STILL CHAMPIONS OF HOPE

ALSO:
ADVANCES IN GENETICS
SHOW PROMISE
Welcome to CHaD Matters!

In the ten years since the inaugural issue of CHaD Matters, extraordinary advances have been made in pediatric cancer treatment, genetics and virtually every aspect of pediatric medicine and surgery. Our two Champions of Hope featured in our cover story – Emma and Brendan – used those years to become robust young people following their treatment for leukemia at CHaD.

Medical care delivered at CHaD is constantly improving with new instrumentation, devices, medications and improved management. Moreover, we are strongly committed to providing safe and quality care to all of the children we care for. In this issue, we take a look back at where we’ve been, and also a look ahead to even brighter prospects for other Champions of Hope that we see here at CHaD every day.

So much is possible with your engaged interest and support.

Paul A. Merguerian, MD
Medical Director, CHaD (Interim)
Program Director, Pediatric Urology

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For more than 35 years, Dr. Alan Rozycki has been an exceptional clinician, educator and thinker at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center. He retired at the end of December 2007.

Dr. Rozycki served as the principal investigator for several clinical trials and brought the fruits of his research into the clinical arena. Over the years he has served as a mentor to many, and his work has been published in esteemed peer-reviewed journals. Although Dr. Rozycki dedicated much of his career to medical student education, he was committed to his active pediatrics primary care practice, developing enduring relationships with many patients, and providing comprehensive continuity and advocacy, especially for children with special healthcare needs. In 1994, his eminent service earned Dr. Rozycki an appointment to the rank of full professor.

Dr. Rozycki has distinguished himself as a leader in several of CHaD’s clinical areas. To name a few, he has served as Director of the Normal Newborn Nursery, Section Chief of General Academic Pediatrics, Program Director of the Dartmouth-Hitchcock Regional Pediatric/Family HIV Program, and he developed CHaD’s Spina Bifida program.

Dr. Rozycki will be missed, not just here at CHaD, but throughout our region and beyond. Please join us in wishing him a happy and adventurous retirement.

As a tribute, the “Alan Rozycki Commitment to Excellence Award” was initiated to honor the individual in General Pediatrics who best embodies his extraordinary efforts; always making a positive difference in the lives of the children, families, and the Upper Valley community. This year’s recipient was Dr. Todd Poret.

In early March, the excitement was palpable when more than 100 employees and vendors of Wal-Mart and Sam’s Club stores from across NH, VT and northern MA gathered at DHMC to celebrate their fundraising for CHaD. During 2007, they raised a record sum of $412,000, bringing the seven-year total to over $1.8 million.

“I’ve always felt good about fundraising for CHaD,” says Jeff Godois of the Normal Newborn Nursery, Section Chief of General Academic Pediatrics, Program Director of the Dartmouth-Hitchcock Regional Pediatric/Family HIV Program, and he developed CHaD’s Spina Bifida program.

In early March, the excitement was palpable when more than 100 employees and vendors of Wal-Mart and Sam’s Club stores from across NH, VT and northern MA gathered at DHMC to celebrate their fundraising for CHaD. During 2007, they raised a record sum of $412,000, bringing the seven-year total to over $1.8 million.

“One dollar at a time and it makes things better for everybody.”

New Hampshire Wal-Mart stores in Rochester, Keene, Plaistow, Newington, Epping and Seabrook held events ranging from raffles and craft shows to golf tournaments, motorcycle runs, car shows – even a “Pie the Managers for CHaD” event! Seabrook’s greeter donned a CHaDasaurus costume created by his wife, raising $21,000, propelling his store to a tie with the Keene Wal-Mart for first place in CHaD fundraising for 2007. Many vendors also participated through the “Help a Child Smile Golf Tournament” and programs of their own. Kellogg’s raised a record $10,000 for CHaD.

“CHaD affects a lot of my associates and their families. It’s a wonderful organization,” said Leslie Thompson, Market Manager for 11 New Hampshire stores.

“I’m going to up the ante and throw out a challenge to my market to break $175,000 this year.” Other market managers responded, and soon they had a collective goal of $500,000. History tells us that they’re likely to meet – or even exceed – that goal, one dollar at a time.

