IMPROVING OUTCOMES THROUGH EDUCATION

2018 ANNUAL REPORT
So every kid can
Over the past year, Franciscan Children’s continued to deliver high quality, cost-effective care while simultaneously expanding our campus and programs, and treating more children than ever before. Building off the momentum of a successful 2017, our Development Office met an ambitious fundraising goal for 2018 and continues to raise critical funds for vital initiatives. Thanks to the generosity of many individual, corporate, and foundation donors, we were able to embark on two crucial capital projects:

- **The New Balance Park**, which broke ground in November 2018, offers traditional and adaptive areas to welcome children of all abilities. These inclusive spaces will allow children with disabilities to swing for the very first time, enable teenagers suffering from depression and anxiety to find peace in our therapeutic garden, and provide a place for families to meet, gather, and support one another.

- **Our inpatient medical bed expansion project**, set to be completed in 2019, will create four additional private, family-centric patient rooms—expanding our inpatient capacity by 15% and decreasing wait times.

In addition to these exciting new projects, Franciscan Children’s continues to provide a wide array of educational initiatives aimed at advancing care on all fronts.

**Educating our kids**

- One of only two special education schools in Massachusetts certified to serve children ages 3-22 with complex medical needs, the Kennedy Day School at Franciscan Children’s (KDS) educates more than 60 students from 32 cities and towns across Massachusetts. Our teachers and specialists create individualized developmental and educational plans aimed at helping students reach their fullest potential.

- Since our medical and mental health patients stay with us for weeks, months, and sometimes years, we have dedicated teachers on each unit who provide individualized tutoring in a comforting environment while equipping children with the tools they need to return to their communities feeling stronger than ever.

Dear Friends,

John D. Nash, FACHE
Educating future leaders

🌟 We’re proud to serve as a training ground for some of the area’s top universities and residency programs. From Northeastern University’s nursing students to Berklee College of Music’s therapy interns, students from the Commonwealth and beyond come to Franciscan Children’s to take important steps in their educational careers.

🌟 For more than 20 years, Franciscan Children’s has been the only inpatient pediatric psychiatry experience for Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH)/McLean Child and Adolescent Psychiatry fellows. Following their time with us, these fellows have gone on to lead renowned pediatric psychiatry programs at institutions such as the Mayo Clinic, Johns Hopkins, Children’s Hospital of Pennsylvania, and here at Franciscan Children’s.

🌟 We continue to serve as a pivotal training site for the Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine’s Pediatric Dentistry Program. Franciscan Children’s is the only rotation where dental residents learn to care for children with special needs, sensory issues, or those requiring sedation or general anesthesia.

Educational partnerships

🌟 We are continually working to change the future of pediatric healthcare through the work of clinician leaders like Dr. Anthony Sossong, Medical Director of our Community Based Acute Treatment Program. Formerly Associate Director for Technology at The Clay Center for Young Healthy Minds at MGH, Dr. Sossong recently returned to Franciscan Children’s, where he previously completed his residency in pediatric psychiatry.

🌟 Our mental health research team is conducting groundbreaking research on the use of wearable technology to prevent suicide, thanks to a National Institute of Health-funded initiative led by Evan Kleiman, PhD, of Rutgers University.

With all of the imperative endeavors underway at Franciscan Children’s, we are confident that the incredible momentum you have helped us create will sustain our organization well into the future. I hope you will continue to support us along the way, so every kid can.

Sincerely,

John D. Nash, FACHE
President and Chief Executive Officer
### Board of Directors

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<td>Boston Children’s Hospital</td>
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<td>Douglas C. Chamberlain</td>
<td>Appleton Partners, Inc.</td>
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<td>Timothy Fallon</td>
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<td>Andy W. Hoar</td>
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<td>Paul M. Kane, Esq.</td>
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<td>Wendoly Ortiz Langlois, Esq.</td>
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### Board of Overseers

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<td>David Andrews</td>
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*Executive Committee*
In an average classroom, one in five students has or will have a serious mental health condition in their lifetime, with 50% beginning before age 14. In most public schools, mental health resources are often inadequate, if in existence at all.

Franciscan Children’s, the premier pediatric mental health provider in Massachusetts, is dedicated to impacting mental illness by bringing our expert care directly into schools while simultaneously providing the early intervention so many students desperately need.

Our Children’s Wellness Initiative (CWI) is a unique program currently offered in eight different K-8 Boston Public Schools. This initiative has already proven to have an extraordinary impact on students, families, teachers, and their communities. The CWI staff consists of licensed social workers and site managers who work full-time identifying each child’s individual needs and developing customized long-term treatment plans. Participants have access to individual counseling, family sessions, crisis consultation, intervention services, and a child psychiatrist — one of the most unique and critical aspects of the CWI program.

