

STRENGTHENING OUR COMMUNITY'S HEART WARRIORS AND THEIR FAMILIES



DEAR FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS,

It's hard to believe it has been nearly eight years since we lost our son Ollie at age one to a congenital heart defect (CHD), the leading U.S. birth defect. When my husband Mark and I began the Ollie Hinkle Heart Foundation (OHHF) in his honor, we set out with one goal in mind. To help other heart families, paying forward the great love and support we had received during our darkest days of Ollie's battle with CHD.

As we began aiding other heart warriors and their families, we were stunned by how quickly our story and mission was spreading, reaching and touching the hearts of many in the St. Louis area and beyond. Our community of supporters also grew, enabling us to expand our offerings for heart families and funding of leading pediatric heart research. Additionally, on a personal note, we found the love we were paying forward was coming back to us too, helping our family to pull itself out of the trenches of our experience and grief.

Thanks to our generous donors, sponsors, friends, and supporters, the OHHF has become something much bigger than we ever imagined – a vital, area resource filling important gaps for the heart community. Today, we provide year-round services and assistance to area heart families, helping to strengthen and support them in their fight against CHD. And we are continuously increasing and expanding the resources we provide.

A recent key enhancement to our mission is providing funding for leading technologies that can help improve patient care and experiences. This year, the OHHF has already covered the expenses for a revolutionary patient monitoring technology in St. Louis Children's Hospital's Intensive Care Unit (ICU). The technology, named T3, provides healthcare professionals with an important tool to better predict serious events and intervene ahead of time, potentially preventing catastrophic incidents and saving lives.

With OHHF's donation, St. Louis Children's Hospital is now one of only a few U.S. children's hospitals with this leading technology, ensuring all beds in the ICU are outfitted with the T3.

This report provides a deeper look at our mission and work, and the impact the OHHF is having in the St. Louis heart community and beyond. We are humbled by the number of people who have become involved in our cause and who are committed to helping us improve the lives of heart warriors and their families, making a difference in the fight against CHD.

Our efforts over the last seven years, however, are only beginning. We have much more work to do, and with your assistance we're making important, lasting impacts in our community and beyond. Thank you for your interest and support of the OHHF.

Sincerely,

Jenn Hinkle
Co-Founder and Executive Director of the
Ollie Hinkle Heart Foundation, and Ollie's Mom



OUR BIGGEST YEAR YET

2019 was a BIG year for the Ollie Hinkle Heart Foundation. Thanks to the support of our donors, heart families, volunteers, partners, and supporters, we achieved several key milestones in our organization's seven-year history, as well as a few fun surprises along the way.



NATIONAL RECOGNITION



Late night television host and heart dad **JIMMY KIMMEL**, who sported OHHF shirts with his family and called out the Foundation in social media posts



THE SKIMM, who highlighted OHHF co-founder and executive director Jenn Hinkle for her accomplishments through the Foundation

SKIMM'RS

Skimm'r of the Week...Jenn Hinkle. She co-founded the Ollie Hinkle Heart Foundation with her husband in honor of their son Ollie, who died from a congenital heart defect. The foundation provides support to families, education on CHD, and funding for pediatric heart research. Donate and learn more [here](#).



Supermodel and native St. Louisan **KARLIE KLOSS**, who gave a special shoutout to the Foundation as part of the American Express #SmallBizSat promotion

YOUR IMPACT: Donations at a glance

EAT DRINK LOVE
45.4%

THIRD-PARTY FUNDRAISING
39.85%



MERCHANDISE
15%

SPRING APPEAL
7%

PRIVATE DONATIONS
7.6%

\$910,539
FUNDS RAISED

BY THE NUMBERS

RAISED OVER
\$900,000
to support the OHHF's efforts for heart families, almost doubling the amount donated in 2018

SERVED NEARLY
3,500
heart warriors and their families in the St. Louis region, and thousands more across the U.S.