“THERE” CHAMPIONS

CHaD’s Sharon Brown welcomes Market Manager Leslie Thompson and Store Manager Tony Tiner both of whose leadership have been key to the growth and success of Wal-Mart’s support.
It’s a Wednesday afternoon in the pediatric infusion unit, and the Campbells are well into their routine. Every week, Matt and his son Owen, age 3, travel from their home in Rutland, Vt. to Lebanon and back so that Owen can receive specialized treatments for a rare genetic disorder. “Owen loves coming to the hospital,” says Matt. “It’s pizza time and movie time, and there are a lot of cool toys to play with.”

As Matt talks, Owen uses his dad’s chest as a pillow while watching the Disney movie, “Bug’s Life” on a portable DVD player. Today, they’re joined by Owen’s brother Aidan, age 6, who watches “Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone” on a nearby television.

Some might consider having to make a weekly 2 ½-hour commute which includes a five-hour hospital visit a hardship. “Some weeks can be tough, but it’s definitely been worth it—Owen is getting great care here,” Matt says. “I’m just thankful that we were able to get him diagnosed when we did, and that there’s a treatment available now that can help him.”

Genetics Alters Treatment Plan

During the summer and fall of 2006, CHaD geneticist John Moeschler, MD, collaborating with colleagues at Duke Medical Center, helped to pinpoint Owen’s disorder as Hunter syndrome or mucopolysaccharidosis II (MPS II)—a serious, extremely rare hereditary disorder that primarily affects males.

“Hunter syndrome is one of several related MPS lysosomal storage diseases,” explains Moeschler, who specializes in genetics and child development and oversees Owen’s care. “Kids with Hunter’s are missing an enzyme that breaks down certain chemicals that occur naturally in the cells. As these chemicals build up, they cause progressive cognitive deterioration, multiple organ disease, and a shortened lifespan.”

Though not nearly as common, there is also a mild form of Hunter syndrome. “Using advanced genetic testing techniques, it’s now possible to identify differences in the gene that predict severity,” says Sheila Up- ton, MGC, a pediatric genetic counselor at CHaD who works with Moeschler to provide support and care coordination for the Campbells. “If Owen’s mutation had been severe, the family was going to pursue a cord blood transplant which might help some patients but has very significant risks. Because it was a less severe mutation, they ended up altering their treatment plan.”

Traditionally, the only treatment for mild Hunter’s has been supportive and palliative care. But in July of 2006, only a few months before Owen’s diagnosis was confirmed, the FDA approved a promising new enzyme replacement therapy called, “Elaprase.” “With help from the pharmaceutical company (Shire), the institution,
and the research community, we were able to meet the Campbells’ needs and set up therapy for Owen here in December of ’06,” says Moeschler.

**A Mother’s Sacrifice**

The true hero behind Owen’s diagnosis and treatment is his mom, Amy, who tragically passed away in June of 2007 after an 18-month battle with breast cancer. “She was a fantastic mother and wife, and she was tremendously devoted to the boys,” Matt explains. “But when she should have been concentrating on fighting her cancer and getting well, she diverted all of her energy towards finding help for Owen.”

Amy’s crusade for her son began with a fateful visit from a friend who had been her midwife at Aidan’s birth. “Her friend had stopped by our babysitter’s house and noticed that Owen’s belly was distended,” recalls Matt. “They started talking about his two hernia surgeries, his sleep problems, his speech issues, his ear tubes, and how he’d had his adenoids and tonsils taken out. As part of her studies, the midwife had done a paper on MPS—as soon as she shared her suspicions with us, Amy started researching for him every day. That led her to CHaD and the MPS test.”

Before the Campbells knew whether Owen’s condition was severe or mild, Amy took Owen to North Carolina for two weeks of follow up testing to see if he was a candidate for a cord blood transplant. She set up a web site for Owen and organized two fund raisers to help defray medical expenses. Even at her sickest, she insisted on coming to all of Owen’s infusions at DHMC. “We always believed that she was going to be a long-term survivor,” says Matt. “Those were extremely rough times for us as a family, but I’ve never seen someone dedicate their life to a cause the way she did for Owen.”

