



children's flight of hope

WE FLY FOR THEIR LIVES

2023 Impact Report

One flight at a time, one child at a time,
"We Fly for Their Lives".



**Children's Flight of Hope
provides flights to specialized medical care
for children in need.**



Watch and learn more
about our mission:





Dear Friends of Children's Flight of Hope,

It is a powerful experience to change a person's life. And that is what happens every day at Children's Flight of Hope. Together, we save and change lives. And even more powerfully, we save and change the lives of children. It is difficult to imagine a greater purpose.

Over thirty years ago, a few people took a few magical steps to help one child. And then another. And another. Those magical steps led to a journey of hope and healing for thousands of children. And every step happened because of the kindness of others.

The staff and Board of Directors of Children's Flight of Hope are honored to be entrusted with your generosity. Together with many donors, partners, and volunteers, we ease the medical, financial, and emotional struggle of families who face the unimaginable. Without knowing their names and their faces, you bring the care they need within reach. And these families are forever grateful for you.

The mission and the impact of Children's Flight of Hope are soaring, and these pages are filled with highlights. **Mission programming grew 62% in 2023 (2,129 client flights!), and we welcomed over 300 new families for the duration of their healthcare journey.** Support for our mission humbled us, and we delivered this programming expansion with continued fiscal responsibility and a modest 23% growth in expenses. Improved policies and procedures were key operational advancements, and visionary and big thinking led the conversation around the leadership table.

We share the common belief that where a child lives should not determine if hope and healing are within reach. With deepest thanks to everyone involved, we will provide flights to specialized medical care for thousands more children and their families, no matter the distance and no matter the frequency.

Please reach out with any questions or to learn more. We enjoy hearing from you! Flight by flight, child by child, "We Fly for Their Lives"!

Pat Nelli
President & CEO

Jennifer Wade
2020-2023 Board of Directors Chair

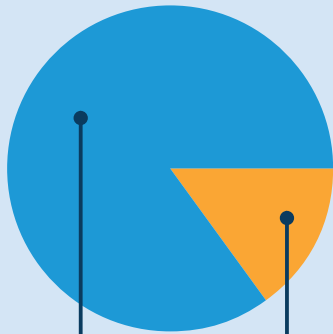


Our Mission by the Numbers

2023 Total Missions: 2,129

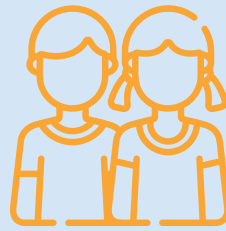


62% growth since 2022



85% Domestic

15% International



581
unique children
served

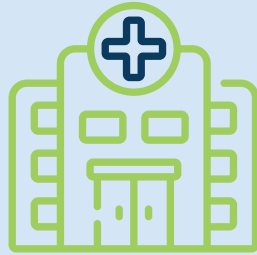


305
new families
welcomed



Top Home State

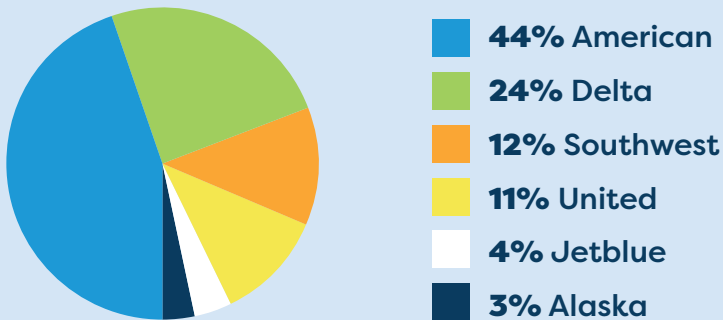
- 1 North Carolina
- 2 Texas
- 3 Florida
- 4 Pennsylvania
- 5 Montana
- 6 South Carolina



Hospital by Mission

- 1 Boston Children's Hospital
- 2 Memorial Sloan Kettering
- 3 Shriners (all locations)
- 4 Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
- 5 Cincinnati Children's Hospital
- 6 Children's Hospital Colorado

Airline by Mission



Top Diagnosis

- 1 Neuroblastoma
- 2 Retinoblastoma
- 3 Brain Cancer
- 4 Short Bowel Syndrome
- 5 Burn Injury
- 6 Leukemia

Top Home Countries

- 1 Dominican Republic
- 2 Honduras
- 3 United Kingdom
- 4 Mexico
- 5 Peru
- 6 Bahamas



Our Mission in Action

“We would not have been able to access this trial without assistance for travel—it has changed our world.”

