

## 25 Years of Miracles

Since Children's Miracle Network's founding in 1983, children's hospitals have come a long way. Children's hospitals have found new cures, unlocked the mysteries of certain illnesses, and developed a host of life-saving treatments. Here are just a few amazing miracles that have happened at Children's Miracle Network hospitals.

- Children's Hospital Boston doctors completed the first successful fetal heart surgery in United States history.
- Children's Healthcare of Atlanta performed liver transplants on the youngest and smallest recipients in the world: The youngest patient was 10 days old and the smallest patient weighed 2 pounds.
- The radiology team at Arkansas Children's Hospital discovered and now teaches a method of screening sickle-cell patients for risk of stroke. Stroke is one of the worst side effects of the disease but the risk of strokes can be lessened by blood transfusion if at-risk patients can be identified.
- Children's Hospital of Orange County conducted the nation's first balloon dilation of a cardiac lesion, now a routine cardiac procedure. Balloon dilation is the inflation and deflation of a balloon catheter inside an artery, triggering a healing response.
- A patient at Children's Hospital of Western Ontario in London, Can., became the world's youngest recipient of a multi-organ transplant, receiving a stomach, bowel, pancreas and liver transplant in August of 1997.
- Scientists at Children's National Medical Center in Washington, D.C., demonstrated that a specific protein and its signaling activity are instrumental in the creation and repair of the brain's white matter. This groundbreaking discovery points the way to developing treatments or interventions to enhance healthy brain development and brain disease repair.
- New respiratory therapy developed at Shands Children's Hospital at the University of Florida has increased the survival rate for newborns with diaphragmatic hernia from 50-60 percent to 92 percent.