I’m just thankful that we were able to get him diagnosed when we did, and that there’s a treatment available now that can help him.”

Matt Campbell

**A Hopeful Prognosis**

While the Campbells are still adjusting to life without Amy, Owen is responding well to his treatments. “He’s getting physical and occupational therapy, and he has hearing aids which he’s used to wearing now,” says Matt. “We’ve also got him enrolled in an early pre-school program for kids with special needs which he loves.”

“Dr. Moeschler, Sheila, and the nurses here have been great,” he says. “It’s not just their expertise. It’s the way they’ve been so supportive and caring through everything—they always revolve their schedules around us. In fact, they’re helping me look into setting up Owen’s infusion treatments in Rutland which would be a lot more convenient.”

“It’s very possible that gene therapy will lead to a cure for Hunter’s in the next 10 to 15 years,” adds Matt. “By then, Owen will hopefully be a healthy and independent adult, and be able to fully appreciate all that his mother did for him.”
**Introducing**

**Three New CHaD Doctors**

**Pediatric Anesthesiology**

Anesthesiologist Simon C. Hillier, MD, recently joined CHaD from Riley Hospital for Children in Indianapolis, Indiana, where he also served on the faculty of Indiana University School of Medicine. "I moved to DHMC and CHaD because I was impressed by the existing pediatric anesthesiology faculty, led by Joe Cravero," Dr. Hillier said. "From an academic perspective, it has certainly been intellectually invigorating to practice as part of the Dartmouth Anesthesiology team and get involved in some research again."

Hillier adds that opportunities for outdoor activities in the region were also very appealing. "In our spare time my wife (Kim) and I like to hike, bike, scull, and explore the upper valley. Rowing on the Connecticut River was a major draw for us."

**Pediatric Hematology/Oncology**

Dr. Hillier attended medical school and held internship and residency positions in Manchester, England. He participated in pediatric critical care and pediatric anesthesia fellowships at The Hospital for Sick Children, University of Toronto, in Ontario, Canada, where he was also a pediatric resident. Dr. Hillier volunteered his services as pediatric cardiac anesthesiologist for the International Children’s Heart Foundation in Belgrade, Republic of Serbia, and Lima, Peru, providing cardiac anesthesia services to approximately 25 patients during each mission, and also teaching local anesthesia and critical care doctors. Dr. Hillier is Board Certified in Anesthesiology (1991) and holds the faculty rank of Professor of Anesthesiology at Dartmouth Medical School.

**Pediatric Rheumatology**

Dr. Hillier attended medical school and held internship and residency positions in Manchester, England. He participated in pediatric critical care and pediatric anesthesia fellowships at The Hospital for Sick Children, University of Toronto, in Ontario, Canada, where he was also a pediatric resident. Dr. Hillier volunteered his services as pediatric cardiac anesthesiologist for the International Children’s Heart Foundation in Belgrade, Republic of Serbia, and Lima, Peru, providing cardiac anesthesia services to approximately 25 patients during each mission, and also teaching local anesthesia and critical care doctors. Dr. Hillier is Board Certified in Anesthesiology (1991) and holds the faculty rank of Professor of Anesthesiology at Dartmouth Medical School.

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The March of Dimes and CHaD’s Intensive Care Nursery (ICN) have teamed up to create a new position called a Family Support Specialist. The person chosen for this position will serve as on-site resource for inpatient families in the ICN, represent the CHaD in the National March of Dimes NICU Family Support Network and generally promote patient and family centered care in the ICN.

The Family Support Specialist will collaborate with the ICN multi-disciplinary team to identify the needs of inpatient ICN families and represent their experiences, ideas and recommendations in ICN meetings and quality improvement initiatives. The Specialist will also chair the ICN Parent Council and serve as a liaison to the CHaD Family Advisory Board. The ICN and the March of Dimes look forward to offering a new dimension of assistance to the families of the ICN.