– Autumn, Layla’s mom



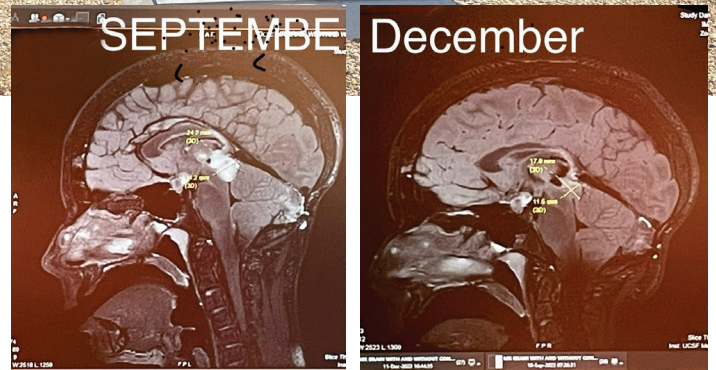
Layla

Diagnosis: Brain Tumor
of flights: 14 in 2023



For 9 years, Layla has courageously battled brain cancer. While many families mark birthdays, ‘gotcha’ days, and wedding anniversaries, Layla’s family thinks about her ‘diagnosis day’—the moment that forever altered their lives and perception of ‘normal.’ This new reality, marked by Layla’s resilience, is a journey no family should endure. Yet, amidst the trials, Layla’s spirit shines as she embraces her childhood with determination.

Recently, when Layla’s family reached out to the mission’s team hoping to catch an earlier flight, their motivation moved us deeply; after some changes in the timeline of



care, Layla wanted to get home to join her classmates on a field trip. It’s a reminder that despite battling cancer daily, Layla wants to be just like everyone else.

As a military family, their journey has been marked by moves during treatment, navigating through closed clinical trials, and finding the right care for Layla at UCSF. The close of 2023 brought hope to their journey as treatment is working, and there is a 40% reduction in the size of Layla’s tumor after just three months. Thanks to YOU, CFOH is honored to continue to serve Layla along her healing journey.

Ty

Diagnosis:
Esophageal Atresia

of flights:
18 in 2023

Ty was born at 23 weeks, weighing just 1 pound and 2 ounces. The moment Ty came into the world, he had to fight for his life and emergency surgeries were the immediate next steps – one for his abdomen and another to fix an esophageal perforation. For nine long months, Ty called the pediatric ICU his home.

As he grew, there was progress, but a crucial surgery was needed to reconnect his esophagus and allow him to swallow like any other child. The problem? Boston Children’s Hospital was the closest hospital that could perform the surgery, over 1,500 miles from Ty’s Oklahoma home.

The distance was a challenge, especially for Ty’s mom, who found herself overwhelmed. Thankfully, she found Children’s Flight of Hope, and Ty successfully underwent his specialized surgery. After spending the first five years of his life mostly at home, Ty started school this year!

Ty’s journey has not been easy, but Ty and his family have shown great resilience and strength. In 2023, CFOH flew Ty to Boston 18 times on his journey to hope and healing. Every flight has a story of triumph over challenges, and Children’s Flight of Hope celebrates Ty’s healing!



“ Battling insurance and scheduling so many things can feel like a full-time job, but my full-time job needs to be spending time with my son and caring for my family. Everyone who donates to this organization makes that possible—you change children’s lives forever. ”

