PARTNERS in Hope and Discovery

Where the power of childhood meets the power of research

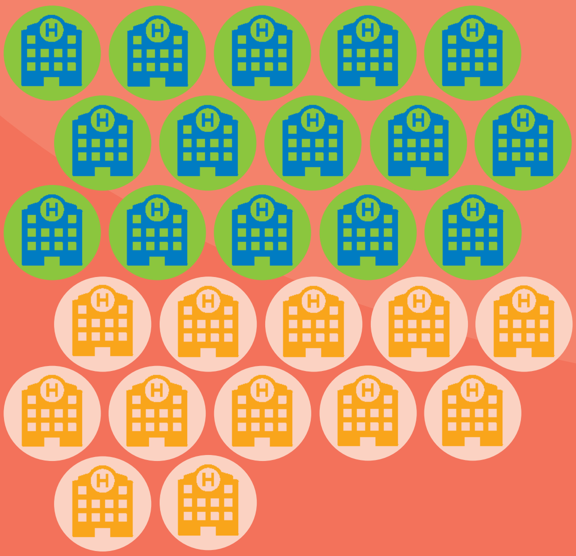
2016 ANNUAL REPORT

The Children's Inn at NIH

WHERE BREAKTHROUGHS HAPPEN

Inn residents participated in **283 CLINICAL TRIALS** at the NIH in FY16

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) is the world's premier biomedical research institution—and the breakthroughs that happen here are the first steps toward eradicating diseases, easing pain, and making better lives possible. None of these medical advances would be possible without the people who drive them: children, families and caregivers, clinicians and staff—the community The Children's Inn brings together. The Inn provides relief, support, and strength to these pioneers whose participation in medical trials at the NIH can change the story for children around the world.



Inn residents are a part of pediatric protocols in

15 of the 27

INSTITUTES and CENTERS at the NIH

On the cover: Inn resident Reem, age 7 from Egypt, with her NIH physician, Dr. Neal Young. She is being treated for aplastic anemia at the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute.

OUR VISION

As partners in discovery and care, we strive for the day when no family endures the heartbreak of a seriously ill child.

Letter from the Chair of the Board and Chief Executive Officer

The Inn's Board of Directors had an eventful year. We have worked diligently to restructure and prepare The Inn for the future, and recently welcomed some talented new members to our roster.

This transition marks a bittersweet moment for The Inn, as we face the departure of some of our incredibly dedicated original board members. These board members, many of whom have been with us since our doors opened, have provided immeasurable vision and resources, and we are grateful for their exceptional passion and devotion to The Inn over the years. They've shepherded The Inn from a cozy 36-bed "place like home" to a greatly expanded, yet still welcoming, 59-room facility that now includes The Woodmont House. Along the way, they have helped The Inn support thousands of children and their families while empowering the NIH's research mission.

As The Inn evolves to meet the emerging needs of the children and families seeking hope at the NIH, our board has ensured it remains a place of unparalleled respite and encouragement, and I am grateful for their outstanding efforts.

Kelvin K. Womack

Kelvin K. Womack
Chair, Board of Directors

We are so grateful to you: our donors, volunteers, and friends, who help The Children's Inn make a profound impact on the lives of the NIH's youngest patients. The children who walk through our doors face unimaginable challenges and have already lived through more than most. Your support gives them the chance to play, to laugh, to be themselves, and just be kids.

Every part of The Inn reflects our heartfelt mission to support children and families in difficult times. Programs like our family dinners and summer-long Camp INNcredible bring families together, providing welcome respite from daily stresses. Our public spaces like our Teen/Young Adult Lounge, Exercise Studio, and Breakfast Bistro—each completely renovated in FY16—are thoughtfully designed to meet a family's every need. Half of our residents suffer from a rare disease and a third are battling cancer. At home, these children often feel "different," but at The Inn, this uncommon community finds common ground.

Supporters like you help give families the hope NIH offers, as they advance medical breakthroughs. We are truly appreciative of your generosity.

Jennie Lucca

Jennie Lucca
Chief Executive Officer

WHERE RELIEF IS POSSIBLE

1,572 FAMILIES stayed at THE INN in FY16

When a child is suffering, their entire support system feels it too. That's why The Inn offers services, activities and programs not just for patients, but also for parents, siblings and caregivers. We take care of the little things so families can stay focused on the big ones: keeping their sick child happy, making time for themselves, and supporting one another. In Fiscal Year 2016, The Inn celebrated many accomplishments that will positively impact the lives of residents including: renovating the Exercise Studio, Teen Lounge and Bistro and launching the INNrichment Fund-providing residents with scholarships for educational or therapeutic opportunities. We also received the Washington Business Journal's "Best Places to Work" award.

