



Building a Lasting Impact.

2024 Annual Report

Impact – today, tomorrow, and for generations to come

Our 2024 Annual Report reflects the meaningful partnerships, shared progress, and lasting impact we've made together this year.

Dear Friends,

As we look back on 2024, we are reminded of the power of community. At the Children's Foundation, our mission is simple: to improve the health and well-being of children across Michigan. Thanks to your generosity, we've made remarkable strides in ensuring that kids today, and for generations to come, have the support they need to thrive.

This past year was one of incredible growth. For the second consecutive year, we achieved record fundraising totals, a testament to the commitment of our donors and partners. But raising funds is just the beginning. In 2024, we granted \$4.6 million across our focus areas, supporting vital programs – from programming to address the youth overdose crisis to supporting young families as they care for their babies at the earliest stages of life.

A defining moment of the year was the Michigan Central Station Children's Endowment Initiative, a collaboration with Bill and Lisa Ford. Together, we raised more than \$19 million to create lasting support in the form of endowments for 11 youth-serving organizations in the Detroit area, ensuring they will uplift kids for generations to come.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to evolving and deepening our impact in the community. To ensure young people always have the resources they need to thrive, we will: grow our endowment for kids, strengthen the organizations we support, and help donors achieve their unique philanthropic goals.

Our success is only possible because of you. While reading this report, we hope you see yourself in the work we are doing. Together, we can continue to build a lasting impact for every child.



Andrew Stein
President & CEO

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Stein'.



Luanne Thomas Ewald
Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Luanne Thomas Ewald' in a cursive script.

— MISSION

The Children's Foundation is a catalyst for change, partnering with the community to advance solutions and discoveries that improve the physical and mental health of children in Michigan.

— VISION

Our vision is a Michigan where all children have equitable opportunities to lead healthy lives.

INTENDED IMPACT

Over the next 10 years, our efforts in Michigan will result in:

- Thriving community organizations and equitable systems that improve the lives of children.
- Innovative and collaborative solutions that advance the health of the whole child.
- Sustainable sources of capital that address the needs of children now and into the future.



Together, we are creating a future where all kids in Michigan can thrive.

In 2024, the power of community and generosity came together to build lasting change - creating a stronger, brighter future for every child in Michigan through these three approaches:

- ✓ Endowment For Kids
- ✓ Building Durable Organizations
- ✓ Tailored Philanthropic Services



GRANTMAKING
FOCUS AREAS



MENTAL HEALTH



SUBSTANCE USE
DISORDER



HEALTH EQUITY



CHILDREN'S
HOSPITAL
OF MICHIGAN
INITIATIVES

Grantmaking



Partnerships to change lives.

Our team is focused on supporting dynamic, long-lasting resources and solutions that make an impact on the lives of kids. Below are examples of grants we've made in 2024 from our grant-making budget.

STORIES OF IMPACT

Substance Use Disorder:

Youth innovation to reduce overdose rates

By prioritizing prevention, recovery, and stigma reduction, we aim to reduce the risk of substance use disorder and its lasting impact on Michigan's youth. That's why the Children's Foundation awarded 8 grants totaling nearly \$600,000 to support programs addressing substance use disorder.

One of those grants supported Community Health Awareness Group (CHAG) and its Project YOUR (Youth Overdose Understanding Risks) program. This youth-led initiative trains teens to educate their peers on overdose prevention and naloxone use. With fentanyl-laced drugs putting more young lives at risk, Project YOUR offers hope – engaging teens directly and equipping them with knowledge and support to keep their friends safe.



Children's Hospital of Michigan: Supporting Child Life Specialty

When Daniela was diagnosed with leukemia at 16, her world changed overnight. Hospital stays, chemotherapy, and a bone marrow transplant took a toll - not just physically, but emotionally. She missed out on school, friends, and key milestones.

Thanks to a variety of Child Life Specialty Services supported by the Children's Foundation, Daniela found comfort in Art Therapy, which helped her process her emotions. A hospital schoolteacher kept her on track academically, and she finished high school with a 3.7 GPA.

In 2024, we awarded \$562,000 toward Child Life Specialty Services - because kids rely on these programs for hope and healing. Now in remission and starting college, Daniela's story shows why we support programming that ensures young patients at Children's Hospital of Michigan have the resources they need to thrive.