– Megan, Ty’s mom

Our Mission in Action

Davely

Diagnosis:
Bilateral Tibial Hemimelia

of flights:
25 since 2018

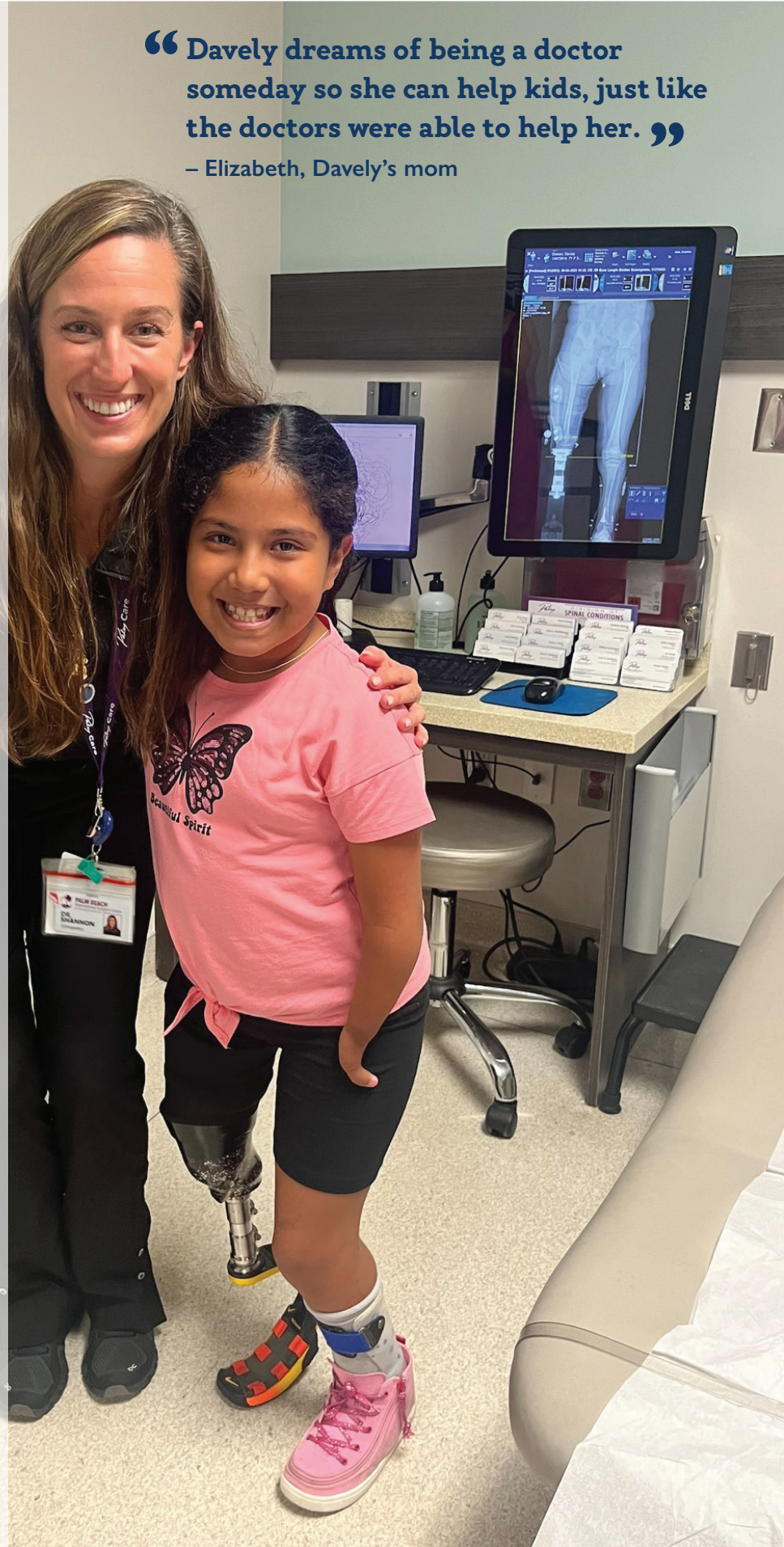
With limited options in their Texas hometown, Davely's parents were faced with an agonizing choice to consent to the amputation of the right leg of their 17-month-old daughter. A year later, the family was confronted with another heartbreaking decision—doctors recommended amputating Davely's left leg. Refusing to accept that amputation was her only option, Davely's parents sought out other experts.

They soon found the Paley Institute in Florida, where they were given hope of saving her left leg. After 25 flights with Children's Flight of Hope and 9 surgeries, Davely has been given the gift of healing. By saving her left leg and providing a custom prosthesis for her right leg, her family is so happy to report that five years later, she is learning to walk, run, and dance again! Her journey reminds us that with determination and the right support, hope prevails.



“Davely dreams of being a doctor someday so she can help kids, just like the doctors were able to help her.”

– Elizabeth, Davely's mom





Bonnie

Diagnosis:
Syndromic Scoliosis

of flights:
12 in 2023

“ We are so blessed and grateful to have CFOH’s support as without them, we could not afford a trip every 8 weeks to Philadelphia, and Bonnie would not be able to receive this life-saving treatment. ”

– Melissa, Bonnie’s mom

Bonnie was diagnosed with syndromic scoliosis at just 11 months old. The impact was profound. Her mother watched Bonnie’s spine contort, affecting her overall well-being as she grew, and knew she needed to seek specialized care for her daughter.

The need for care eventually led her to Shriners Hospital in Philadelphia, a source of hope beyond the local options available in the UK. The financial burden of flying Bonnie from the UK to Philadelphia was a significant concern until they connected with another CFOH family. This family shared how CFOH’s assistance with flights had positively impacted their child’s life.

Since early 2023, Children’s Flight of Hope has provided 12 flights for Bonnie and her mother, through our international partnership with American Airlines. Every eight weeks, Bonnie undergoes a new Mehta cast, which prevents her spine from deteriorating further. With a 90-degree curve, surgery is an inevitable future step, but the Mehta casting provides their family precious years before that becomes necessary.

It is not just about transportation; it’s about bridging the gap between Bonnie and the vital care she needs. Bonnie’s journey is far from over, but Children’s Flight of Hope will be there for her and her family through the duration of her care.