Karla Gandiaga, Principal of the Sarah Greenwood School, an early CWI partner site in Dorchester, has seen the positive effects, not only within individual students, but also the classroom learning environment as a whole. “As principal of a school where many of our students are from families living on or below the poverty line, I see ongoing struggles with transient housing and major gaps in medical insurance. These children are the most vulnerable — especially when it comes to their mental health. CWI social
“By bringing mental health services directly into the school environment, CWI has effectively removed a major barrier to accessing mental health services on a regular basis.”

Kristan Bagley Jones, LICSW, CWI Program Director

The need for CWI’s services has grown exponentially since it began 13 years ago. Last school year, over 300 children received services, yet 56 students remained on waiting lists. In order to meet the growing need, CWI has created a five-year strategic plan that will expand the number of schools served from 8 to 15 and the client population from 330 to nearly 1,000 students by the year 2023.

The time is now to address the mental health crisis that our kids are facing. School-based programs like CWI are the next step and Franciscan Children’s is proud to help ensure that every child in need receives the quality and compassionate care they deserve.

The Boston Public School system is made up of 125 schools, but only 55 have a dedicated clinician to provide critical social-emotional support to students in need.*

TRAINING THE
NEXT GENERATION
OF LEADERS

Franciscan Children’s has always been known as a leader in patient care and special education serving thousands of kids and teens each year. Our physicians, nurses, teachers, dentists, social workers, and therapists are also leaders in New England’s academic community, training the best and brightest future experts in their fields.

We are excited to have alumni of our training programs share the impact Franciscan Children’s has had on their life and career—one of whom, like many others, has returned as full-time staff!
Our compassionate and expert staff not only educate and care for patients and students, like Kyle, but also serve as mentors and advisors for undergraduate and graduate students.

Robert Accordino, MD, MSc
Chief Behavioral Health Officer, Quartet Health

One of the most pressing issues facing our country is the need for quality and accessible mental health care. The statistics are staggering—today, the second leading cause of death for children is suicide. Unfortunately, I learned firsthand that the dire need for expert, compassionate mental health care is not always readily accessible.

After medical school, I was thrilled to be selected for the Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) / McLean Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Program. My cohort and I trained at several facilities, but Franciscan Children’s remains the only experience fellows have to work with kids in an inpatient setting. This life-changing rotation reinforced the unfortunate reality that not all psychiatric units are created equal. It was an honor to experience Franciscan Children’s empathic and patient-centered model of care.

The lessons of compassion that my peers and I learned from the incredible mentors and patients at Franciscan Children’s helped many of us go on to leadership roles across the country. In my case, I could not forget the countless families left with few options for quality treatment and I knew I wanted to make a broader impact on the systems driving access to mental health care.

I had the honor of becoming a White House Fellow, a year-long appointment committed to fostering public service, working closely with the Secretaries of Defense from 2016–2017. This role allowed me to use the experiences I learned working at Franciscan Children’s and apply them to a different population: members of the United States Military and their families. I was excited to not only be selected for such a position, but also for the opportunity to help reduce the stigma surrounding mental health by bringing it into the public conversation.

Today I serve as Chief Behavioral Health Officer at Quartet Health, a pioneering healthcare technology and services company that aims to get people the right mental health care at the right time. It is an honor to work with my colleagues to transform access to mental health care and ensure mental health is treated like any other health condition.

No matter where my career has taken me over the years, I will never forget the lessons I learned from my mentors, peers, and patients at Franciscan Children’s. Witnessing quality mental health care in action inspired me to be the champion for mental health that I am today.
It pains me to know that a child’s health outcomes can be predicted based on where they live, their family’s financial status, and other socioeconomic factors out of their control. As the first graduate of Tufts University’s joint degree program in Dentistry and Public Health, I am passionate about changing this unfortunate reality. Many of these children, through little fault of their own, suffer disproportionately from dental disease that can cause lifelong challenges.

I have seen, firsthand, these healthcare disparities in the United States and abroad. On service learning trips to Jamaica and Haiti, I witnessed the dire need for pediatric oral healthcare, which truly shaped the way I practice dentistry today.

After these experiences, I found my calling providing care for all children, including patients who are healthy, underserved, and those with special needs. This led me to Boston University’s Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine, where I was introduced to Franciscan Children’s as a pediatric dental resident.