Health Equity:

A healthy start for Michigan babies

Every child deserves the opportunity for a healthy start, but barriers can stand in the way. That's why the Children's Foundation supported four grants aimed at reducing obstacles to healthcare, including Rx Kids, a program providing unconditional cash assistance to expectant mothers in Flint.

Rx Kids is showing early promise that non-income-based assistance can improve health outcomes. By providing mothers with \$1,500 during pregnancy and \$500 monthly throughout the baby's first year, the program reduces financial stress, empowering parents to focus on essentials like healthcare, housing, and food. Approximately 88% of participants say that Rx Kids has helped them make ends meet and feel more secure in their finances.

Supporting programs that tackle the factors affecting health equity among children, youth, and families is essential to our mission.



2024 GRANTS

In 2024, we awarded \$4.6 million through 89 grants, supporting 26 organizations that are working to improve the lives of children in Michigan.

\$4.6
MILLION
AWARDED

TOTAL NUMBER OF
GRANTS
AWARDED

89

SUPPORTS
26
ORGANIZATIONS



16

Committee Members

A diverse group of local leaders followed a transparent, equity-driven process to select the organizations.



44

Youth Advisors

Young people ages 17-24 reflected youth-voice, guiding the committee throughout the selection process.



300

Donors

Generous individuals, foundations, and companies invested in this Initiative that supports Detroit-area kids.



11

Organizations

These organizations will spend two years building durability so they can serve Detroit-area youth, forever.



MICHIGAN CENTRAL STATION CHILDREN'S ENDOWMENT INITIATIVE

A symbol of Detroit's resilience, Michigan Central's reopening ignited the community's lasting commitment to youth – fostering an effort that builds more durable youth-serving organizations. This initiative ensures support, opportunity, and a brighter future for generations to come.



11

Organizations

These organizations will spend two years building durability so they can serve Detroit-area youth in perpetuity.



In partnership with Bill and Lisa Ford, the Foundation established the Michigan Central Station Children's Endowment Initiative,

which ran a fundraising campaign alongside the Station's opening. The effort raised more than \$19 million, nearly doubling its goal – a true statement to the philanthropic spirit of those who care deeply about the children of Detroit. This Initiative is a lasting commitment to kids and their future, reflecting the community's hope that 11 local youth-serving organizations will endure forever – just like Michigan Central.

A celebration of this campaign was held alongside the Station's opening festivities on June 6, 2024, providing a first look at the stunning renovation and an encore performance from Diana Ross.

\$19+

Million Raised



By creating an endowment, this effort helps make sure youth-serving organizations have what they need to serve children now and into the future."

ANDREW STEIN, PRESIDENT & CEO

SELECTED ORGANIZATIONS

Each selected organization received a \$500,000 endowment at the Children’s Foundation and joined a two-year consulting cohort to strengthen their impact.

With additional grants and capacity-building investments through 2026, they can raise another \$500,000, matched dollar-for-dollar. This initiative gives each organization the opportunity to build a \$1.5 million endowment, ensuring long-term sustainability for our young people.



We are in awe of the generosity from hundreds around our region who helped us exceed our goal, making a sustainable commitment to 11 youth-serving organizations that will impact generations to come.”

LISA & BILL FORD
Co-Chairs,
Michigan Central Station Children’s
Endowment Initiative Campaign



Fundraising

— DONOR STORY

Honoring John G. Levy's lifetime commitment to children

For more than 45 years, John G. Levy dedicated his time, leadership, and heart to Children's Hospital of Michigan and the Detroit Medical Center. From his early days as a volunteer to serving as Chair of the Governing Board, John's passion for helping children was lifelong and impactful.

To honor his extraordinary impact, the hospital's main lobby now bears his name – the John G. Levy Lobby – featuring an interactive donor wall designed to bring joy to young patients. More than 150 donors came together to raise over \$375,000 to establish the John G. Levy Endowment at the Children's Foundation, ensuring Child Life Specialty Services continue to provide comfort and healing for young patients.

"John knew the value of Child Life Services," shared his wife, Nancy Levy. "That's why my daughters, Jody and Melissa, my son-in-law Ryan, and I created this endowment – to ensure kids today, and for generations to come, have the support they need."