THE INN PROVIDED—

$4,912,000 HOUSING + **$2,851,000 FAMILY SUPPORT** = **FREE LODGING SUPPORT HEALING FOR RESIDENTS**

OUR MISSION

The Children's Inn will fully and consistently meet the needs of children and families participating in groundbreaking research at the National Institutes of Health.

We will:

- Respond to evolving family support needs for pediatric research and clinical care
- Provide a free, family-centered "Place Like Home"
- Reduce the burden of illness through therapeutic, educational, and recreational programming

In FY16: (above left) Zilly, The Inn's therapy dog, became certified. Three of our communal spaces underwent major renovations: (above right) the Exercise Studio, thanks to a grant from The Philip L. Graham Fund, (left middle) the Teen Lounge, thanks to a grant from the Neall Family Charitable Foundation and (lower left) the Bistro, thanks to a gift from Thomas and Kathleen Fingleton.

WHERE CHILDHOOD THRIVES

We make childhood possible for children who've already lived through more than most, and who don't have many chances to just play. To laugh. To be themselves. To be kids. Childhood is about learning, growing and having fun, so our programs run the gamut. The children that walk through our doors face unimaginable challenges—but through it all, they're still kids. That's why we work to make every memory here at The Inn a great one.

MORE THAN **12K** families have stayed since **1990**

1,300+ **RECREATIONAL, THERAPEUTIC, EDUCATIONAL and SPIRITUAL ACTIVITIES offered at The Inn that help reduce the burden of illness.**

Hayden Corrie

5 Years Old
National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (NIAMS)

“Maybe the NIH can help!”

Hayden and his mother, Shawna

Hayden Corrie loves watching football (well, actually, the cheerleaders), eating boiled peanuts, and seeing the South Carolina Stingrays play hockey. He’s an adorable, funny child—“the family comic,” according to his mother Shawna—and he has quite the dance groove: Gangnam Style, in particular.

Meeting 5-year-old Hayden, though, you’d never know he is one of only two people worldwide to have a disease that is so rare it doesn’t have a name. His condition results from a mutated, or misspelled, gene, “LYN,” which is supposed to police the activity of Hayden’s immune cells. Instead, that policing is out of whack and his body constantly attacks itself. The result is ongoing inflammation, frequent infections, skin issues, and chronic liver disease. He’s often very tired yet he doesn’t let it show.

Hayden has been this way since birth. As with many rare conditions, a series of misdiagnoses made the search for answers tough. Cytomegalovirus infection? A penicillin allergy? The family received these and many other guesses from doctors who desperately wanted to help but had no idea what was going on.

Then Hayden’s great-uncle saw a special on TV’s *60 Minutes* about the NIH’s Undiagnosed Diseases Program. Maybe, Shawna thought, the NIH could help. Although that particular program was not a fit for Hayden, a visit to the NIH led to answers. “We evaluated Hayden in the NIH autoinflammatory disease clinic where we use a personalized plan to diagnose and treat children with early-onset inflammatory conditions,” says Dr. Raphaela Goldbach-Mansky, who oversees Hayden’s care.

Her team did tests and collected blood and tissue samples. They did the same for his two older brothers and parents—all healthy. The goal: to find gene differences that could give clues to help “solve” Hayden’s mysterious condition. After an agonizing year of searching, the scientists found what they were looking for – a misspelled LYN gene not present in his parents or healthy siblings.

As it turns out, an experimental drug blocking LYN function was already being tried to treat leukemia patients. In collaboration with NIH oncology doctors, Hayden was started on the twice-daily pill. The results have been mixed, providing relief for a time and leading to reversal of his liver condition, but Hayden’s doctors are considering other options for the long term, including a bone marrow or stem cell transplant. Both of his brothers are perfect matches for a transplant.

“I don’t know what we’d do without it,” says Shawna of The Children’s Inn, where they stay during medical treatments. “The Inn staff and volunteers really make it the special place it is,” she says, adding that Hayden cannot contain his excitement when it’s time to come back to The Inn. “How many more ‘sleeps’ before we go?” he asks his mom, with happy anticipation.

No child enjoys medical pokes and prods and passing the time in hospital hallways for hours on end, but Hayden’s NIH medical family finds many ways to ease his anxiety and pain, and, as mom describes, “for him to be the best version of himself.” “Monsignor Lollipop,” who magically extracts sweet treats from his ear, greets Hayden after painful blood draws. In the Clinical Center playroom, Hayden re-connects with his guinea pig friends who he got to name himself: Swirl and Twirl.