Key Corporate Partnerships

American Airlines

In 2016, Children's Flight of Hope introduced its international mission delivery program through a partnership with American Airlines, progressively expanding each year to reach children worldwide. In 2023, we facilitated 318 international missions, benefiting 107 children by providing access to specialized medical care unavailable in their home countries. Collaborating with American Airlines and Shriner's Hospitals, CFOH made a significant impact, spanning 29 countries and 5 continents.

The pivotal role of American Airlines in our international mission delivery cannot be overstated. Their enduring support has brought hope and healing to children globally, generously contributing unrestricted miles valued at over \$5 million over 8 years.

Southwest

Since 2019, Southwest Airlines has been a cherished collaborator in our mission to support families. In 2023, Southwest Airlines extended its support through the Medical Transportation Support Grant, providing 360 one-way vouchers. We express gratitude for their generous contribution and sustained dedication, enabling us to expand our assistance to families in need of flight support.



CHAMPION OF HOPE



Children's Flight of Hope is honored to announce the continued generosity of Chiesi USA as our Champion of Hope sponsor. This ongoing partnership reflects a shared commitment to improve patient experiences and outcomes and Chiesi's philanthropic, corporate culture dedicated to enriching people's lives in local and global communities.

“As a patient-centric organization, Chiesi USA is passionate about improving the health and well-being of our communities, and we have been extremely grateful for the opportunity to maximize the important work that Children's Flight of Hope continues to do.

The impact on patients and families in the communities where our Chiesi family lives and works, across the country and around the world inspires us. As the inaugural Champion of Hope sponsor, we remain dedicated to helping Children's Flight of Hope meet their significant demand and provide access to life-saving care. ”

– Jon Zwinski
CEO & General Manager, Chiesi USA

For additional information about Champion of Hope, please contact our CEO, Pat Nelli: pat@cfoh.org

Children's Flight of Hope on the GO!

Children's Flight of Hope has a powerful impact story to share, and as we expand the conversation on a national level, we are on the GO!



In April, our CEO, Pat, traveled to **Denver** and met with social worker leadership at Children's Hospital Colorado. Children's Hospital Colorado became a new partner in 2023 to serve children in medical deserts, where children's hospitals can be far from home.



A trip to the Children's Oncology Group annual meeting in **Atlanta** by Pat and COO Leigh in September brought CFOH awareness to pediatric oncology specialists worldwide. New funding partnerships were established through other trade attendees.



MITER Brands in **Harrisburg, PA**, invited Pat to share the impact of CFOH over two nights of fundraisers for their Miter Foundation. The Miter Foundation has committed its support to CFOH over five years. Also invited to the two-day event was CFOH child Nova and her family.



Children's Flight of Hope has several key partners in **Dallas**, and Pat and incoming chair, Joe Dillon, met with American Airlines and Southwest this fall. The Jordan Spieth Family Foundation is a new funding partner of 2023 in service to pediatric oncology patients, and Pat and Joe attended a celebration of their philanthropic efforts.



Year over year, **Boston** Children's Hospital is a top destination for our CFOH children. Board member Dr. Joe Turek, Chief of Pediatric Cardiac Surgery at DUMC, and Pat were invited to tour their new pediatric cardiac ICU before attending the Champions for Children fundraiser.



“From the time the MITER Foundation was founded in 2015, we have prioritized children's well-being while looking to partner with like-minded organizations. When we learned of Children's Flight of Hope, we were inspired to get involved and aid them in their mission. Since March of 2023, it's been our honor to do our part in helping Children's Flight of Hope transport children to their destinations for important medical care.

We are so grateful for the opportunity to assist Children's Flight of Hope, and we look forward to building our partnership for years to come. ”

—Gwen Mallon

Foundation Specialist, MITER Foundation



CFOH Golf Classic

Kicking off our 2023 events season, our annual CFOH Golf Classic set an inspiring tone for the year. This two-day celebration proved to be more than a fundraiser; it served as a powerful unifying force. It brought together a blend of new and familiar faces, uniting them with a shared commitment to alleviate the healthcare burdens for children and their families.

The Wheels Up party was filled with joy and connection to the heart of our mission. A poignant moment was when mom, Laura, shared touching insights into how CFOH provides crucial support for her son, Salim, and other children navigating rare and daunting diagnoses.

Transitioning to the golf tournament, the event radiated camaraderie and a shared dedication to making a tangible impact on the children in our CFOH family. With an impressive turnout, 40 teams embarked on a day of golfing at the North Ridge Country Club, contributing to the overarching goal of transforming lives. This event was not just a golf tournament; it was a collective effort to champion the well-being of children, making it a truly beautiful day on the links with a purpose.

“Whiting-Turner is immensely honored to support Children’s Flight of Hope in their mission to provide major, life-changing healthcare connections to so many children and families. Thank you for all you do!”

