

A commitment to future generations



Hospital breaks ground for Children's Medical Center Legacy

Sixteen children and Bob the Builder helped turn the dirt for the Children's Medical Center Legacy groundbreaking. From left, Lauren Yeatts, 8, GI patient from Carrollton; Olivia Baldwin, 3, infectious diseases patient from North Dallas, with her father, Jeff Baldwin; Kayla Armstrong, 16, cardiac patient from Allen; Peyton Hall, 2, from Plano; Bob the Builder; Connor Cruse, 4, oncology patient from Frisco; Cameron Hall, 7, from Plano; Brendan Kim, 10, cardiac patient from Plano; MacKenzie Patrick, 8, patient from Allen; MacKinlee Waddell, 9, cardiac patient from Celina; and Eric Torres, 16, cardiac patient from McKinney. Not pictured are Noah Dardick, 7, and Jason Dardick, 11, from Plano; Trent Pulliam, 2, hematology patient from Frisco; Anthony Sinicola, 4, from Plano; and Kevin Weir, 7, oncology patient from Plano.

Community and business leaders, donors, board members, patient families, medical/dental staff and employees celebrated the Children's Legacy groundbreaking on Oct. 26 in Plano.

Approximately 350 guests watched as Bob the Builder™ led a group of 16 young friends and former patients from the North Dallas area into the festivities to help officially break ground with Christopher J. Durovich, Children's president and chief executive officer; David Biegler, Children's chairman of the board; and Michael Dardick, chair of the Children's Legacy Campaign Steering Committee.

As the dirt was turned, Durovich asked attendees Bob the Builder's trademark question: "Can we build it?" And the guests responded enthusiastically, "Yes We Can!"

The ceremony also included remarks from Durovich, Biegler and Dardick and a blessing from The Rev. Robert Hasley of St. Andrew United Methodist Church in Plano. Biegler welcomed the audience and captured the importance of the landmark day.

"We are proud and grateful to have the support of the community as work begins to make Children's Legacy not just an idea, not just an artist's rendering, but a world-class pediatric medical center designed with only one focus: to meet the needs of children," he said.

Community support

Dardick announced that to date, the wePromise Campaign for Children's Medical Center Legacy has achieved \$4.8 million of its \$15 million two-year fund-raising goal. The Campaign is led by a highly dedicated team of civic leaders, including honorary steering committee chairs Dr. Betty Bell Muns and James Muns and committee chair Michael Dardick.

"Like many of you, I live in this community, I am raising my family in this community and I run a business in this community," Dardick said. "All of us on the steering committee have come together to rally support among our peers in the



From left, David Biegler, Children's chairman of the board; Christopher J. Durovich, president and chief executive officer of Children's; and Michael Dardick, chair of the Children's Medical Center Legacy Campaign Steering Committee, at the Oct. 26 groundbreaking.

“The commitment and promise we mark today, with the symbolic beginning of Children's Legacy, is to partner with this community to provide excellence in pediatric healthcare for present and future generations of children.”

—Christopher J. Durovich,
Children's president and
chief executive officer

community because we recognize the importance of specialized, academic pediatric healthcare — and we already are putting our time, funds and advocacy behind this important initiative. Building a world-class children's hospital in our community is a commitment to our children and their future, and nothing is more important than that.”

Prominent financial supporters of the Campaign include noted community leaders:

- Patricia and Jerry Abbott, retired, working as a consultant for Abbott Label Co.
- The M.B. Rudman Family.
- Abby and Todd Williams, managing director, Goldman Sachs.

Excellence in pediatric care

Children's Legacy is scheduled to open in 2008. The 72-bed hospital will include an urgent/emergency care center, four operating rooms, full-service laboratory and comprehensive radiologic services.

“While the construction facts are interesting, they fail to capture the essence of why this hospital will make a difference in the lives of so many children and families in this region and far beyond,” Durovich said. “The commitment and promise we mark today, with the symbolic beginning of Children's Legacy, is to partner with this community to provide excellence in pediatric healthcare for present and future generations of children. Thank you for co-signing this sacred trust with Children's Legacy, with your children and with the children of generations to come.”

Children's Legacy primarily will serve patients from Collin, Cooke, Denton, Fannin and Grayson counties. These counties have some of the

fastest growing pediatric populations in the nation, increasing at a rate of more than 20 percent in the next four years, to more than 600,000 children. In 2004, children from this area visited Children's more than 31,000 times for care, for diagnoses ranging from chronic ear infections and asthma to heart disease and leukemia.

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When other treatments failed, Children's had access to a new antibiotic to cure 2-year-old's infection

Olivia Baldwin was 2 years old when she came down with a strange infection and developed a high fever and swelling near one eye. The family pediatrician spent several weeks unable to diagnose what was wrong. In more than 20 years of practice, he had never seen this type of infection.

It was hard for her family to see her sick, and harder still not to know what was wrong or how to care for her. Five years younger than her closest sibling, Olivia is the little sister to three older brothers. Her family loves, dotes-on and treasures her in a very special way.