At The Inn, Hayden adores frolicking with Zilly, the therapy dog, playing Bingo, and singing silly songs with Chaplain Mike on Tuesdays. According to Shawna, these fun and calming distractions pad the long, hard days and help to lessen uncertainty about Hayden’s future. “We are so grateful for The Children’s Inn and Hayden’s NIH team: He loves each and every person there.”

Gabriel DeYoung

11 Years Old
National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID)

“His health condition doesn’t define him.”

Gabriel and his mother, Emily

Every summer since 2010, Gabriel DeYoung has traveled from suburban Dallas to the largest medical research hospital in the world: the NIH Clinical Center. Gabriel, 11, has a very rare condition–autosomal dominant Hyper-IgE Syndrome (AD-HIES) and is participating in a research study to understand the disease. It makes him vulnerable to infections, gives him chronic eczema, and causes him to have bone, teeth and joint problems.

Because the immune system is central to body function, when it is not working well, any organ in the body can be affected. On his week-long visits to the NIH, Gabriel is seen by many different doctors: neurologists, orthopedists, dentists, endocrinologists, dermatologists, pulmonologists, and others. It can be exhausting, but thankfully, he and his mother find a peaceful refuge at The Children’s Inn.

“We are so grateful for The Inn,” says Gabriel’s mom, Emily. “They go out of their way not just to get you what you need, but to provide all the little things that make us comfortable.”

For Gabriel, that means escaping with video games and playing with Zilly, The Inn’s therapy dog, who lessens Gabriel’s loneliness from being away from his family and their two dogs, Molly and Max. It meant a special “Christmas in July” when a Montgomery County police motorcade with Santa at the lead took Inn kids to purchase toys.

For Emily, that means not worrying abut transportation, lodging or food. “People come in and cook for us; it’s just wonderful,” she says.

For the NIH, having research participants, like Gabriel, nearby and well cared-for, provides an unparalleled opportunity to learn how to treat and cure rare diseases such as AD-HIES.

Gabriel has known no other way of life than one that involves taking daily antibiotic and anti-fungal pills, getting weekly infusions of the immune-booster IgG, and rubbing his skin with steroid creams and anti-itch medicines. Since he was a toddler, he has broken more than 20 bones, mostly in his legs. He was first diagnosed in early childhood, after nearly four years of unexplained, recurrent symptoms, doctor visits, and numerous tests. A local infectious disease specialist was the first to name Gabriel’s disorder, which ultimately led him to the NIH where physician-scientist Dr. Alexandra Freeman is working to understand and treat it and other immune-deficiency syndromes.

By following Gabriel and 100 other people with AD-HIES over time, she has learned much about the condition, including its common features like scoliosis and tooth abnormalities.

Gabriel and his mom are enthusiastic to be contributing to knowledge about AD-HIES, and they also enjoy a close relationship with Dr. Freeman. “If a breakthrough happens, we will be the first to know,” says Emily.

Dr. Freeman also coordinates Gabriel’s care with his local doctors in Texas, giving her the opportunity to have a dual role as physician-scientist and small-town family practice doctor, which she cherishes. “The NIH is a special place in that we get to know our patients so well,” says Dr. Freeman. In young Gabriel, she sees strong resolve and bravery. “He is a super-tough kid who has never complained despite plenty of medical problems and hospitalizations throughout his life.”

“While Gabriel has an unusual annual summer vacation, he mostly concentrates on the things that interest many 11-year-old boys: baseball, video games and playing the drums. Gabriel just keeps going,” Emily says. “He doesn’t let his health condition define him.”

Hannah Sames

12 Years Old
National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS)

“We decided to FIGHT.”

Hannah and her mother, Lori

“There’s something wrong with Hannah,” said Lori Sames, in 2007, about her 3-year-old daughter. As a mother of two older children, Lori knew that Hannah’s trouble with walking and balance weren’t just normal growing pains, despite having been told this by a podiatrist and an orthopedist.

It would take nearly a year to get an answer: after many tests, a pediatric neurologist diagnosed Hannah with gigantic axonal neuropathy, or GAN. An extremely rare neurodegenerative condition caused by an error in the gigaxonin gene, GAN affects the ability of nerves to tell muscles what to do. As a result, Hannah’s physical abilities are severely limited.

When Lori and her husband Matt first learned this devastating news, they saw only one option, “We decided to fight.” They learned all they could about GAN, and within months set up a nonprofit organization called Hannah’s Hope Fund (HHF). The NIH Office of Rare Disease suggested that a good first step would be to convene scientists working on GAN and its causes.

The August 2008 HHF-sponsored symposium gathered 20 experts in Boston for the first-ever GAN symposium—the goal of which was to prioritize therapeutic approaches.

