



THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR NEWBORNS AT CHOC CHILDREN'S

LAST YEAR, AMAZING THINGS HAPPENED IN THE
NEONATAL INTENSIVE CARE UNIT BECAUSE OF SUPPORT LIKE YOURS.

TOGETHER, WE...



SOOTHED OUR TINIEST BABIES AND THEIR FAMILIES

CHOC's music therapy program has expanded into the neonatal intensive care unit. Personal lullabies, story readings and song recordings bring families comfort and help ease their transition out of the hospital. Within the first year of expansion into this department, over 50 songs have been recorded for patients, and 478 music therapy sessions have been held for newborns and their families.



GAVE NEWBORNS THE BEST START IN LIFE

From educating mothers on proper breastfeeding to creating unique formulas for babies who require a special diet, our lactation team is essential to the growth of our smallest patients. This year, our team handled more than 800 gallons of milk from both CHOC mothers and donor milk banks. This equates to nearly 70,000 bottles and 300,000 feeding syringes to help babies grow up strong.



EXTENDED CARE TO THE WHOLE FAMILY

Hospitalization affects the entire family, and siblings often spend long hours inside with little to do but worry about their brother or sister. To offer them a space of their own where they are given attention and affirmation, we launched "Club Sib" last year. "Club Sib" meets weekly, providing siblings with a special opportunity to play together and understand that they are not alone.



YOU HELP CHANGE LIVES

Brie Mattioli, a board-certified music therapist at CHOC, shares a memory about her bond with a NICU patient.

"I remember working with a newborn who was referred by the NICU developmental team. While she had never been home or known life outside her NICU room, music therapy provided periods of genuine joy, opportunities for self-expression and moments of positive development and laughter."

This baby girl went from hardly being able to tolerate external stimuli to happily playing a maraca, supporting herself independently and recovering faster from procedures. I will always remember how bright her smile was on the day she was finally discharged."