Franciscan Children’s specializes in providing not only routine dental care, but also in treating patients with complex needs—whether that be kids with autism who require anesthesia to help with sensory issues or children with cerebral palsy whose adaptive equipment calls for special accommodations. Because of this diverse patient population, Franciscan Children’s is the only rotation site that provides residents with training and opportunities to work with sedative medications and general anesthesia.

My time at Franciscan Children’s was incredibly special because every day I had the opportunity to have a positive impact on a child who may have been anxious seeing the dentist. I learned that each child has a story and a unique set of needs, and it is my job to listen and meet each patient where they are comfortable. There is no better feeling than witnessing a young patient overcome their fears and feel proud of their bravery.

I feel fortunate to have a small role in increasing oral health equity and my training at Franciscan Children’s truly helped shape the career path that aligns so well with my passions.
I would not be the mother of four, nurse of 30 years, and leader that I am today without the lessons of compassion and positivity that I learned at Franciscan Children's. I first walked through this special institution's doors as a Northeastern University Nursing Co-Op student. I remember that the warm and welcoming environment comforted not only Franciscan Children's patients and families, but also the group of young nurses I joined as we trained and graduated together.

As a post-acute rehabilitation hospital, Franciscan Children's cares for the most complex and medically fragile infants, children, and adolescents in the region. The comprehensive skills I learned here prepared me to eventually become a Director of the Medical-Surgical Intensive Care Unit and Critical Care Transport Team at Boston Children's Hospital (BCH).

Franciscan Children's is a long-time and critical partner of BCH, serving as its post-acute care facility of choice. In fact, approximately 60% of Franciscan Children's patients come directly from BCH and many of its nurses and leaders have also trained here.

Not many people think of Franciscan Children's as a teaching hospital for nursing, let alone a wide-range of healthcare specialties including physical, occupational, and speech therapies, as well as psychiatry, social work and even dentistry. Today, our educational partnerships include 29 colleges and universities and provide valuable training to nearly 100 interns, residents, and doctoral candidates at any given time.

Three years ago, I rejoined the Franciscan Children's family as Chief Operating Officer and Chief Nursing Officer. I am proud to be a part of our vibrant leadership team, led by President and CEO, John Nash and Board Chair, Dr. Jim Mandell, former President of BCH.

Together, our dedication to the resilient children we serve and the future leaders we train, motivates me every day. The values that I first learned at Franciscan Children's — compassion, excellence, and positivity — have shaped me into the caregiver I am today and for that, I am forever grateful.
Navigating a child’s medical and educational needs is complicated enough. Imagine if these circumstances also include a long-term hospitalization, which is the reality for many families at Franciscan Children’s. Fortunately for these families, we are one of only four organizations in the country that provides medical, mental health, and special educational services under one roof. Our comprehensive care teams of physicians, nurses, social workers, and teachers are uniquely designed to care for the entire patient.
Creating a Classroom for Long-Term Medical Patients

Alejandro, a 10-year old with DiGeorge Syndrome and a rare heart defect, has been an inpatient at Franciscan Children’s since 2014 after spending most of his childhood in and out of hospitals. Three years later, Alejandro’s care team cannot believe the progress he has made towards his educational and developmental milestones.

Alejandro, who would be in 4th grade, is able to conveniently take the elevator downstairs and join his classmates at our Kennedy Day School (KDS). KDS is one of two special education schools in Massachusetts certified to serve school-aged children, from 3-22 years old, who also have complex medical needs.

While Alejandro receives a specialized curriculum from his teachers at KDS, Kristen Hildreth, a Child Life Specialist, works with him and other patients on our inpatient medical units to help with personal growth and development. Whether this includes making a personalized book to help cope with life’s transitions or using stuffed animals to prepare young patients for what to expect with their upcoming procedures, Kristen finds unique ways to comfort, educate, and bring joy to our kids in their scariest moments. “When children come to Franciscan Children’s it truly becomes a second home for them. We get to know each child extremely well, engaging them in their treatment plans to create a new sense of normalcy and give them a chance to be kids again.”

A Confident Transition Back to the Classroom

For kids and teens in our inpatient mental health units, we provide tutoring in a welcoming classroom setting to ensure that they do not fall behind in their schoolwork. This helps ensure a seamless transition back to their schools and communities following treatment. Franciscan Children’s has dedicated teachers who focus on the values that are important in a patient’s recovery while they are away from the traditional classroom environment.

“The pressure on kids academically these days is immense and we see a lot of frustration from both patients and parents alike. One of the most important parts of my job is working closely with the patients’ schools and guidance counselors to make sure that they return feeling confident and less anxious.”