—Chris Carlson

Senior Vice President

The Whiting-Turner Contracting Company
CFOH Golf Classic Presenting Sponsor

2024
SAVE THE DATE

TEE IT UP PARTY
Sunday, May 5

GOLF TOURNAMENT
Monday, May 6

North Ridge Country Club
Raleigh, NC

Hops for Hope

Hops for Hope transcends the ordinary—it embodies community. The 2023 event was an exceptional blend of creativity and fun as 30 local breweries joined forces with 30 corporate teams. Together, they crafted distinctive brews, engaged in spirited competition, and made an impact on the lives of children at CFOH. With an impressive turnout of over 1,600 attendees, the event transformed into a vibrant celebration featuring food trucks, lawn games, live music, and a kids' zone.

Spearheaded by teams from esteemed organizations such as Choate Construction, IBM, and Trinity Partners, our community rallied magnificently alongside the generous support of presenting sponsor Duke Health. The result? This event set a new benchmark and brought profound hope and healing to exceptional and deserving children.



2023 TEAMS

Barnhill Contracting + Koi Pond Brewing Company
Bobbitt + Bull City Ciderworks
Brasfield & Gorrie + Standard Beer + Food
Brightly + Carolina Brewing Company
CAPTRUST + Bond Brothers Beer Company
Chiesi USA + Altered State Brewing Company
Choate Construction + Clouds Brewing
Ci Design + Tobacco Road Brewing
Cisco + Edit Beer Co.
CLA + KōMANA Brewing Company
Clark Nexsen/Kimley Horn + Wye Hill Kitchen & Brewing
Cloud Giants + Starpoint Brewing
Cushman & Wakefield + Hatchet Brewing Co.
Davis Kane Architects + Havoc Brewing
HH Architecture + Heyday Brewing
HITT Contracting + Compass Rose Brewery
IBM + Local Time Brewing
Insperity + Brewery Bhavana
Loring Consulting Engineers + Craftboro Brewing Depot
Messer Construction Company + Fainting Goat Brewing Company
Moseley Architects + White Street Brewing Co.
Page + Sneaky Penguin Brewing
Pappas Capital + Bull City Burger and Brewery
Raleigh Magazine + Crank Arm Brewing
Red Hat + Ponsysaurus Brewing
Skanska + Steel String Brewery
Towne Insurance + Neuse River Brewing & Brasserie
Trinity Partners + Ancillary Fermentation
Walk West + Oak City Brewing Co.
WSP + Belleau Wood Brewing Company



“ At Choate Construction, our passion for ‘Building Up’ extends beyond structures; it resonates in our dedication to elevate communities. We take immense pride in supporting Children’s Flight of Hope, as their mission to fly children to the top healthcare facilities resonates deeply with our commitment to making a personal difference in lives. ”

—Preston B. Sloane
Senior Project Manager
Choate Construction
Top Team and Individual Fundraiser

2024 SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, September 14

North Hills Midtown Park
Raleigh, NC

Denim and Diamonds

What a night for Hope and Healing! Denim & Diamonds, our largest annual fundraiser, brought together a full house of dedicated supporters who collectively raised an astounding \$1.1 million, amplifying our reach for 2024! Over three hundred thirty attendees, dressed in their best denim and diamonds, gathered at The Pavilion at the Angus Barn to ensure children have access to centers of healthcare excellence across the country.

In a heartfelt tribute, our longtime board chair, Jennifer Wade, was recognized for her years of dedicated board service with the Mark Ash Volunteer Award. Jenn has played an integral role in shaping our identity today and guiding our path into tomorrow. John and Kelly Kindt were honored with the Noah Duncan Financial Impact award and reminded everyone that “it’s all about the kids.”

The night featured exquisite cuisine and fine wines from Crocker & Starr Winery, a spirited live and silent auction, a Rolex Raffle, live music, and dancing. Most importantly, attendees were also introduced to a very special little girl, Addilyn, and heard touching words from her mother, Brooke.

Thanks to the boundless generosity of our community, lives are forever changed and saved.



“The investments CFOH makes in families across the country are priceless because they are gifting a limitless future to each and every child they fly.”

—Mark A. Carlton

Executive Vice President
& NC Eastern Region President
Pinnacle Financial Partners
Platinum Sponsor



Learn more about Addilyn’s brave journey and her fight to battle a rare, life-threatening disease.



2024
SAVE THE DATE

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2024

The Pavilion at the Angus Barn
Raleigh, NC



The Legacy of Hope Society is the annual philanthropic giving society of Children's Flight of Hope and recognizes and celebrates those most generously dedicated to our mission and impact, with gifts of \$10,000 or more through 2023.

