

## Partners in Caring

CHOC Children's partnership with Children's Miracle Network ensures that **100 percent of every dollar raised in Orange County goes to CHOC** to fund equipment, research and life-saving programs and services that reach every child in need—regardless of his or her family's ability to pay.

Most funds are generated through the sale of "miracle balloons" at major retailers including Costco, Credit Unions for Kids, Marriott, Re/Max, Rite Aid, Sam's Club and Walmart. Special events such as the annual Torch Relay, 102.7 KIIS FM Radio fundraiser, Super Estrella 107.1 FM and José 97.5 FM Spanish-speaking radiothon, and UCI Care-A-Thon also provide invaluable funding.

In addition, national Children's Miracle Network fundraisers such as International Pancake Day, sponsored by IHOP, and Dairy Queen Miracle Treat Day raise funds and awareness for CHOC and Children's Miracle Network.



## CHOC Children's

CHOC Children's is exclusively committed to the health and well being of children through clinical expertise, advocacy, outreach and research that brings advanced treatment to our patients. CHOC Children's regional healthcare network includes two state-of-the-art hospitals in Orange and Mission Viejo, five community clinics, and four centers of excellence—The CHOC Children's Heart, Cancer, Neuroscience and Orthopaedic Institutes.

## Children's Miracle Network

Children's Miracle Network is a non-profit organization that raises funds for more than 170 children's hospitals. Countless individuals, organizations and media partners unite with Children's Miracle Network hospitals to help sick and injured kids in local communities. Donations to Children's Miracle Network create miracles by funding medical care, research and education that save and improve the lives of 17 million children each year.



## It's About Sharing

Every dollar makes a difference. Every gift touches lives. To find out how you can make a difference in the lives of the young patients at CHOC, contact:

CHOC Children's Foundation  
455 S. Main St.  
Orange, CA 92868  
714-532-8690  
[www.choc.org/giving/cmnet](http://www.choc.org/giving/cmnet)

## CHOC Children's & Children's Miracle Network® *Partners in Caring*



## Burn Victim Defies the Odds

One unthinkable spring morning, 2-year-old Jace Rodriguez wandered into the kitchen while his mother cooked breakfast. Seconds later, a loud scream echoed throughout the house. To his mother's horror, Jace had pulled the pan off the counter, pouring hot bacon grease on his face and down his body.

Jace underwent two skin graft surgeries and developed significant respiratory problems that required ventilator support. It would be months before he would complete treatment—if at all.

Jace's last hope of survival was Extra Corporeal Membrane Oxygenation (ECMO), a heart-lung bypass machine that supports cardiac circulation. Jace was quickly transported to CHOC, Orange County's only ECMO center.

Within 24 hours, Jace shocked physicians and family by showing marked signs of improvement—remarkable considering he was given only a 10 percent chance of survival.

Jace's burns have healed wonderfully, as have his chest tube scars, and he shows no signs of his near-death experience. Today, Jace is running, laughing and playing...just like the old days.



*Jace's recovery shocked physicians and family—considering he was given only a 10 percent chance of survival.*



## Sophia the Strong

May 22, 2006. That was the day Patrick and Bridget Colby watched as their 2-year-old daughter Sophia bravely fought for her life. Sophia, who had recently undergone a bone marrow transplant, was fighting massive septic shock. An out-of-control infection was literally bombarding her tiny body.

*When Sophia failed to go into remission, she underwent a bone marrow transplant; the donor was her father.*

"We were told that she would probably not make it to the next morning," Bridget says through tears as she recalls the incident.

Sophia was diagnosed with Hemophagocytic Lymphohistiocytosis (HLH), an extremely rare and aggressive disease that causes the body's own immune system to attack itself. HLH affects approximately one in every one million children.

What followed was eight weeks of chemotherapy, steroids, immunosuppressants and a variety of other medications. When Sophia's HLH failed to go into remission, she underwent a bone marrow transplant; the donor was her father.

Sophia has made a remarkable recovery. Today, she is an active, spirited toddler. "We truly feel blessed to have a hospital like CHOC here in Orange County; CHOC was there for us when we needed it most," Bridget concludes.

## Little Jackson Beats Cancer

Jackson is only 20 months old and has spent more time in the hospital than anyone should ever have to. And, although he has had to fight for the first couple years of his life, he has a bright future to go with his bright personality.

*The results were startling: Jackson had leukemia.*

When Jackson was one, his mother Missi noticed he had stopped rolling over and could no longer stand up. After seeing a variety of specialists, Jackson's doctors at CHOC ordered a spinal tap. The results were startling: Jackson had leukemia. "That was the worst day of our lives," Missi says. "We were devastated."

After being diagnosed, Jackson underwent 9 months of aggressive chemotherapy in CHOC's Outpatient Cancer Clinic. Some weeks he received chemo four days in a row, and his treatments could last up to 8 hours at a time.

Today, Jackson's cancer is in remission and he is a rambunctious toddler who enjoys playing with his big brother Blake.