Luke Whalen, Teacher and Mental Health Specialist

At Franciscan Children’s, we believe in treating the whole patient, which often requires a customized education plan. We know that our comprehensive services help ease the pressure and anxiety our kids and their families face as they navigate some of life’s toughest and most unexpected challenges.
Among children aged 10–14, death by suicide is now more common than fatal traffic accidents.

(National Center for Health Statistics)

Harnessing Wearable Technology to Address Youth Suicide

Over the past century, life-threatening medical conditions, such as cancer, pneumonia, tuberculosis, and diabetes have all significantly decreased thanks to advances in clinical care and treatment. Troublingly, youth suicide has remained a top-five leading cause of death for decades, in part, because of a lack of understanding about why and when suicidal thoughts and behaviors occur.

Our expert mental health professionals are vital to a number of large-scale studies where Franciscan Children’s is the primary clinical research site.
Research aimed at understanding and preventing suicide is difficult because suicidal thoughts and behaviors are unpredictable and often occur outside of a supervised clinical setting. Furthermore, while suicidal thoughts are related to emotional distress, it is often challenging for teens to recognize when their vulnerability is heightened. Now, as the primary clinical site of a new research study led by Evan Kleiman, PhD, of Rutgers University (formerly of Harvard University), Franciscan Children’s seeks to understand and better predict emotional distress and suicidal thoughts.

This crucial study, funded by the National Institute of Health (NIH), provides wearable wrist monitors to adolescent patients hospitalized on Franciscan Children’s inpatient mental health unit, the largest and most-respected program of its kind in New England. These state-of-the-art bands passively monitor and collect real-time physiological data including heart rate, electrodermal activity, skin temperature, and movement. When patients begin to feel distressed or have thoughts of harming themselves, they push a button on their wearable band. Our goal is to identify physiological signals that allow the research team to predict increased distress and suicidal thoughts before they reach a peak and a potential crisis.

“Ultimately, this new technology may be the first step in predicting suicidal behaviors before they occur, which could positively impact the suicide rate among children and adolescents.”

Carol Nash, Director of Franciscan Children’s Mental Health Research Program

Ralph Buonopane, PhD, Director of the McLean-Franciscan Child and Adolescent Inpatient Mental Health Program, works daily with the kids and teens using this wearable technology. “I believe that the act of participating in this study has already helped kids on our unit feel empowered to recognize and adjust their response to harmful emotions. This is a critical therapeutic tool that our care team works to develop with every child we treat.”

A world where we use everyday wearable technology to predict when children and adolescents may harm themselves is within reach. Dr. Kleiman’s NIH-funded study and the courageous participants at Franciscan Children’s are helping to transform clinical care, which may ultimately save lives.
The Connell Family, who has long supported a variety of educational and nonprofit organizations in the Boston area, has recently strengthened their commitment to programs that help the greater good. Margot Connell, Chairman of Connell Limited Partnership, her six children, and many grandchildren, understand the importance of giving back to society—a strong reflection of their family’s values.

A recent lead commitment from the family has helped Franciscan Children’s establish The Kids Healthy Minds Initiative (KHMI) in partnership with the Archdiocese of Boston. KHMI is a robust mental health awareness and education program designed to increase the early detection of mental illness in children and adolescents and help decrease the stigma often associated with mental illness.

The interest and necessity for this program has proven critical as nearly 80 percent of KHMI participants, surveyed to date, reported that they previously did not know what steps to take to help destigmatize mental illness in their communities.

KHMI officially launched in October 2018 and began offering education programs in Catholic schools and parishes across the Archdiocese. Participants have had an overwhelmingly positive response to these educational sessions—with some saying that they finally have a safe place to tell their stories and have their feelings validated.

The generosity of the Connell Family provides us with the financial support needed to reach more than 1.8 million students and parishioners across 144 communities in eastern Massachusetts.

Tricia Coffey, MSW LICSW, has had great success introducing Franciscan Children’s customized curriculum to over 800 participants in the last two months alone. “It has been extremely moving to see communities come together and talk candidly and openly about the mental health issues affecting our children. As with most physical health conditions, the earlier the illness is identified, the greater the likelihood of a better outcome.” As one parent who personally recommended KHMI to additional parishes shared, “I only wish I had heard this message seven years ago, when my daughters symptoms first surfaced and I didn’t know how to seek help.”