“They told me that to achieve something that could help Hannah in her lifetime, gene therapy was the way forward,” Lori says. Hannah is now 12, and help is on the way. In November 2015, the first-ever GAN gene-therapy clinical trial began (HHF paid for all the pre-trial research needed to get the clinical trial going).

In July 2016, Hannah received this experimental therapy that delivers—in a single injection—120 trillion viral particles carrying a fully functional gigaxonin gene into her brain and spinal cord nerve cells. The replacement gene begins making the gigaxonin she lacks and should have biological activity in 2 weeks. Hannah’s research team at the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke will continue to monitor effects and look for improvements in symptoms.

“I’m really excited to see what happens,” Hannah says. Although GAN makes it a bit difficult to speak, fortunately it has no effect on thinking and emotion, and she is filled with hope. She is working very hard to regain function in her legs. “Hannah’s team is amazing. The work going on here at NIH is incredible,” says Lori.

While at the NIH, Hannah and her family stay at The Children’s Inn. Packed days of medical tests are offset by afternoon visits to The Inn’s Camp INNcredible, one of Hannah’s favorite activities. Her mom enjoys the on-site masseuse for relaxation after many taxing hours of helping Hannah.

Aside from her parents’ amazing dedication, Hannah has extraordinary resolve and lots of support from her two older sisters: Reagan, 15 and Madison, 17. In addition to assisting with Hannah’s health needs, they also help Hannah “just be a kid.” Hannah plays the role of youngest child very well, they explain, describing her fondly as “sassy.”

“Team Hannah” also consists of the two family dogs, Jake and Elmer, who according to her sisters, love Hannah the best and sleep with her every night at their home in Rexford, New York. While at the NIH Clinical Center, Hannah loves playing with visiting therapy dogs as well as The Inn’s permanent resident canine, Zilly.

Hannah, her parents, and sisters call The Inn “home” without pause, and they find unmatched support and caring from other children facing GAN and many other conditions that bring them to the NIH.

Melissa De Araujo Vieira

15 Years Old
National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI)

“I will NOT die of this!”

Melissa with her mother, Noemia, and father, Mauro

“You shouldn’t be alive,” the emergency room doctor told Melissa de Araujo Vieira, after evaluating her for what seemed to be minor vision problems. Yet, just a few days shy of her 13th birthday in 2013, Melissa and her parents Mauro and Noemia, learned that the otherwise healthy pre-teen had alarmingly low numbers of the blood cells she needed to stay alive. The doctors didn’t know exactly what was wrong with her, but they had a few guesses, all of which were terrible.

Cancer, AIDS, and other fatal conditions… “I cried,” said Melissa, who along with her parents, was terrified but resolute about what to do next. “I will not die of this,” Melissa declared.

She spent the next three months in the hospital in São Paulo, Brazil, their hometown. Considered extremely vulnerable to outside germs, Melissa could not leave her room, making her feel imprisoned. She required transfusions every two weeks to restore her blood count.

After too many tests to count, they got an answer—severe aplastic anemia—from a doctor living in Brazil who was part of an NIH team that developed a treatment for disorders like Melissa’s that deplete blood cells. “I’m sure the NIH can do something for you,” the doctor told Mauro, and in March 2015, the three traveled to the NIH so Melissa could participate in a clinical trial aiming to boost her bone marrow growth.

Upon arriving in Bethesda, Melissa and her parents checked into The Children’s Inn, their “Place Like Home” where the family could share conversations and meals with other families going through similar situations. “At The Inn, you don’t even feel sick,” Melissa said. The family stayed at The Inn for several months but she finds plenty to do. In addition to field trips to the National Zoo and the Baltimore Aquarium, Melissa does homework sent from Brazil and devours Harry Potter books.

When Melissa began the trial, her NIH doctors explained that the experimental treatment might not work, in which case they might need to go to a more risky “plan B.” After a year with no success (Melissa still required biweekly transfusions) she was offered a new experimental option: a bone marrow transplant aiming to swap out Melissa’s weak bone marrow with new cells from healthy donors who were only a partial tissue match. Those cells came from her father and from a donated umbilical cord unit taken from an unknown infant girl’s placenta after delivery.

After receiving the injected cells, a few weeks was all it took. “You’re healed!” Dr. Richard Childs, the NIH research scientist conducting the study told Melissa. Nearly six months later, she still hasn’t needed any transfusions. Melissa’s doctors say she has to stay at The Inn a little while longer before she can go back to Brazil. She will need to come back to the NIH periodically after that to check on progress. As Melissa laments, it seems that those trips always coincide with celebrity visits to Brazil. “I missed Adele! Michael Phelps! Usain Bolt!”

