



THANK YOU  
FOR SUPPORTING OUR  
HEART INSTITUTE  
AT CHOC CHILDREN'S

RECENTLY, AMAZING THINGS HAVE HAPPENED IN  
THE INSTITUTE BECAUSE OF SUPPORT LIKE YOURS.

TOGETHER, WE...



**KEPT THE SMALLEST HEARTS BEATING STRONG**

In 2018, our team recruited a new medical director for our cardiovascular intensive care unit. With their leadership, we were able to increase our capacity, serving six percent more patients than the previous year. CHOC continues to be the only Orange County facility that can perform open heart surgery on newborns.



**IMPLEMENTED LEADING-EDGE TECHNOLOGY**

In March 2019, the institute became one of the first programs in California to successfully implant a pea-size device that repairs life-threatening heart defects in premature newborns. This minimally invasive procedure alleviates the need to open the baby's chest for surgery and can be used in patients as little as 1.3 pounds.



**REACHED NEW LEVELS OF EXCELLENCE**

As of last year, the institute has earned every possible quality accreditation for pediatric heart imaging procedures. Through each accreditation process, the lab evaluates all aspects of daily operations, striving to continuously improve the quality of care we provide our patients.



YOU HELP CHANGE LIVES

At 15 months old, April Arellano was brought to her local hospital and diagnosed with septic shock, which is fatal in 98 percent of pediatric cases. To support her heart and lungs, CHOC doctors put her on ECMO for five whole days. While there was a major risk of brain damage or developmental delays, April came out with no such issues. Her parents marveled at April's recovery.

Now, April is a happy little girl excited about starting school. The Arellano family attributes her life to CHOC and the many doctors who helped them through this experience. "We knew we wanted to go to CHOC," says April's mom. "What they stand for and what they believe in is above and beyond other hospitals. We wouldn't want her care to be anywhere else."