Corporate supporters become true CHaD Champions when their employees get personally involved in CHaD events. Kohl’s staff members have provided invaluable assistance at several events through their ‘A-Team’ program. As an added bonus, each ‘A-Team’ generates an additional $500 grant for CHaD, contributing toward a generous total of $24,915 raised through Kohl’s programs, all to support CHaD’s Injury Prevention Center.

An ‘A-Team’ from the West Lebanon Kohl’s, led by Store Manager Dede Carpenter, assisted during CHaD’s ski event at Whaleback Ski Area. CHaD’s Injury Prevention Center received support from a Tilton Kohl’s ‘A-Team’ during the annual ‘Safe Kids 200’ bike event at NH International Speedway. CHaD events often require hundreds of energetic volunteers, so it’s great to know that Kohl’s ‘A-Teams’ are always ready to lend a helping hand.
Bob Sterling photographed Brendan and Emma for the first issue of CHaD Matters and he was very pleased to be asked to take the photos for this story. Over several years, Bob, a professional photographer from New London, NH, has volunteered his time and many talents to CHaD and other nonprofit organizations. Bob contributed several days of his service and countless priceless images during last summer’s CHaD Regatta on Lake Sunapee, many of which were published in the last issue of CHaD Matters. He currently serves on the Board of Directors of David’s House.

Still Champions of Hope

Photographs by Robert D. Sterling
To five-year-old Emma Furlone, 6'2", Brendan Shea, 15, was a great "tree."

"Whenever she'd see him, she'd run up and jump on him and start trying to wrestle with him," recalls Emma's mom, Beth. "And he'd pick her up and tip her upside down, which always made her giggle."

The cover photo of the first issue of CHaD Matters, taken in July of 1997 at a CHaD picnic, captured a similar moment between the two (inset photo on cover). "It's a great picture," says Brendan's mom, Katie. "If you didn't know who they were you would never have guessed that these were kids that had gone through cancer."

In fact, at the time the photo was taken, Emma and Brendan had just finished their last chemotherapy treatments at CHaD, reaching a pivotal point in a mutual three-year battle against acute lymphocytic leukemia (ALL). While they came to CHaD as strangers, the experiences that the Furlones and Sheas shared as families with cancer created a bond that has endured to this day—and seen Brendan and Emma through more than a decade of clinical remission from ALL.

Dramatic advances in the diagnosis and treatment of leukemia have made hope possible for families like the Furlones and Sheas. "In the time I have been practicing (25 years), the prognosis for leukemia has jumped 25 to 30 percentage points," says CHaD pediatric oncologist Dr. Sara Chaffee, who treated both Emma and Brendan. "And as more sophisticated protocols have been developed, it has improved our ability to adjust therapies based on a patient’s risk and minimize long-term side effects."

**Determination and Humor**

Brendan was nearly 13 years old when he and his family learned that he had ALL from Chaffee. "I had maybe five minutes of panic, I cried with my family, and then it was like, ‘Alright, so what do we do?’" says Brendan, who would use his competitive nature as well as his love of playing practical jokes on CHaD's staff to help him and his family cope with his disease.

Despite having to endure the chemo as well as radiation treatments—which made him so sick he lost 50 pounds at one point—Brendan, remarkably, maintained his honor roll status, playing both baseball and basketball at Amherst Middle School and Souhegan High School. Since graduating from American University in Washington, DC, in 2003, he has worked in medical sales for Johnson & Johnson, and is planning on getting engaged soon. "We knew each other in elementary school, lost touch, then reconnected last year—who knew the 5th grade crush would be the one?" he says, laughing.

In 2006, Brendan was diagnosed with thyroid cancer, most likely a result of the radiation treatment he received for ALL. He has had two successful surgeries along with radioactive iodine treatments, and remains a champion of hope. "Brendan has the innate ability to focus on what he has gained as opposed to what he has lost," explains Katie. "While cancer continues to be a part of his life, he’s never let it define him."