While away from home, Melissa misses her beloved grandmother the most. Although her memory is weak as she struggles with Alzheimer’s, her grandmother never has any trouble remembering Melissa. They interact on social media and talk by phone frequently, thanks to an international call line provided by The Inn.

Now healthy, Melissa has a list of all the things she wants to do. Her long-term goal is medical research. “I’ve been in the eye of the hurricane dealing with [my disease],” she says. “I see what’s missing. I have ideas. I think I can help.”

WHERE ONE GIFT CAN TOUCH THE WORLD

2,300^{+} VOLUNTEERS

232 with set schedules, who worked 21K hours, equating to 10 full-time employees

A gift to The Inn sets change in motion. It can provide the meal that starts an unforgettable friendship or inspire a program with the power to ease minds and lift hearts at the end of a tough day. It can give a child a home while she participates in the trial that could save her life. None of our work could happen without the generosity of each and every supporter. The Inn is a testament to the power of many people working toward one common goal: helping make childhood possible today—and a cure possible tomorrow.

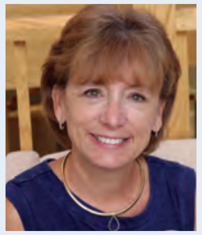
FAMILIES HAVE COME TO THE INN FROM —

50 STATES

94 COUNTRIES

— to help advance medical discoveries around the world.

VOLUNTEER PROFILES



Terry Smith The Children's Inn is home to many families from around the world, and it's Welcome Desk Volunteer Terry Smith who greets them every Thursday morning with a smile and warm welcome. Terry knows first hand how difficult it can be to have a family member diagnosed with a life-threatening illness. She spent many days and nights at the NIH Clinical Center by the side of her high school sweetheart and husband of 28 years, Mark, as he underwent medical treatment. They would spend many hours together in waiting rooms chatting with other patients and families. The positive attitudes and courage of the children had a tremendous impact on both of them and they knew from that day forward, they wanted to support The Inn.

Terry vowed that when she retired from her work as an NIH Budget Officer with the National Center for Research Resources, she would give back to the NIH because it meant so much to the two of them. In honor of her late husband's giving spirit, Terry joined The Inn's Volunteer Team, first as a Greeter and later as a Welcome Desk Volunteer. "I enjoy doing my small part to make the residents' stay at The Inn positive and as pleasant as possible," Terry says.

To the staff and families, Terry is also known as The Inn's Thursday Baker. Every week, Terry puts her love of baking to wonderful use. She brings fresh baked desserts, typically cookies and brownies, for our residents to grab on the run. She often writes little notes to describe the ingredients and provides recipes upon request. Families look forward to her yummy dessert displays every week.

"We all need help from others at some time during our lives. I've been on the receiving end and at The Inn I get to know how good it feels to be on the giving end," says Terry. "Volunteering at The Inn puts life into perspective—what is really important and what really matters—it is right in front of you."

Terry's dedication and commitment to helping others is evident by her lovely personality and thoughtful acts of kindness. "I enjoy getting to know the kids and their families. If I can make their lives just a little easier or help put a smile on their faces, if for only a moment, my day is made."

Sima Zadeh Bedoya, PhD is a perfect example of following your passion. From an early age, she felt a calling to help others, a feeling that was nurtured by her father, a New Orleans nephrologist. This feeling followed her throughout her life, and after receiving her doctorate in clinical psychology, the stage was set for her path to cross with The Children's Inn.

After landing a job as a pediatric psychologist at the National Cancer Institute, she watched her patients go back and forth between the NIH Clinical Center and The Inn. She had heard wonderful stories about the fun activities and bright community spaces at The Inn and became curious about what we had to offer. So she started volunteering. During the holidays, she would help wrap presents and serve family dinners, bringing many smiles to so many children. She discovered The Inn was a special place and she wanted to do more.

Three years ago, she joined the Young Ambassadors Council (YAC), where she has coordinated volunteer activities and led her own YAC family dinners. Her favorite part about being involved with the YAC is the opportunity to have a different avenue to help her patients. "It allows me to recognize the value and importance of what we do at the Clinical Center and how what happens here at The Inn is equally important for these families," she says. While she often sees patients stressed in a hospital setting, at The Inn, she is able to see them in an atmosphere that's more like home.

Sima is now embarking on a new role at The Inn as the YAC's incoming president, where she will continue to give her time and talents to help families. The Children's Inn is a partner in hope with our families and it is people just like Sima who make that possible.

DONOR PROFILES

ProShares is one of the financial industry's leading exchange traded fund (ETF) and mutual fund companies, staffed with talented and generous professionals. As a Bethesda neighbor, they are a compassionate member of the community that has built a strong partnership with The Children's Inn at NIH.