Susan and Robert Alexander
 Jenn Wade and Alex Ambrose
 Marsha and Dick Ambrose
 Elaine and Ed Auslander
 Vicki and Don Beaver
 Beth Blackman
 Cheryl and David Buchanan
 Richard Byrne
 Sherrie and Robert Cass
 Dianne and Trip Casson
 Jan and Jason Cecco
 Dana and Chris Cheshire
 Marianna and Bobby Clampett
 Melissa and Michael Colantuoni
 Heather and Matt Crichton
 Kathleen and Frank Cullen
 Darlene and Steve de Castro
 Susan and Bob Daly
 Hilary and Jessie Dolan
 Barbara Chillot Elmo and John Elmo
 Joe Elphick

Tara and Timothy Furman
 Jen and Rick Gardner
 Barry Goldstein
 Elizabeth and Rob Gooding
 Ben Griffith
 Carrie and Zeb Hadley
 Trudy and Ray Hales
 Kylie and Clint Harris
 Renee and Joey Iannone
 Robin and Alan Jones
 Kelly and John Kindt
 Barbie and Louie Matroni
 Kathie and Scott McDowell
 Nan and Tom Merrick
 Louise and Lane Miller
 Paul Mills
 Sandra and Bob Moss
 Deborah Nunn
 Art Pappas
 Jana and Sam Pasquarelli
 Debra and Graham Perry

Robin and Donnie Powell
 Tara and Mark Rein
 Jan and Ric Richards
 The Sears Family
 Deborah and Rick Snow
 Ashlyn and Scott Sullivan
 Darlene Bunderson and Ray Trevino
 Betsy and Joe Turek
 Gordana and Tomislav Vujec
 Vicki and Josh Watson
 Cindy and Andy Winzenz
 Barbara and Abel Zalberg
 Robin and Jon Zwinski

Scan here to see a full list of our generous donors.



“Children’s Flight of Hope was formed by a group of volunteers passionate about helping parents get their ill child to the best-suited medical facility. We quickly learned the need was even bigger than we realized. Baby steps were taken to make a few flights in donated private planes and coordinate with other charities. More great people got involved, a board was formed, monies were raised, and the charity grew.

Soon, we were up to one flight per week, but we were hardly making a dent in the need. We then decided to turn to the airlines for help. Our plane was sold, commercial flights began, and impact soon doubled and tripled.

I am honored to be part of the beginning and to support that Children’s Flight of Hope now coordinates more than 40+ flights per week. Children’s Flight of Hope has demonstrated what great people can do for a great cause. Winning golf tournaments has been great, but being involved since the inception of the Children’s Flight of Hope brings me more joy than all the trophies.”

–Bobby Clampett, Co-Founder, Children’s Flight of Hope

2023 Board of Directors

Jennifer Wade
Chair
Moe's Southwest Grill
Owner

Joe Dillon
Incoming Chair
Creative Planning
Managing Director

Rick Gardner
Immediate Past Chair
RGA Investments
President

Deborah Nunn
Secretary
D&H Support Solutions, Inc.
Owner

Jennifer Allen
TranSystems
Senior Vice President
of Strategy

Matt Callahan
Callahan Construction
& Development
President & CEO

Jeff Causey
Causey Aviation
Chief Operating Officer

Gill Cooper
Pacific Coast Bankers Bank
SVP, Regional Lending Officer

Ben Griffith
Aviation Technology
Executive

Thanos Maroglou
Symphonia Partners
President

Debra Perry
Sprinklr
Executive Recruiter
Program Leader

Ric Richards
The Richards Advantage, Inc.
President & CEO

Jason Sandner
Curi
CEO

Jeff Stocks
The Nautical Group
Chairman & CEO

**Joseph Turek, MD,
PhD, MBA**
Duke University Medical
Center
Chief, Pediatric Cardiac
Surgery
Executive Co-Director,
Duke Children's Pediatric
& Congenital Heart Center

Jon Zwinski
Chiesi USA, Inc.
CEO & General Manager

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pat@cfoh.org

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Carly Rosenkampff
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Jess Crespo
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Financials

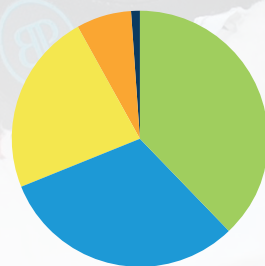
Families know they can rely on us to be responsive and empathetic. Doctors and social workers know they can turn to us every time. Donors know we use their gifted funds efficiently and effectively.

Once again, Children’s Flight of Hope has maintained a strong financial position while providing a record number of missions in 2023. With expert oversight by our Board of Directors, Finance Committee, and reputable financial partners, CFOH continues to experience growth throughout the organization.

Our approach to fiscal responsibility has and will continue to position the organization for continued growth that aligns with leadership’s vision and strategic priorities.