**“Lady Emma”**

Nicknamed “Lady Emma” by CHaD staff for her ability to light up a room with her smile, Emma was only two and a half when she was diagnosed, too young to understand what the word “leukemia” meant. “I remember my mom telling me that I had a ‘boo boo’ in my blood and that I needed to get help from the doctors to fix it,” she recalls. “At that age, going to CHaD became a routine and felt normal to me.

The experience felt quite different for her parents. “I was a nervous wreck and constantly worried about everything,” says Beth. “Often, Katie and I would be at David’s House at the same time since the kids’ hospital stays were on similar schedules—she was a great source of comfort and support for me. When your kids have this type of cancer, you spend a lot of time at the hospital and it becomes your second home. Both of our families grew close to the entire pediatric oncology team.”

Now a 15-year-old honor student at Keene High School, Emma plays Olympic development soccer and made the varsity team last fall as a freshman. At one of her games, Brendan paid her a surprise visit. "I went running over at half time to see my parents and there he was," she says. "I looked at him for a moment, then my brain clicked and I was like, ‘Oh my goodness; it’s Brendan!’ We gave each other a big hug—it was so great to see him."

**Unexpected Benefits**

As long-term survivors of ALL, Brendan and Emma have come to appreciate some of the positive aspects of their experiences. “It’s not only made me stronger, but also a better person,” says Brendan, who still visits members of his original care team. “I think I have more compassion and empathy for those around me, and I try not to sweat the small stuff.”

“I think it’s made us closer as a family,” says Emma. “And I’ve really grown to appreciate the people at CHaD and what they put forth for patients and families like ours. I hope to go into the medical field some day so that I can help others the way CHaD helped us.”

In the time I have been practicing (25 years), the prognosis for leukemia has jumped 25 to 30 percentage points

Dr. Sara Chaffee
Shield Our Children from Harm: Unsung Heroes

CHaD’s Child Advocacy and Protection Program (CAPP) and The Family Place in Norwich, Vermont, two regional Child Advocacy Centers, are partners in a joint effort called “Shield Our Children from Harm 2008.” The focus of this collaboration is to address child maltreatment in ways that help significantly reduce the impact of child abuse in our communities. On April 1, at the annual multi-disciplinary professional conference, four “Unsung Heroes” were honored for their dedication, compassion and efforts going above and beyond the call of duty each day in dealing with child abuse issues in our region. This year’s recipients were Deborah Pullin, ARNP, Child Advocacy and Protection Program, CHaD (seated front left); Detective Corporal Frederick Boggess, Hartford Police Department (seated front, center); Amanda Jewell, Division for Children, Youth, & Families, Claremont District Office (rear left); and Detective Jesse Vezina, Claremont Police Department (rear center). Also pictured are Jeanne McMahan of The Family Place (seated front right) and CHaD’s Cathy Brittis. Congratulations and thanks to all those who are shielding our children from harm.

Support CHaD with Quotes for Kids

Simply call Centurion Insurance Group’s office, identify yourself as a CHaD supporter, and request a package quote for home, auto and umbrella insurance. Centurion will donate $10 to CHaD, whether you purchase the policies or not. It’s that easy!

CHaD will receive a much-needed gift, and you gain access to Centurion’s renowned coverage expertise and service.

To participate, call 603-643-2000 or 800-258-3056 and ask for our personal lines department.

Since 1977, Centurion has served the insurance needs of the people and businesses of the Northeast. We offer personal, commercial and high-level specialty market insurance products nationwide on a retail and wholesale basis.

New at CHaD: Robotic Surgery

Robots are not just toys for kids anymore. Now they’re important surgeons’ tools at CHaD.

Dr. Daniel Herz, one of CHaD’s pediatric urologists, recently added robotic surgery to his bag of tricks. The da Vinci® robot allows Dr. Herz to perform “minimally invasive” precision laparoscopic procedures that would otherwise require a major “open” surgery through a large incision. Using the robot allows children to recover faster, decreases post-operative pain and reduces the risks of infection, since incisions are only 5-10mm long.

The robot is “scrubbed” at the operating table while the surgeon operates the robot remotely from a separate 3-D console across the room without scrubbing. There is a “scrubbed” technician who, instead of handing instruments to the surgeon, changing the robot’s instruments at the surgeon’s request.