Since 2010, ProShares and its employees have generously given The Inn over $150,000 in cash and in-kind donations that provide comfort to our families during their stay. The magic happens at their annual Casino Night, an employee event where you might find Michael Sapir, CEO and Co-Founder of ProShares, hitting the tables. "The Children's Inn is a remarkable place," says Michael. "Everyone at The Inn—its staff, volunteers and board—are invaluable caregivers to families whose children are seriously ill. It is a privilege to partner with such special people to help reduce the burdens of illness for these amazing families."

This year, the ProShares Casino Night was another huge success with nearly 100 employees in attendance to benefit The Inn. In addition to table games, the event featured a raffle with exciting prizes. But the most touching activity of the evening was one that happens every year—as employees arrive, they are invited to create gifts for The Inn's Thoughtful Treasures mailbox program. With the waving of a few wands, ProShares employees assembled enough bags full of magic tricks to fill each child's mailbox at The Inn!

With ProShares standing strong with the children and families of The Inn, there is no limit to what our partnership can accomplish. "The employees at ProShares share similar values to everyone who works at The Inn," says Michael, "and as a partner in giving, we look forward to many years of helping to create 'A Place Like Home' for every family who stays at The Inn."

Tom and Kathleen Fingleton first visited The Inn in 1991 to help celebrate The Inn's first anniversary. At the time, Tom was chairman of Hecht's department store, which had made a donation to support the construction of the original facility. From their first visit 25 years ago, to their more recent tour last fall, the Fingletons could see the exceptional courage shown by the children and families who stay at The Inn.

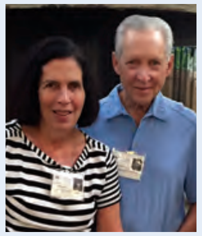
"It was clear from the minute we walked through the doors just how incredible and determined the families are," Tom says. "We were immediately struck by how hard it must be for these families to be away from home when caring for a sick child."

Tom's and Kathleen's most recent and generous gift of $50,000 supported the renovation of The Inn's Bistro—a community space used daily by families to eat a quick breakfast before appointments or to gather in the evenings for ice cream or to watch TV. The Fingleton's gift enabled The Inn to refurbish the entire Bistro, adding new furniture, flooring, wall units, window treatments and more.

Blessed with three daughters and four grandchildren, the Fingletons understand the importance of families staying together while caring for a sick child. "The support the families receive at The Inn is wonderful, so we wanted to make a donation to help in a very direct way," says Kathleen.

"Tom's and Kathleen's gift is amazing on many levels, but first and foremost, it will directly benefit our families who love to gather in the Bistro every day to eat, talk and support one another. We are so grateful for the Fingleton's generosity and support of our families," says Jennie Lucca, Inn CEO.

Tom and Kathleen split their time between their permanent home in Chevy Chase, MD and their vacation home in Colorado. Tom retired in 2006 after more than 30 years with Hecht's and May Department Stores. The Children's Inn at NIH is deeply grateful to the Fingletons for their meaningful support over the years.



Tom and Mimi Nordlinger have been active residents of the Washington area for more than 40 years. It wasn't until 2012 when they made a donation in memory of a dear friend, a long-time Children's Inn at NIH supporter, when they came to know our work and, as annual donors, formed a partnership that would impact our families in a very meaningful way.

As they began to receive our newsletters, they stayed up-to-date on the latest happenings at The Inn. It was in one of these publications that we announced the decision to retire our aging therapy dog, Vi. The Nordlingers understood what a loss this would be to children at The Inn. A therapy dog is more than just a furry friend. She helps decrease stress and improve moods, something that is much needed after a long day of medical tests. She also provides comfort when families are missing their own pets.

It took one conversation for the Nordlingers to set in motion the chain of events that brought us Zilly, The Inn's current beloved therapy dog. Zilly is a two-year-old Labradoodle. Out of the kindness of their hearts, they offered to sponsor Zilly and the program. "I know The Inn was so happy to keep their therapy dog program and my wife and I were just as happy to help support it," says Tom. Because of their generosity, along with another generous grant, our families enjoy a cuddly companion who always shows affection and gives support during the toughest of times.

The Nordlingers met Zilly this year during an August visit and summed up the experience perfectly: "There are many things you can support, but when you see first-hand the benefits of your donation, it really leaves an impact."

The Inn (especially Zilly) thanks the Nordlingers for their special support.

Renuka Misra, PhD known as "Renu" to her friends, was first introduced to The Children's Inn in the early 1990's by Gil Brown, the Executive Director at the time. He asked Dr. Misra, who is originally from India, to help with programming for the international families who stayed at The Inn. From her first "Indian Night" for Inn families to her most recent fundraising drive to help meet the Merck Matching Gift Challenge, Dr. Misra has shared her special love for The Inn with all those who know her.