John's legacy lives on through this endowment, bringing hope to children and families when they need it most – just as he always did.



John G. Levy's grandchildren.
The first to interact with the wall.

“That's why we created this endowment – to ensure kids today, and for generations to come, have the support they need.”

Nancy Levy

The generosity of our donors is core to our work, giving millions each year to improve the lives of kids in Michigan.

Photo of John G. Levy and family



Join us in building a lasting impact

Your philanthropic partnership helps ensure we can address today's challenges while creating a better future for Michigan's kids. By growing our endowment for kids, strengthening youth-serving organizations, and supporting donors in reaching their philanthropic goals, together, we're building a stronger future for young people.



Invest in the future of Michigan kids:

Support our flexible MI Kids Forever Fund or a Field of Interest aligned with your passions.



Attend or sponsor an event:

100% of proceeds are granted out into the community.



Host a fundraiser:

Help raise awareness and funds for the Children's Foundation and the work we do to help all kids thrive.



Create lasting impact:

Establish or contribute to an endowment that supports a non-profit you care about.



Establish a Customized Fund:

This fund addresses the issues important to you and allows you to be involved in the process.

**For more information, please contact Development Director,
Ashley Ashkenazi at AAshkenazi@YourChildrensFoundation.org.**



2024 Highlights

Breakfast of Champions

MARCH 21 & OCTOBER 26



Our bi-annual series, Breakfast of Champions, unites engaged individuals to raise awareness about issues impacting kids. In March, we explored the youth mental health crisis, and in October, we discussed the importance of the early years of life and how they lead to long-term health and success.

With approximately 125 champions in attendance, each event featured a keynote speaker and an expert panel discussion.

These meaningful conversations deepened connections, expanded awareness of the challenges children face, and highlighted solutions to ensure every child has the resources they need for a brighter, healthier future.

Detroit Chamber's Mackinac Policy Conference

MAY 30, 2024



Highlighting the importance of giving nonprofits and communities more say in decision making, President & CEO Andrew Stein joined a panel discussion at the Detroit Chamber's Mackinac Policy Conference, moderated by Rachel Decker of Detroit Philanthropy and sponsored by Delta Dental of Michigan. Alongside leaders from Life Remodeled and the Equity Alliance of Michigan, the group discussed the importance of trust-based philanthropy, an approach that addresses issues like justice and equity in ways that reflect real community needs.

Jamie Daniels Foundation Recognized with National Visionary Award

JUNE 19, 2024



The Jamie Daniels Foundation, a fund at the Children's Foundation, was honored with the "Visionary Award for the Advancement of Collegiate Recovery" by the Association of Recovery in Higher Education (ARHE). This prestigious recognition celebrates individuals and organizations that have made groundbreaking contributions to the field of collegiate recovery.

Executive Director, Chris Perry, accepted the award on behalf of Co-Founders Lisa Daniels Goldman and Ken Daniels, as well as the foundation's dedicated supporters and donors.

Chris is pictured alongside Jessica Miller, ARHE board member and Midwest regional representative.

21st Paul W. Smith
Golf Classic
JULY 29, 2024



A special thank you and congratulations to Paul W. Smith on 21 years of success at the Paul W. Smith Golf Classic. Over time, the event raised more than \$9 million, which benefited 55,000 youth across Southeast Michigan, annually. In 2024, Paul W. announced this would be his last Classic; the tournament benefited the Children’s Foundation, Detroit PAL, The Children’s Center, and Variety Detroit. Paul W’s dedication and support has marked a legacy of incredible impact on the kids of this region.

Dave Coulier wins for
kids on Who Wants To
Be A Millionaire
AUGUST 9, 2024



Michigander, actor, director, writer and comedian, Dave Coulier, joined friend and co-star John Stamos, on Who Wants to Be a Millionaire to raise funds in support of kids at Children’s Hospital of Michigan. He stopped by the hospital to present the \$125,000 he won as a contestant, visiting with patients and families. Dave has been a longtime, generous friend to both the Foundation and the hospital. We’re thrilled to celebrate the news that he is now cancer-free and wish him continued health and strength.

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