2002

Children's Mercy Annual Report 2001

Children's Mercy Hospital

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Message from the President

The year 2001 changed all our lives. The disasters that occurred on September 11 teaching in man-made fear, the loss of innocence, and in the case of one mercy employee, the loss of a family member on one of the fallen airplanes. We were all shocked and overwhelmed.

But children were still sick in our inpatient units, emergency room, and outpatient clinics, and all of our doctors, nurses and other staff showed their strength and commitment by continuing to provide the excellent care those children needed on September 11 and every other day. Our Mail Room staff, with new training, continued performing their daily tasks, despite scars of anthrax contamination. Lessons of “pandemic” scenarios were examined and protections were implemented throughout our facilities. Through all of this, the children still came, and they were cared for by the very best, my colleagues.

Although 2001 will always be remembered as a year of tragedy, it was also a year that held great joy, progress and promise at Children’s Mercy Hospitals and Clinics. We broke ground on several new buildings that will help us achieve our “destiny” of being the best children’s hospital in the world for our children and for all children. (See the details in the “2001 Highlights” section.)

In addition to new expansions, new programs and new accomplishments, we also honored the 100th anniversary of our hospital. It is, after all, the day of our 100-year—of class for all children regardless of race, creed, ethnic origin or ability to pay. It is because the hospital is one class.

Thank you for all that you do for our children. Your support helps them fulfill their destinies as well.

Sincerely,

Randal L. O’Donnell, PhD
President and Chief Executive Officer

Children’s Mercy Hospital
Provides the highest level of medical care, technology, services, equipment and facilities in promoting the health and well-being of children in the region, from birth through adolescence. Patients and their families are treated with compassion in a family-centered environment that recognizes their physical, emotional, financial, social and spiritual needs. The comprehensive health care environment provided by the hospital includes clinical services, research and teaching efforts which are designed to serve today’s and tomorrow’s children and the community in which they live.

Expansion/Facilities

- At the beginning of the year, Children’s Mercy announced its five-year and 10-year plans to expand both Children’s Mercy Hospital and Children’s Mercy South in order to serve increasing numbers of children. The hospital saw records for the average daily census every month in 2001 except May.
- By the end of the year, work had begun on adding two new floors (and 27 new inpatient beds) to the Hennon Patient Tower at Children’s Mercy Hospital, added to new operating rooms for the Center for Congenital Heart Disease, a new research and clinic building and a second parking garage. Construction of a second building at Children’s Mercy South will begin in 2002.
- A spacious new cafeteria with a live diner theme opened in October, doubling the space of the previous cafeteria and expanding the food service options available for employees and visitors.
- A new rooming area, also with greatly expanded choices, has opened in April, funded by a gift from Kahl’s.
- The Paul and Betty Hennon Patient Tower was formally dedicated in April in honor of these two long-time friends of the hospital.

Clinical Services

- Children’s Mercy performed its first double organ transplant in May, when a 4-year-old Marco Calderon received a kidney and liver transplant in a 22-hour operation.
- Robert L. Hall, MD, who established Children’s Mercy’s Nephrology program and Intensive Care Unit, retired in June after 31 years of service to the hospital. He was widely known for his dedication to nephrology.
- Eleven new physicians and residents were added to the hospital’s medical staff, including a second pediatric cardiovascular surgeon and specialists in endocrinology, neurology, orthopedics, rehabilitation, orthopedics, neurology, and urology. The expansion of the medical staff will continue in 2002 in order to be able to serve a continuously increasing number of patients.
- Seventy new nursing school graduates joined the Children’s Mercy staff in June, the largest number of new graduates in a single year. The reason they all share for choosing to work at Children’s Mercy - they love to work with children.

Research

- Children’s Mercy announced the successful completion of our “Discovering Tomorrow” research campaign in October, surpassing our $50 million goal by raising a total of $53 million to support the hospital’s research endeavors. Facilities expansion and research programs. The campaign supported the addition of seven new endowed chairs over the past four years.
- The hospital’s bone marrow transplant program was the recipient of more than $4 million in funding from the National Institutes of Health in 2001 to support research and the establishment of a Blood and Marrow Transplant Research Consortium. Children’s Mercy is the only pediatric member of the consortium, which includes institutions such as Johns Hopkins, Stanford, Duke Universities and others.

Around the Hospital

- A seventh goal was added to the hospital’s strategic plan, focusing on needs in the human resources area. New strategies for employee recruitment and retention, employee recognition and staff development will be emphasized.

Children’s Mercy is leading the way in establishing a multi-faceted interactive Internet site for its nurses, called “Web RN.” A committee of nurses and Internet service staff have developed the new tool for improved communication and education.

2001 Highlights

EXPANSION/FACILITIES

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2001 Statistics

Admissions

(a 4.8% increase over last year)

Total patient days

55,936

Total outpatient clinic visits

213,132

Hospital clinics

120,494

Primary Care Clinics

64,314

CM South Specialty Center

26,404

Outreach clinic visits

1,920

Emergency/Urgent Care visits

77,886

(a 10.3% increase over last year)

Emergency Room

52,546

CM South Urgent Care Center

24,240

Surgery cases

11,923

(a 6.0% increase over last year)

Inpatient

2,858

Outpatient at Hospital

6,510

Outpatient at CM South

2,534

Employees: (FTEs) 3,090

Volunteers: Active, in-house 670