"The Children's Inn is a beautiful and unique concept," says Dr. Misra. "All the affection, hugs and support that the children receive at The Inn are just as important as the medicine they receive."

In addition to her annual support, Dr. Misra is also a member of *The Innkeeper's Society*, a group of donors who have made gift commitments to The Inn through their estate plans. "I worked with my financial advisor and this is a meaningful way for me to help ensure that The Inn will always be there for the children who need it," she says.

A native of Lucknow, India, Dr. Misra came to the United States as a young scientist on a Fulbright Scholarship. She later moved to Toronto, Canada, where she held a faculty position at the University of Toronto until 1982, when she was invited to the National Cancer Institute's Frederick Cancer Research Facility (NCI-FCRF), where she worked on a project that led to the discovery of a new class of anticancer agents including "Fredericamycin," named after the city of Frederick.

Dr. Misra has been professionally affiliated with the NIH for more than two decades in various positions at several institutes including the National Institute on Aging (NIA), the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI), as well as the NCI-FCRF. She is internationally recognized for her research and drug development using natural medicinal plants, identifying biologically active molecules for the treatment of cancer, HIV/AIDS, Alzheimer's disease and cardiovascular disease. Dr. Misra has received numerous honors and awards for her research, as well as for her extensive volunteer work in the community.

We are deeply grateful to Dr. Misra for her unwavering support of The Inn's mission.

WHERE ONE GIFT CAN TOUCH THE WORLD

DONORS FY 2016

The Children's Inn at NIH is deeply grateful to the generous donors who gave gifts of cash and pledges between July 1, 2015 and June 30, 2016. The following list recognizes cash gifts of $250 or more, as well as the Innkeepers Society and our Northern Star supporters. Corporate and foundation donors are listed first, followed by our individual and estate donors. The Inn also appreciates the many in-kind gifts and services that we receive throughout the year.

CORPORATIONS & FOUNDATIONS

PLATINUM STARS ($1,000,000 +)

Merck Foundation

STARS ($100,000 – $999,999)

Leidos, Inc.
MedImmune, LLC
Rock and Roll for Children Foundation
Sanofi Foundation for North America

SUSTAINERS ($25,000 – $99,999)