100%
EXPANSION OF EDUCATION PROGRAMMING offering in-person and online opportunities for heart families with leading healthcare professionals and experts

149
MENTAL HEALTH SCREENINGS doubling the number of heart families served with mental health services in 2019

NEARLY
50
HEART WARRIOR STORIES SHARED raising awareness of CHD



**The Ollie Hinkle Heart Foundation
is committed to fighting against
pediatric congenital heart disease
and strengthening heart families**

OUR MISSION

**through loving SUPPORT,
EDUCATION, and funding of leading
TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH.**



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Having a child with CHD is incredibly stressful. At times, I felt as though I may have a meltdown from the anxiety I was experiencing. The OHHF took so much off my shoulders, and the **SUPPORT** they provided me was very comforting and motivating. Despite my daughter's passing, I'm so grateful to the OHHF, and it excites me to see the great work they continue to do to grow this supportive heart community and help other heart families.

Chrissy Bryant

Heart mom to heart angels Da'Layla and Dante

HEART FAMILY SUPPORT:

Assisting families through their CHD journey and having a positive impact in their lives

The heart and soul of the OHHF is the loving support the Foundation provides to St. Louis-area heart families and beyond. As an organization that knows first hand the many struggles and great heartache heart families can face, we provide resources and services to lift up and empower them, showing them love in any way we can to help sustain their fight against CHD.

Since our founding seven years ago, we've helped thousands of heart families in the region. Heart moms like Chrissy Bryant, who had already lost her son, Dante, to CHD twenty-one years earlier when her daughter, Da'Layla, was born with a heart defect. On top of the incredible stress and anxiousness Chrissy experienced during Da'Layla's battle with CHD, Chrissy and her family had to navigate being away from home and traveling back and forth between Springfield, Missouri, and St. Louis where Da'Layla was hospitalized.

The OHHF helped Chrissy by checking in frequently and letting her know she wasn't alone, even while away from her home, family, and friends. Chrissy has shared that, "I knew I could reach out to the OHHF at any time, and their support meant a lot to me. It would have been so much harder if I hadn't had the OHHF to rely on."

The Foundation also purchased new tires for her car, an unanticipated, hefty expense on top of Da'Layla's medical bills. The tires helped the family to commute back and forth to St. Louis, and ensured they were in St. Louis when Da'Layla tragically passed away from CHD at three-months-old – a gesture that has come to mean so much to Chrissy.



Our support of heart families is aimed at making a difference in their lives and battle against CHD, providing services such as:

- Free mental health services for heart parents, helping to address the common feelings of anxiety and depression heart parents face
- Free educational events on topics important to heart families
- Care packages and meals that make hospital stays more bearable
- Personalized support, when needed
- Simply having an understanding person to talk to or shoulder to cry on

We are humbled by the strong bonds we've created with heart families, and the supportive heart community we've helped shape in the St. Louis region. But our work has only begun, and we are committed to helping make big, positive impacts in the journey and lives of many more heart families.



I don't know what I would have done without the support of the Ollie Hinkle Heart Foundation during my daughter's battle with CHD. Having an organization that understands what you're going through, that cares about you, and is there to assist you, even in ways you don't necessarily realize you need, makes a world of difference in coping with CHD and in your life.

Chrissy Bryant
Heart mom to heart angels Da'Layla and Dante



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As I became more involved with the OHHF, I realized the vital importance of the OHHF’s work and how it helps to enhance the care children with CHD receive from their healthcare providers. Through the OHHF’s loving support and education efforts for heart families, the Foundation offers information and services that weren’t previously available to area heart families, enabling them to better cope with their child’s defect and the impacts it has on their lives.

Now, through the OHHF’s expanded mission of funding leading technology, many healthcare professionals will be better equipped too, helping them to bolster the care they provide.



Jenny Brosseau
OHHF Board Member and supporter, and loving sister of Richard Lunoff

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

Continuing my brother’s mission through the OHHF

As an OHHF Board member who has been personally impacted by congenital heart disease, it is my honor to share with you what the OHHF has meant to me and countless other families battling against CHD.

I was first introduced to the OHHF after my oldest brother, Richard, passed away at age 41 from his CHD, Truncus Arteriosus. I was devastated by his loss, and found myself needing an outlet to help channel the immense grief and loneliness I was experiencing.

Richard had always been my protector. A loyal supporter who inspired me to be the best I could be, and who helped our entire family cope with the unexpected loss of our father when I was 13 years old. His presence could light up a room. And despite enduring six open-heart surgeries and countless medical procedures throughout his life, he had the most amazing sense of humor and ability to make others laugh. Even on the day of his sixth surgery, I can vividly remember laughing with him.