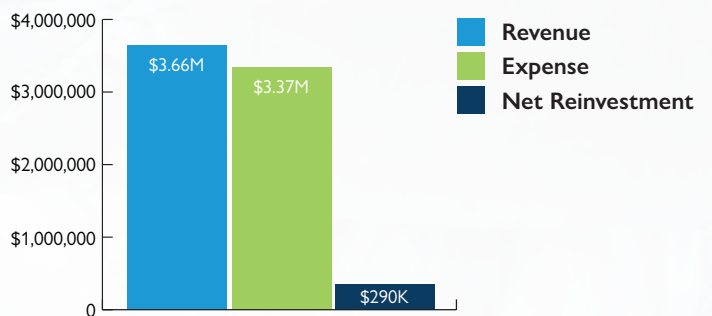
For additional information, contact Leigh Longino, Chief Operating Officer: leigh@cfh.org

2023 Revenue Streams



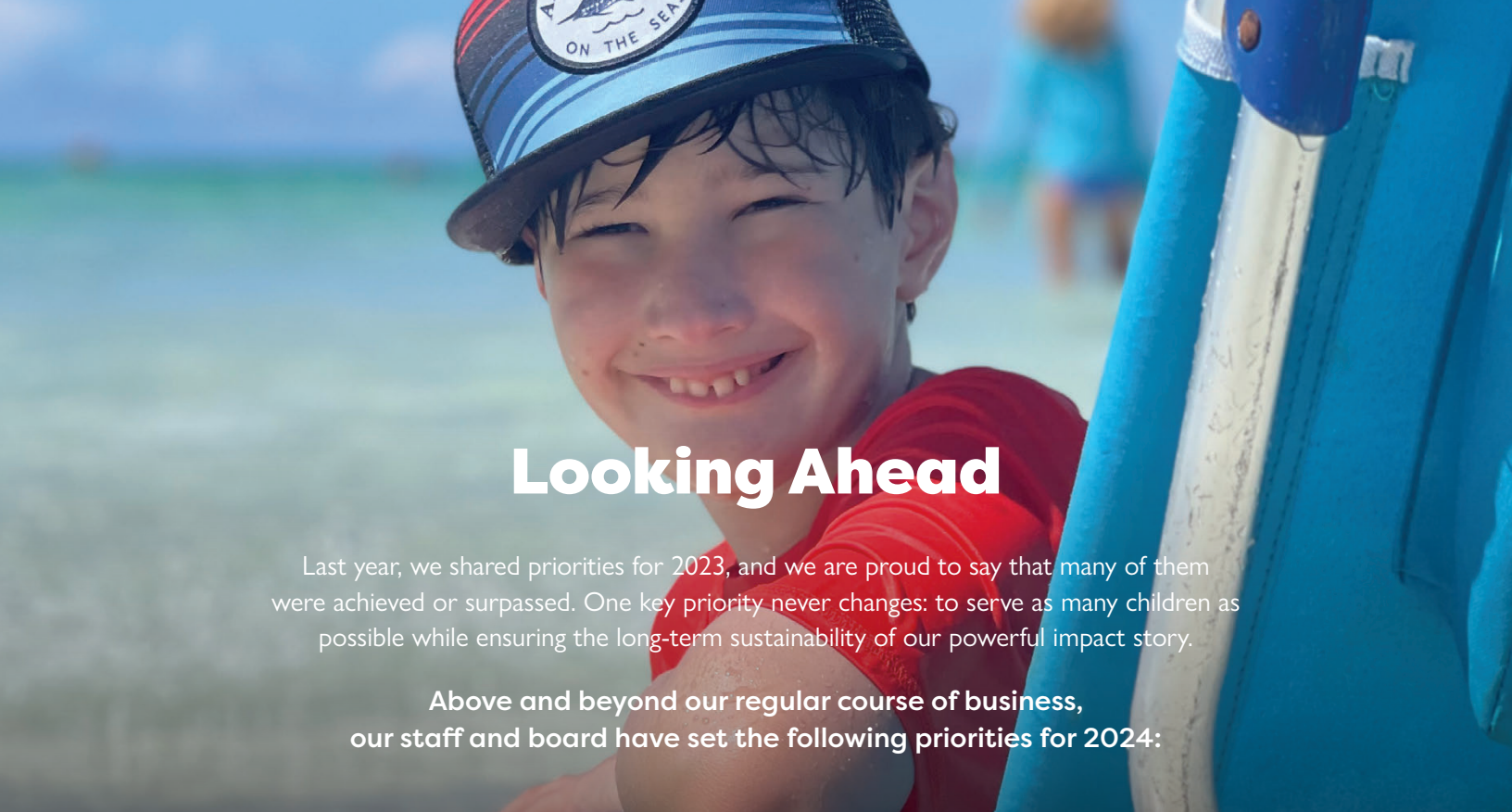
- 38% Individual Contributions
- 31% In Kind—Airline Partners and Services
- 23% Corporate Contributions
- 7% Grants and Foundations
- 1% Investment Income

2023 Year-End



Accreditations





Looking Ahead

Last year, we shared priorities for 2023, and we are proud to say that many of them were achieved or surpassed. One key priority never changes: to serve as many children as possible while ensuring the long-term sustainability of our powerful impact story.