Anonymous (2)
Amazon Web Services
The Andre Sobel River of Life Foundation
Aramco Services Company
ASM Research/Accenture
AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals, LP
Booz Allen Hamilton
CFC - NCA
Clark-Winchcole Foundation
Credit Suisse
CSRA
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ICF International
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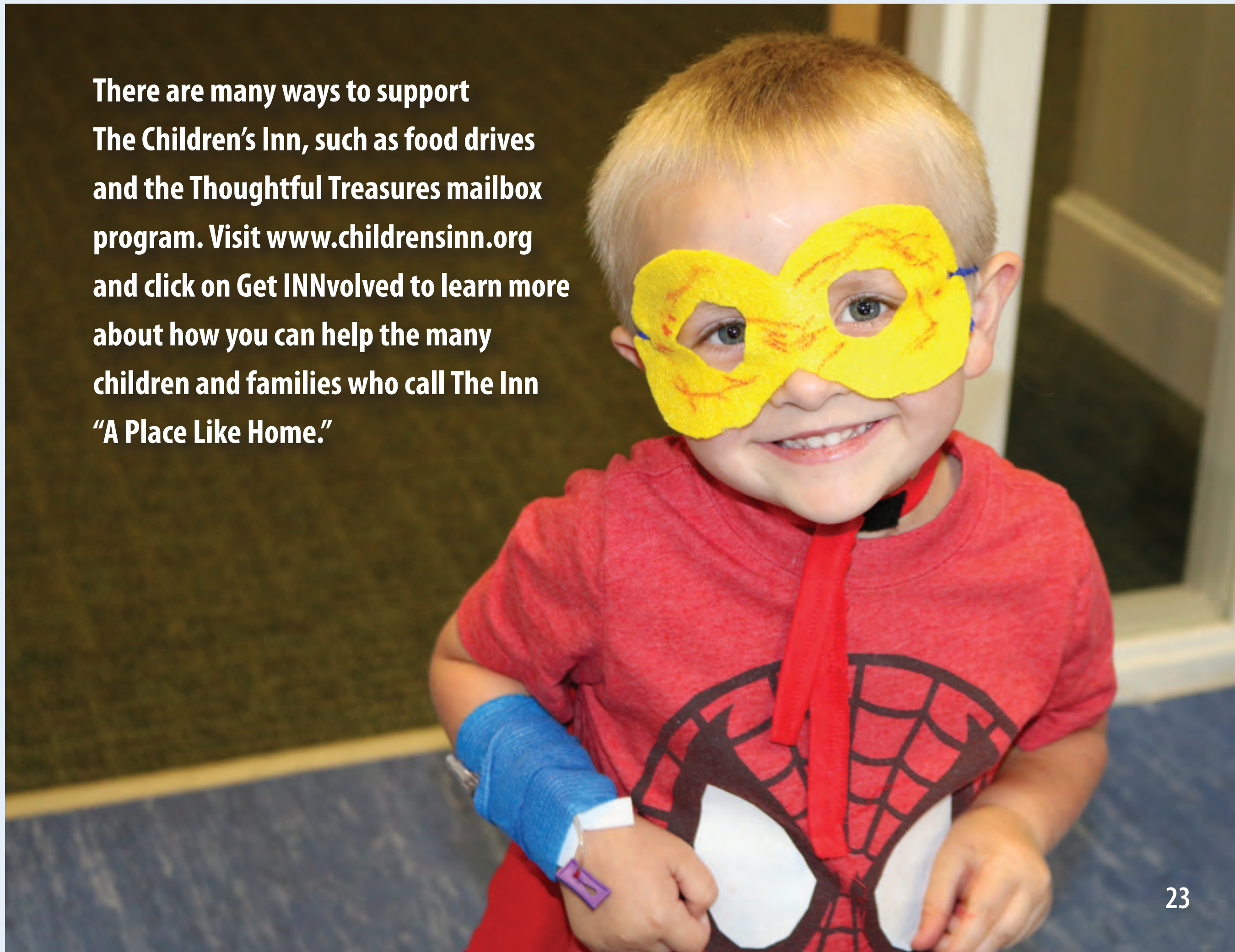
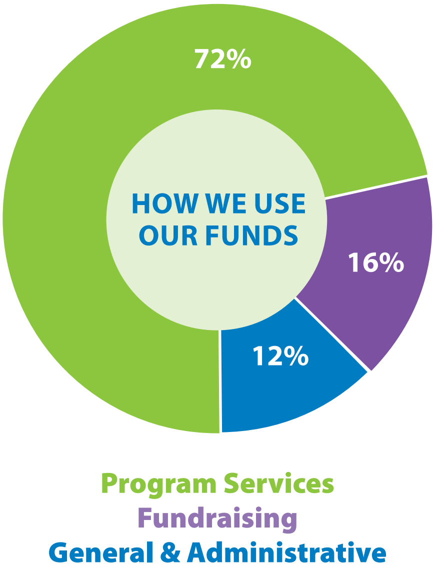
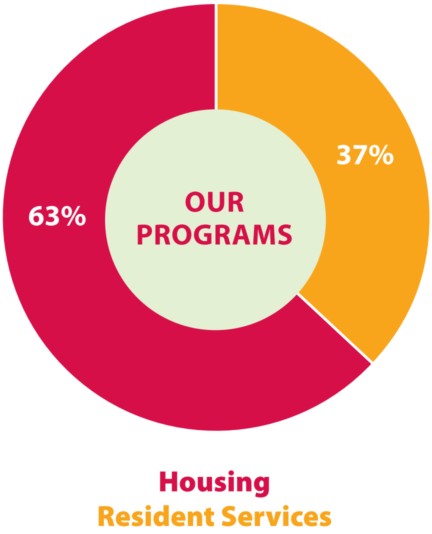


There are many ways to support The Children's Inn, such as food drives and the Thoughtful Treasures mailbox program. Visit www.childrensinn.org and click on Get INNvolved to learn more about how you can help the many children and families who call The Inn "A Place Like Home."

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW FY 2016





OPERATING EXPENSE	
Program Services:	$7,763,000
Fundraising:	$1,668,000
General & Administrative:	$1,326,000
Total:	**$10,757,000**

NET ASSETS	
Unrestricted Net Assets:	$25,464,000
Temporarily Restricted Net Assets:	$10,293,000
Permanently Restricted Net Assets:	$19,887,000
Total:	**$55,644,000**

PROGRAM SERVICES EXPENSE	
Housing:	$4,912,000
Resident Services:	$2,851,000
Total:	**$7,763,000**

INCOME	
Contributions:	$4,776,000
In-kind contributions:	$3,433,000
NIH Reimbursement 2016:	$1,197,000
Other:	$53,000
Total:	**$9,459,000**

Source: Audited financial statements as of June 30, 2016; Available upon request. The Children's Inn holds the Better Business Bureau seal of approval and is recognized by Charity Navigator and Guide Star, indicating that we fulfill our mission in a fiscally responsible way. These exceptional designations demonstrate to supporters that we are worthy of their trust.

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