Through the tremendous capacity of KHMI, we have a unique opportunity to positively impact the mental health crisis plaguing our youth. Franciscan Children’s President and CEO, John Nash, echoed these sentiments, “we are so appreciative of the Connell Family’s dedication to mental healthcare—the impact of their generosity will improve the lives of children and their families across the Commonwealth for years to come.”
WELCOME MARCUS, OUR HOSPITAL ASSISTANCE DOG

Launching the Franciscan Children’s Assistance Dog Visitation Program

Nine-year-old Michael* has spent the last three years in and out of hospitals following a spinal cord injury from a car accident. While he has made tremendous strides in his recovery—even relearning to walk after countless sessions with our physical and occupational therapists—his long stay in the hospital soon became routine.

Luckily for Michael and all of our patients, Franciscan Children’s is committed to providing a variety of unique activities in order to let our kids be kids during the days, weeks, and months spent with us. With the help of a generous gift from the Kenrose Kitchen Table Foundation and a new partnership with NEADS World Class Service Dogs, we were recently able to add another exciting initiative to our daily activities at Franciscan Children’s—a Hospital Assistance Dog. We welcomed our first Assistance Dog, Marcus, to the team this past June, and he has already had such a tremendous impact on everyone here at Franciscan Children’s, including Michael. “I love when Marcus comes to my room. I haven’t been able to see my dog since I’ve been in the hospital, and getting to play with Marcus helps me when I’m missing her.”

Marcus, who works Monday through Friday, spends his time traveling between departments and visiting with patients and families. This includes our medical and pulmonary rehabilitation units, as well as our mental health programs and the Kennedy Day School.

Marcus and his primary caretaker, Julie Jankun, RN, a Nurse Manager on our medical units, also work closely with our Child Life Specialists to come up with new ways to provide entertainment and comfort across Franciscan Children’s. Julie has already seen the positive impact Marcus has made. “It’s so exciting to see the smiles on the faces of everyone Marcus meets—whether that’s patients, families, students, or staff—he truly brightens everyone’s day.”

Franciscan Children’s hopes to welcome more Hospital Assistance Dogs in the future. Our partnership with NEADS World Class Service Dogs is yet another example of an innovative initiative that might not exist without donor support from friends like the Kenrose Kitchen Table Foundation.

*Name changed to protect anonymity
Dear Friends,

As the former President and CEO of Boston Children’s Hospital and a pediatric physician for over 40 years, I have had the great privilege to be a part of life-defining moments for countless patients and their families. The way children show strength and resilience in the face of some of life’s toughest challenges inspires me daily, and nowhere is this incredible strength more alive than at Franciscan Children’s. As Chair of the Board, I witness the patients and staff make the seemingly impossible, possible each and every day. Thank you for caring about Franciscan Children’s the way I do. With your support, more kids are thriving than ever before, and for that, I am so grateful.

Jim Mandell, MD
Chair, Franciscan Children’s Board of Directors
$4,270,224
RAISED IN FY18

Major Gifts: $2,025,000
Corporations and Foundations: $1,091,945
Annual Gifts: $594,913
Events: $558,366

FY18 Donor Revenue by Source

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Fundraising Progress
FY2015–FY2018

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Fiscal Year October 1, 2017-September 30, 2018
Franciscan Children’s 990 and Audited Financial Statements are available at FranciscanChildrens.org.
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1. Franciscan Children’s Board Member, Andy Hoar, up to bat for Team CBRE at the Boston Wiffle Ball Challenge supporting Franciscan Children’s and the Travis Roy Foundation.

2. The Dropkick Murphy’s, friends and generous supporters of Franciscan Children’s, perform a holiday concert for our patients and students.

3. Golf Committee Member, Jerry Garvey (right), presents longtime friend and event founder, Brian Conroy (left), with an award for his 10th Franciscan Children’s Golf Tournament.

4. Board of Overseers Member and former Franciscan Children’s employee, Polly Merck, enjoys a Board of Overseers event at City Winery with her father, Wilhelm Merck, this past November.

5. Franciscan Children’s President & CEO, John Nash, Travis Roy, and Franciscan Children’s Board Member, Doug Chamberlain, at this year’s Boston Wiffle Ball Challenge.

6. Board of Overseers Member, Jonathan Parkhurst, and his wife, Judy, longtime friends of Franciscan Children’s, attend an event at Shawmut Construction this past March.

7. Christian Caruso (center), a Franciscan Children’s patient, and his family cross the finish line at the 2018 Franciscan Children’s Road Race.

8. Franciscan Children’s Board Chair, Dr. Jim Mandell, playing with a patient on our Pulmonary Rehabilitation Unit.

9. Former patient and Kennedy Day School graduate, Korey Foley, meets Congressman Joe Kennedy III at Franciscan Children’s.