Despite the robot’s cost, there is no extra cost for the robot to the insurance company, patients or their families.
Families know best their child’s early warning signs and now there’s a new way for them to call for help.

In January 2006, DHMC established the adult Hitchcock Early Response Team (HERT) to react quickly when patients show signs that they might deteriorate to cardiac or respiratory arrest (Code Blue). While adult patients might decline to an arrest over six to eight hours, pediatric patients often deteriorate suddenly and signs of decline can be very subtle, so anticipating a child’s condition becomes critical.

A need for a similar team was identified in CHaD and in December 2006 CHaD developed Pediatric HERT led by Dr. Michele Vander Heyden, Bridget Mudge, RN, MS, and Scott Slogic, RT. The pediatric team includes an experienced pediatric critical care nurse, a respiratory therapist, a critical care provider (resident, nurse practitioner or physician assistant), and the direct care nurse(s).

In addition there are many people behind the scenes who work to ensure that all emergency equipment, emergency drugs and other supplies are available for bedside use.

Initially, nurses and physicians activated Pedi HERT in response to specific concerning conditions (e.g. labored breathing, or extreme agitation). Since parents know their children best and can more readily discern subtle changes, ‘family concern’ has been added to the list of HERT activation criteria and a way for parents to activate the team was recently implemented.

“The Pedi HERT team is designed to improve safety and the quality of care delivered to our patients, and we are pleased with the number of improvements made based on this initiative” according to Dr. Vander Heyden.

Granite State Baseball Dinner

The staff of the New Hampshire Fisher Cats and their catering firm Centerplate, plus a strong squad of community volunteers, led by Steve Cohen of Devine, Millimet & Branch, comprised the winning team who pulled off the event with style and flair of the baseball dinners of old. Held at the New Hampshire Armory in Manchester, over 900 guests were greeted by the smell of popcorn and a visual feast of red, white and blue bunting, balloons and baseball memorabilia while they gathered the autographs of baseball greats like Chris Carpenter, Johnny Pesky, Jim Rice, Pat Hentgen, Rich Gedman and others.

New Hampshire Fisher Cats owner and Chairman of the Fisher Cats Foundation Board Art Solomon said, “We want to thank the New Hampshire baseball community and all of our honored Granite State Baseball Dinner guests for making this donation possible.”

Dr. Paul Merguerian, Interim Director of CHaD notes, “Events like the Granite State Baseball Dinner directly support the kids and families at CHaD, and we want to express our deepest appreciation for the valued partnership between New Hampshire’s baseball team and New Hampshire’s children’s hospital.”

Granite State Baseball Dinner Chair Steven Cohen and DHMC President Nancy Formella flank Don Orsillo, the voice of the Red Sox.
In September, leaders of children’s hospitals from across the country announced the establishment of a new foundation, Together for Kids (togetherforkids.org), with a mission to raise funds nationally to help member hospitals cope with dramatic increases in the healthcare needs of children. CHaD is a founding member of the organization, currently consisting of 53 hospitals that serve children in 47 U.S. communities of all sizes. CHaD’s David Williams is vice chair of the alliance’s Board of Directors.

At a National Press Club media event, honorary co-chairs, retired NFL star Jason Sehorn and his wife, actress Angie Harmon, urged support for the new group. “As parents of two children, Angie and I know that nothing is more important than keeping our kids healthy and safe,” said Sehorn. “As a country, we need to make an investment in the future of our kids.”

Sehorn pointed to troubling statistics that demonstrate the need to focus more resources on children’s health. “Since the 1980s, the percentage of overweight children has jumped from 6 percent to 17 percent, the number of children with asthma has doubled, and the number of uninsured children has risen to more than 11 percent of all kids,” noted Sehorn. “While the needs are increasing, funding for children’s hospitals is declining.”

Together for Kids, will raise funds through national corporate sponsorships and events. Spectrum Brands, makers of Lady Remington products, is ‘Together for Kids’ first national sponsor, and this fall a national ‘Walk Across America’ will encourage individuals to raise funds for children’s hospitals.
The pediatric specialty groups of Urology, Gastroenterology and Nutrition from CHaD in Manchester have joined with the staff from the Mental Health Center of Greater Manchester to create a new clinic for children with urinary and bowel incontinence.