When the symptoms worsened over a weekend, Olivia was admitted to the emergency room of a North Dallas hospital where she was treated for almost a week. When blood tests and symptomatic diagnoses were inconclusive, doctors cultured the boil on her eye and determined that Olivia had contracted a rare, soil-borne



Olivia Baldwin, 3, an Infectious Diseases patient at Children's, turns the dirt at the Children's Medical Center Legacy groundbreaking.

bacteria called nocardia. The infection usually is caught when people with weak immune systems come in contact with dirt containing the bacteria.

The infection was fairly contained in her head, but doctors told the family that if the bacterial infection was allowed to spread, Olivia would have only a 50-50 chance to live. The odds grew worse when Olivia had an allergic reaction to the antibiotics usually effective against nocardia.

"Our doctor told us that there was nothing more he knew to do and that our only hope was to go to Children's," said Jeff Baldwin, Olivia's dad.

Through a friend who is employed at Children's, the family contacted Dr. Octavio Ramilo, an Infectious Diseases specialist and the medical director for clinical research at Children's.

"Dr. Ramilo heard that our little girl had nocardia and called us back immediately," said Sandy Baldwin, Olivia's mom. "He helped us get into the hospital early the next day and cleared everything from his schedule to see her. He clearly is in this business to help children."

Dr. Ramilo confirmed the nocardia diagnosis and presented the Baldwins with a new option for treatment.

"The Children's medical staff, because of their expertise in treating complex infections, recommended a new drug for nocardia," Baldwin said. "Dr. Ramilo offered us the chance to try it. Lo and behold, it worked. After a few weeks of treatment, Olivia has been free and clear ever since."

Even after contracting the soil-borne nocardia bacteria, Olivia is not scared to play in the dirt. On Oct. 26, she was one of 16 children who helped turn the soil for the groundbreaking of Children's Medical Center Legacy. When it opens in early 2008, the new hospital, located in Plano, will be close to the Baldwins' home.

"As a family with four kids, ages 3 to 13, it is especially comforting to know that the unparalleled care and expertise of Children's will soon be closer to home," Baldwin said. "Children's and Dr. Ramilo came through for our little girl. We are eternally grateful."

Ambulatory center to begin serving patients, referring physicians in spring 2006

The Children's Medical Center Ambulatory Care Center in Legacy is an 8,000-square-foot-facility scheduled to be completed in spring 2006. The Center is located at 7800 Preston Road, at the southeast corner of Preston and Hedgcoxe roads, across the street from where Children's Legacy will stand.

The Center will address the needs of the area's referring doctors and families, who deserve unsurpassed ambulatory care services in a convenient location close to their homes and practices. In 2004, children from the counties north of Dallas visited Children's 31,000 times, 10 percent of the total visits to the hospital.

The Children's Specialty Center of Plano will continue to offer Ear, Nose



Three men who have held the role of president and chief executive officer of Children's stand together, representing a legacy of leadership, compassion and vision that have guided Children's for more than half a century. James Farnsworth, center, 1954-1985; George Farr, left, 1985-2003; and Christopher J. Durovich, 2003-present.



and Throat and Audiology services. Gastroenterology, Endocrinology, Urology and Clinical Nutrition will move to the new Center. Additional ambulatory services that will be available at the new Center are:

- Cardiology
- Laboratory services
- Occupational therapy
- Physical therapy
- Plastic hand surgery
- Plastic surgery
- Radiology
- Speech therapy

The facility also will include a Family Resource Center, which will offer preventative care information and literature on diagnoses to provide parents with up-to-date, credible pediatric care information.

Story Tree symbol of healing environment

The acreage that will provide the setting for Children's Medical Center Legacy has long been a source of beauty, serenity and family heritage. Preserving the integrity of the land to provide an environment of healing and tranquility for patient families is an utmost priority, and is a way to honor the history — the legacy — of this special place.

In 1918, the newly married Clint and Quincy Haggard planted a small oak tree on their rural farmland. In the years to come, children were born. As the family grew, the oak began

Connor Cruse, 4, of Frisco, was among the children who participated in the Children's Medical Center Legacy groundbreaking. Connor is undergoing treatment at Children's for neuroblastoma, a childhood cancer that begins in the nerve tissues.



Virginia and Dr. Scott Haggard, far left and right, stand with their daughter Quinn Haggard beneath the oak tree known as the "Story Tree" planted in 1918 by Dr. Haggard's parents.

to spread its canopy, with strong limbs for climbing and expansive shade for protection from the summer heat. The tree became a symbol of the family's heritage, and beneath its branches was a special place that promised serenity, comfort and sharing for their children. They called it the Story Tree.

The landscape has changed around the Haggard farm during the past 87 years. But the tree remains. Soon it will once again be the focal point of a special place for children. And just as the tree grew from seed to maturity and nurtured the Haggard family, so Children's Legacy will grow and nurture the seeds of the future — our children.

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