Meeting Jenn and Mark Hinkle, I immediately connected with the OHHF’s mission and their personal passion for taking their experience and turning it into something positive, helping other children with CHD and their families to cope with the many challenges they face. It was, after all, my brother’s mission too. After Richard had passed away, I learned he had contacted a local children’s hospital to be an advocate for other kids with CHD, supporting and providing information to them, and even taking time off from his job to be there for a four-year-old’s surgery day.

Getting involved with the OHHF, engaging with other heart families, and feeling the support of this wonderful heart community provided me with everything I needed to persevere through my grief.

Most importantly, it’s enabled me to continue my brother’s mission, helping fuel and improve other heart families’ fight against CHD.

I INVITE YOU TO JOIN US IN THIS CRITICAL EFFORT.





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The OHHF's commitment to **EDUCATION** has helped to strengthen and bring together the local heart community. Their efforts enable us to do more for our patients, offering complementary, lifelong education and care outside of the hospital to support heart families' needs. I am grateful for their support.

Beth Rumack

Director of The Heart Center at St. Louis Children's Hospital

EDUCATION:

Addressing the human side of living with CHD

Congenital heart defects are lifelong, chronic conditions that are never fully “fixed.” Even when patients get better and surgery successfully addresses a heart’s defect, patients need ongoing care to monitor their heart’s anatomy and function, watching out for other issues that may arise from their underlying condition or surgical repair(s).

While healthcare professionals are focused on providing life-saving and ongoing treatments to children with CHD, a significant, important gap in care exists for many heart families. The OHHF has helped to fill this need in the St. Louis region and beyond by providing a platform of free educational opportunities for heart parents, caregivers, and children with CHD. Through educational events and online resources, the OHHF helps support heart families’ quality of life, addressing the human and emotional side of living with a CHD.



TAKE HEART

In 2020, the OHHF will introduce an expanded education and outreach initiative — Take Heart. Formerly called ‘A Dose of Magic’, the new programming will feature a virtual conference and online resource library with content from leading local healthcare professionals and other experts on topics important to heart families. In partnership with The Heart Center at St. Louis Children’s Hospital, Take Heart will provide information tailored for the multiple stages heart families navigate, addressing the challenges they face and ones they may not even realize they need to know about.



Until the OHHF filled this niche, no one in the St. Louis community was helping to educate heart families on daily life with CHD, such as the emotions and impacts they can face, transitions to prepare for, and how they can best adapt. Through our partnership with the OHHF, we are able to help provide this needed continuum of support for heart families at all stages of their journey.

Beth Rumack
Director of The Heart Center at St. Louis Children’s Hospital





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Thanks to the OHHF's T3 donation, we have the opportunity to bring this new, promising **TECHNOLOGY** to every bedside in our ICU. This puts the St. Louis community at the forefront of cardiac care in the country, enabling us to continue improving outcomes for children with complex needs and heart conditions.

**Dr. Avihu Gazit, Pediatric Critical Care Medicine,
Pediatric Cardiology at St. Louis Children's Hospital**

TECHNOLOGY:

Providing state-of-the-art technology to improve outcomes for kids

Every second counts when you have a child with a congenital heart defect in the ICU. Their clinical state can change so quickly, leaving healthcare professionals with little warning of potential adverse events.

But thanks to a donation from the OHHF, a promising new technology named 'T3' will soon be outfitted at every bedside at St. Louis Children's Hospital's ICU. T3 is a data acquisition and analytical platform that provides near real-time data points and risk analysis of patients, helping to identify even subtle changes that could amount to something devastating.

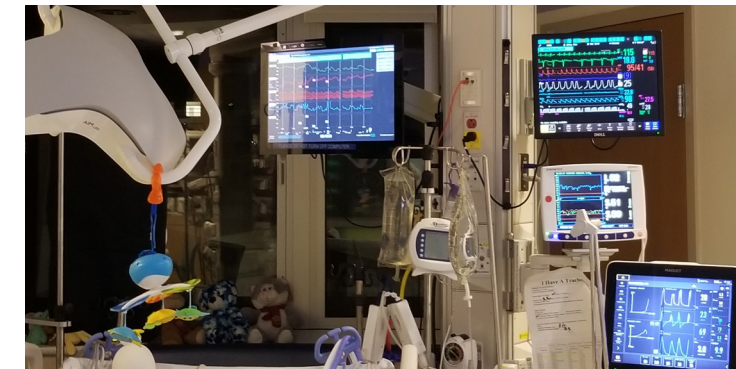
Unlike today's standard data acquisition systems that typically input data on an hourly basis, T3 collects patient vitals and provides risk analysis every few seconds. This helps to better inform healthcare professionals and may enable them to predict concerning trends and intervene faster, potentially reducing or preventing adverse events.