The ACT clinic – Achieving Continence Together – uses a multi-disciplinary approach to address the many issues associated with childhood dysfunctional elimination, which includes day or nighttime wetting, urinary urgency, frequency, recurrent urinary tract infections, constipation and stool soiling. The ACT Clinic team includes physicians and nurse practitioners with specialty training in Gastroenterology and Urology, as well as nutritionists and psychologists who are dedicated to helping children with childhood dysfunctional elimination.

The program is currently offered to patients ages 5 years and older in the Southern New Hampshire region. For more information about the ACT Clinic, please contact (603) 695-2745.

Dr. Marc Hofley and Mary Gheen, CPNP, review an x-ray.

The Clown Fish Exploration Trail is the first of three planned indoor walking trails at DHMC. It was created by an inter-departmental team with participants from CHaD Family Center, DHMC Arts, the Health Improvement Program (HIP) and Public Affairs & Marketing. The idea is to create an indoor trail system that is fun, interactive and even helpful. In addition to providing exercise, trails will showcase DHMC’s extensive art displays, and provide way finding assistance, as families need to navigate among CHaD clinics and services in various locations around DHMC.

The Clown Fish Exploration starts outside of the CHaD Family Center on Level 6 of the Doctor’s Office Building and takes walkers on an exploration – through the eyes of a child – of the entire building. Trail maps can be found in the CHaD Family Center. Be sure to stop by next time you visit!
The region’s near-record snowfall provided excellent conditions for the 9th Annual CHaD Ski & Ride Festival, on March 22, at Dartmouth Skiway in Lyme, NH. More than 120 participants enjoyed a host of activities on the perfectly packed slopes, and there was excitement indoors too, with a raffle and silent auction featuring such prizes as Voikl Skis, a Nitro Snowboard, Private tennis lessons and Bretton Woods ski passes, all generously donated to CHaD.

Tele Atlas North America was the underwriter for the event and also captured the prize for the Largest Team, with 12 orange-clad employees hitting the hill that day. “Underwriting the Ski & Ride Festival provided our employees with an opportunity to organize some fun internal fundraisers that reinforced the importance of teamwork and generosity. We view our involvement as a win for both Tele Atlas and CHaD!” reports Maureen Williams, Tele Atlas Community Manager.


Thanks to our volunteers, sponsors, participants and donors, a total exceeding $94,000 has been raised to support patient and family centered care at CHaD.

Cannon Mountain Ski Day for Kristen’s Gift

Skiers from across New England gathered at Cannon Mountain Skiway in Franconia, NH, for the 6th Annual Kristen’s Gift Ski Day, supporting CHaD’s pediatric oncology fund. This year’s event raised more than $22,000 – much more than the previous year. Leading the fundraising effort again this year was 12-year-old Taylor Cudhea, who singlehandedly raised more than $4,000. To raise pledge money, Taylor went door-to-door with her own custom-made brochure and winning smile, asking shops, businesses and residents to sponsor her cause. The event featured a full day of family skiing on Cannon Mountain’s beautiful slopes, followed by an exciting raffle and live auction, with more than $12,000 in donated prizes. Many of the younger participants took turns on the famous “spinning wheel” provided by Roger Proulx of Nassau Broadcasting, coming away with some fantastic prizes. The corporate underwriter for the event was FairPoint Communications. Other major sponsors were Squam River Landing and the Verizon Wireless Arena.

One of our volunteers was not only wildly impressed with the CHaDasaurus inspired sheet cake, but ready to dig in!

Founders of Kristen’s Gift, John and Patty Xiggoros, thank Taylor Cudhea and all the participants for their support of the fund which is named in memory of their daughter Kristen.
On March 30, the Verizon Wireless Arena in Manchester, NH hosted the ultimate face-off of heroes. From across the state, NH Police and NH Firefighters joined forces to play hockey to benefit the children and programs of CHaD. Inspired by WMUR TV’s Jamie Staton and underwritten Bank of America, the inaugural CHaD Battle of the Badges came to life and raised more than $72,000!

