank you for caring for kids!

*Kamri cont'd from page 1*

Children's Hearing Center, Kamri was fitted with the Cochlear™ Baha® Softband, a state-of-the-art hearing device she called her "magic ears."

The results were transformative! Kamri's schoolwork improved, her vocabulary expanded, and her confidence returned. She also excelled in dance routines and social interactions at school.

When she faced a problem of any kind, her parents were grateful for the exceptional treatment she received at UPMC Children's. "The level of care at the hospital is amazing!"

Kamri's story highlights the abilities of children with Down syndrome and the importance of proper medical care, made possible by your generosity.

**Thanks to your support, kids like Kamri can get the help they need to live a full life.** Your donations enable UPMC Children's to provide specialized care, advanced treatments, and ongoing support for patients with unique needs.

As Kamri's parents say, "What makes us different also makes us beautiful." **Thank you for making life beautiful for kids like Kamri.**

## Breakthroughs in Research Your Gifts Power Dr. Olivieri's Work

The UPMC Children's Hospital Heart Institute is excited to welcome Dr. Laura Olivieri as the new Director of Noninvasive Cardiac Imaging. A pioneer in her field, Dr. Olivieri brings a wealth of expertise in 3D cardiac imaging and reconstructions.

Dr. Olivieri's innovative work focuses on improving diagnostic capabilities and treatment approaches for children with congenital heart issues. Her research, made possible by the continued generosity of supporters like you, aims to enhance patients' outcomes and quality of life from childhood through adulthood.

One of Dr. Olivieri's most exciting projects involves developing 3D-printed bioresorbable materials for heart repairs that grow with the child. This potentially eliminates the need for future surgeries. She's also working on refining the timing of surgeries through advanced cardiac MRI data analysis.

**These groundbreaking initiatives are a testament to the**



Dr. Olivieri builds the future of cardiac care thanks to you.

### impact of your contributions.

The hospital's upcoming hybrid cardiac catheterization/MRI laboratory, funded in part by your generosity, will enable MRI-guided procedures. This will offer more precise diagnoses and treatments while minimizing patients' risks. The state-of-the-art facility underscores UPMC Children's commitment to innovative cardiac care and our donors' vital role in making such advancements possible.

Dr. Olivieri's expertise and the hospital's dedication to recruiting world-class specialists promise to accelerate advancements in pediatric cardiac care, giving hope to countless children and their families.

**We are grateful for generous friends like you who make these life-changing innovations a reality.**

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CHI-CHP-2434

# My Gift to Help Critically Ill and Injured Kids

Please accept my gift of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to provide lifesaving care for critically ill and injured children.

I have enclosed a check (payable to UPMC Children's Hospital Foundation).

Please contact me about naming UPMC Children's Hospital Foundation in my will, trust, or long-term financial plans.

Please charge my credit card.

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