T3: TRACKING TRAJECTORY TRIGGERING

With the OHHF's T3 donation, St. Louis Children's Hospital will be one of only a handful of the country's top hospital systems with this new technology. The T3 platform's design is based on missile guidance technology, and was adapted by aerospace engineers and healthcare professionals for children to predict significant changes in their clinical state.

St. Louis Children's Hospital was fortunate to recently be part of the National Institute for Health's study to understand, evaluate, and improve the T3's risk analysis system. Study findings showed the system's risk probability index could provide warning before catastrophic events, such as cardiac arrest, happen. Providing promising technology, such as the T3, is part of the OHHF's mission to help support the diagnosis and care of children with CHD.



Dr. Avihu Gazit and Jenn Hinkle with Margie Ellisor, Fox 2 News

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I've been in this field for almost 20 years and I've seen many amazing and difficult things. But the most amazing times for me are when families who have lost their child under the worst of conditions proceed forward to help others. The Hinkle's unique mission and dedication to giving back is beyond words for me. I appreciate and thank them from the bottom of my heart for all they do to help our local heart community.

Dr. Avihu Gazit
Pediatric Critical Care Medicine, Pediatric Cardiology at St. Louis Children's Hospital

A MESSAGE

FROM OUR BOARD PRESIDENT

I am proud to support the Ollie Hinkle Heart Foundation, an organization that is deeply engrained and invested in our community, creating important, positive impacts for heart families in the St. Louis area and beyond.

I initially became involved with the OHHF after one of our daughters was born with a congenital heart defect, one of the 40,000 children diagnosed with a CHD each year. While her particular heart defect is less invasive and serious than those of many kids with CHD, it quickly made me aware of the prevalence, concerns, and needs of heart families. And, even more discouraging, the significant lack of funding for research and new technologies that are vital to help advance patient diagnosis and treatments, ultimately saving lives.

To help create beneficial changes for area heart warriors, the OHHF's mission is focused on three foundational pillars – providing loving support of heart families, education, and funding for leading technology and research. At the heart of the OHHF's work are the many free offerings and resources the Foundation provides for children with CHD and their families. From mental health services and family events, to meals and care packages that make hospital stays a little easier, the OHHF is committed to making a difference in the fight and lives of heart warriors and their families.

Education is an important part of OHHF's mission too, with events such as 'A Dose of Magic', which includes informational seminars with top local healthcare professionals on topics important to heart families. Additionally, the OHHF provides many educational resources on its website, www.theohhf.org, and has recently expanded its outreach support for families, providing important connections and information to them.

But perhaps the most far-reaching area of the Foundation's mission is its funding of leading technology and pediatric heart research. As a professional in the healthcare and technology sectors, I am personally passionate about the OHHF's ability to impact patients' lives in meaningful, lasting ways through investments in technology. The funding of new technologies is imperative to help provide better outcomes for patients, supplying a level of care that otherwise wouldn't be feasible or accessible. And we need your help.

I hope you will consider joining me in supporting the OHHF's mission. As Jenn Hinkle mentioned, we have much work ahead of us still. But together, we can continue building upon the OHHF's strong foundation, creating bigger, needed impacts for heart families.

I INVITE YOU TO DEEPEN YOUR CONNECTIONS WITH THE FOUNDATION.

With appreciation,
Jason Weems
Board President, Ollie Hinkle Heart Foundation



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THANK YOU

We are pleased to recognize the following supporters who contributed gifts between January 1, 2019 and December 31, 2019. This generosity allows the OHHF to continue its commitment to fighting against pediatric congenital heart disease and strengthening heart families through loving support, education, and funding of leading technology and research.

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20 Allen Avenue, Suite 160
St. Louis, MO 63119
www.theohhf.org



@theohhf