Volunteers from CHaD’s corporate friends Best Buy, Kohl’s and Walmart showed up in force along with others from the community, creating a volunteer team of close to 100 strong to ensure the day ran smoothly. Best Buy stores from Manchester and Portsmouth, NH had a friendly game on ice to determine the better store on skates, and found they were being followed by the law…the Capitol Lawmen and the NH State Troopers. Combined, these four teams raised over $18,000.

At 5 PM the bragging rights were on the line. Merchants Auto put our heroes in uniform, and the players hit the ice. The NH Firefighters owned the title as Highest Fundraisers, and when the final horn blew, the NH Police had won the game. But of course, the biggest winner of the day was the Children’s Hospital at Dartmouth.
Calendrier des événements

Night at the Races
Samedi, 7 Juin
Quechee, VT
En tant que membre de la fin de semaine CHaD, nous nous joignons à vous pour une soirée de dîner et de courses de chevaux électroniques. Vous pouvez également vous inscrire pour l’entraînement ou louer votre propre cheval pour la soirée! Vous pouvez gagner des prix pour les vainqueurs, vous ne pouvez pas perdre et tout cela aide les enfants du CHaD. Pour les réservations, appelez Quechee Club, (802) 295-9536.

Health and Safety Fair
Samedi, 27 Juillet
Colburn Park, Lebanon, NH
CHaD est associé à la radio du Haut Val pour l’événement de samedi à la Park! En plus des glaces de soda, cette activité fun se tiendra à partir de midi jusqu’à 4h. Pour plus d’informations, contactez Tracey Jacobi, (603) 653-3437 ou Tracey.Jacobi@Hitchcock.org.

Governor’s Breakfast at New Hampshire Motor Speedway
Vendredi, 27 Juin
Loudon, NH

2008 Kristen’s Gift Celebrity Golf Tournament
Lundi, 11 Août
Manchester Country Club, Bedford, NH
Joignez-vous aux stars retraitées des Red Sox, Bruins et autres équipes sportives de la région pour un jour d’excitation sur les links l’un des plus prestigieux de la Nouvelle Angleterre. L’événement comprend 18 trous de golf, déjeuner, prix d’arrivée, cocktail, dîner et une auberge fantastique. Pour plus d’informations, contactez Toby Trudel, (603) 629-1862 ou Toby.Trudel@Hitchcock.org.

3rd Annual CHaD Half Marathon
Samedi, 6 Septembre
Hanover, NH
L’événement conserve tous les éléments uniques qui ont rendu un tel succès les années précédentes, y compris, un 3 leg option, le jeudi après-midi qui défi de courir jusqu’au Dartmouth Green avant le coucher du soleil, et barbecue et fête de rue à la fin. Le parcours de 13.1 miles se trouve en douceur à travers les paysages New England des originaux à la fin.

The CHaD Regatta
Dimanche, 21 Septembre
Sunapee, New Hampshire
Row, row, row your boats on the official last day of summer. A rowing regatta, a midday BBQ, community events and day long family fun! Participants and event day volunteers needed. For more information, please contact: Elizabeth Clarke at 603-650-3437 or Elizabeth.Clarke@Hitchcock.org.

The CHaD Seacoast Classic
Vendredi, 10 Octobre
Barrington, NH
Le CHaD Seacoast Classic, le 10 octobre, est au magnifique Nippo Lake Golf Club, Barrington, New Hampshire. Avec un format scramble et départ à 9h00, la participation est de $100. Le petit déjeuner et le café débutent la journée, suivis de 18 trous de golf et d’un dîner, d’une remise des prix et d’une cérémonie. Présidé par le représentant du New Hampshire Dale Sprague, ce tournoi de cette année est dédié à la mémoire du Président Minorité, Mike Whalley. Les possibilités de soutien sont disponibles. Pour plus d’informations, contactez: Toby Trudel à 629-1862 ou Toby.Trudel@Hitchcock.org.