Above and beyond our regular course of business, our staff and board have set the following priorities for 2024:



In 2023, we set a goal to expand mission delivery by 22% and soared to 62% growth.

For 2024, our growth goal remains high at 30% to 2,700 missions, doubling our annual missions in two years. A new priority will be to ensure we effectively manage growth, upholding our commitment to serve children and their families throughout their healthcare journeys.



We recognize that our mission soars because of you and will continue to explore and provide impactful opportunities for donors, sponsors, and the community to engage with our mission and feel our high level of gratitude.




We will evaluate and invest in technology improvements to maximize efficiencies in operations and communications.



We will continue to focus on diversifying funding streams through various development strategies that reflect our mission's national reach.



The future of CFOH is highly dependent on a highly functioning Board of Directors, committee, and staff who share goals and work collaboratively to achieve them. Continuous improvement ensures continuous organizational impact and success.



On the front cover of this year's Impact Report, you met Nova.

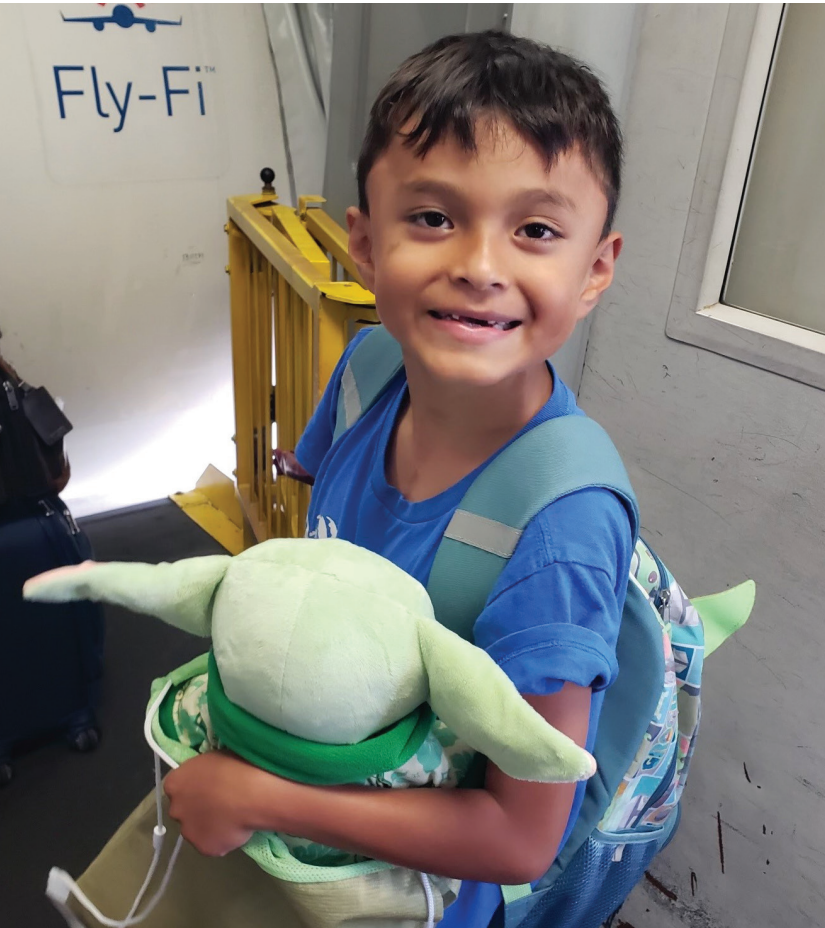
At just 8 months old, Nova and her family faced the difficult diagnosis of neuroblastoma, a rare childhood cancer affecting less than 1,000 children per year in the United States. Nova's family learned specialized care was available over 1,200 miles away at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center (MSKCC) in New York City. After hearing of Children's Flight of Hope, Nova began flying to MSKCC in March 2022. By that fall, she had responded well to the immunotherapies, and her parents celebrated these powerful words—**NO EVIDENCE OF DISEASE!**

After initially taking forty-four flights provided through donations to Children's Flight of Hope, Nova now travels several times a year for a clinical vaccine trial to ensure she stays cancer-free. And thanks to the kindness of many, Children's Flight of Hope will be there for Nova and her family every time.



children's flight of hope

WE FLY FOR THEIR LIVES



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connect@cfoh.org • Tax ID: 56-1762824

Please note our new address!

www.cfoh.org



@childrensflightofhope