



Your Link to Children's Healthcare of Atlanta

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Kudos Children's Employees and Physicians

Congratulations to several Children's employees and departments who have made remarkable achievements.

Children's Interpreter Receives Community and Diversity Award

Culture Connect recently honored José Sanchez, Interpreter Coordinator, with the first annual Champion of Community and Diversity Award. José takes special interest in making sure that all limited English proficient families do not struggle with language and cultural barriers. Instead, he ensures their wellbeing through the careful selection of professional interpreters and by helping other staff embrace the opportunity to learn about the diversity of cultures in their care. Because of José's leadership, creativity, and commitment to community and diversity, many patients and families of varying backgrounds feel understood, respected, and empowered to take ownership of their health and wellbeing.



Subra Kugathasan, M.D., Leads Crohn's Disease Study

Children's gastroenterologist, Subra Kugathasan, M.D., is the principal investigator of the first large-scale, genome-wide association study of Crohn's disease in African-Americans. Dr. Kugathasan plans to recruit 1,500 patients with Crohn's disease nationwide, along with 1,150 controls. The National Institutes of Health awarded Emory University \$4.8 million for the study.

Respiratory Therapy Department Named Clinical Affiliate of the Year

Georgia State University's Respiratory Therapy Program recently honored the Children's at Hughes Spalding Respiratory Therapy department as the Clinical Affiliate of the Year. This recognition is a testament, not only to the clinical excellence the department provides for the children in our community, but also to its important partnerships with academic institutions around the state.

Children's Staff Contribute to Atlanta Hospital News

Erin Demo, Genetics Counselor, Sibley Heart Center Cardiology, wrote the article, Cardiovascular Genetic Testing in Pediatric Patients, for the February issue of Atlanta Hospital News. [Read her article.](#)

The issue also profiled Project S.A.V.E. coordinator Alison Ellison. It highlighted her work with Project S.A.V.E. and the program's achievements. [Read Alison's profile.](#)

Congrats to Weldon Award Recipients

Congratulations to the Children's at Scottish Rite Pediatric Intensive Care Unit and the Children's at Egleston IS&T department for winning the Weldon awards for March. Weldon ("well done") is a stuffed monkey that serves as a Service Excellence Ambassador for Children's at Egleston and Children's at Scottish Rite. He is awarded to a particular unit, department or area that




Employee Giving Campaign Participation Reaches 21%

During the next four weeks, we're hoping that you take a couple minutes out of your schedule to participate. Whether you can give a little or a lot each paycheck, every bit counts when it comes to caring for our kids.

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Setting Your New Voicemail Greeting

Here's how to respond to the new prompts to set your voicemail greeting.

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How Did Children's Fare at the State Capitol This Year? Read the End of Session Report

The General Assembly adjourned, Sine Die, Thursday, April 14, ending the 40th and final legislative day of the 2011 session.

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Having Voicemail Problems?

If you accidentally deleted the email from "Global Voicemails" about the Unity Upgrade or if you are still having problems accessing your voicemail, please take the following steps before calling the Solution Center.

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Lawson Down for Brief Periods during Testing, Tuesday, April 26

In preparation for moving our computer support equipment to a new Data Center location later this year, we are testing Lawson on a back-up system.

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Physicians Honored for 35+ Years of Service

This spring's meeting recognized several deeply committed physicians who have served children in our community for more than 35 years.

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Help Relieve Parking Shortage at Children's at Egleston

The Tower 1 parking deck on Uppergate Drive at Children's at Egleston is most full from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday through

displays exceptional customer service to our patients and families. Weldon is not based solely on customer service scores, but on overall delivery of seamless, consistent, and special customer service. The department that receives the award decides the next recipient based upon who provided the best customer service to their department or to our patients and families.

Anesthesiologist Authors Book about Surgery for Kids

Shivani Bhatia, M.D., Anesthesiologist, Children's at Scottish Rite, wrote *The Surgery Book: For Kids*. The book explains the journey through surgery, helping children understand that doctors and nurses are there to help them and take great care of them, not hurt them.



"Sometimes, unfortunately, children do not trust healthcare providers," Dr. Bhatia says. "I hope that this book helps them see that we want what is best for them." Dr. Bhatia based the book on her personal experience as a pediatric anesthesiologist. Written on a child's level, the story is about a little boy named Iggy who needs his tonsils taken out. His journey starts with a visit to Dr. Anthony's office, progresses through the pre, intra and post-op areas and culminates with a delicious popsicle as he heads home. Dr. Bhatia used a combination of illustrated characters and actual photographs from the operating room to help patients see the realities of having surgery in a positive light.

The Surgery Book: For Kids is available on Amazon.com and is currently being formatted to download on a Kindle or iPad. All proceeds from the sale of the book (both printed and electronic) go to Ian's Friends Foundation, a non-profit foundation that funds pediatric brain tumor research. They currently fund seven labs across the United States, one which is linked with Children's.

Nurse Named Young Mother of the Year

The Georgia Mothers Association (GMA) named Brandi Allgood, Staff Nurse—Resource, PACU, Children's at Scottish Rite, Young Mother of the Year. The Loganville Christian Church nominated her for the statewide recognition because of her active involvement in the church and community, as well as the lessons she shares with others about motherhood. Brandi will represent the state in the nationwide competition, April 28, in Salt Lake City. She has three children, ages 12, 9 and 5.



IAAP Member of Excellence

Margaret Cross-Shellnut, Executive Administrative Assistant, Children's at Scottish Rite, recently completed the requirements to become a 2010-2011 International Association of Administrative Professionals Member of Excellence.

Children's Employees Tackling AV200 Bike Ride Together

Several Children's employees have teamed up to tackle the [AV200](#) charity bike ride (that's 200 miles in 2 days) May 14-15. One hundred percent of the process will go to the Emory Vaccine Center. Good luck to the employees competing in this race:

- Calvin Calmes, Respiratory Therapist, Children's at Hughes Spalding
- Michael Johnson, Pharmacy Technician, Children's at Hughes Spalding
- Tanya Hofmekler, M.D., resident, Dept. of Pediatrics at Emory School of Medicine
- Barbara Weissman, M.D., Pediatric Neurologist, Children's at Egleston
- Stephanie Fessler, M.D., fellow, Dept. of Pediatric Emergency Medicine at Emory School of Medicine
- Deborah Young, M.D., pediatric emergency medicine, Children's at Egleston
- Steve Lanski, M.D., pediatric emergency medicine, Children's at Egleston
- Dan Hirsh, M.D., pediatric emergency medicine, Children's at Egleston
- Ellis Dixon, M.D., pediatric emergency medicine, Children's at Egleston

Friday. To ease some of the congestion during this time, please keep these tips in mind.

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April 28 Earthquake Drill Encourages Disaster Preparedness

On April 28, Children's will participate in [The Great Central U.S. Shake-Out](#).

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Blank Family Foundation Gives \$3 Million to Children's Child Protection Center

Children's Child Protection Center will be named The Stephanie V. Blank Center for Safe and Healthy Children.

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Children's, Emory and Georgia Tech Partner to Create Pediatric Nanomedicine Center

Physicians and engineers from Children's, Emory University and the Georgia Institute of Technology are partnering to use nanomedicine to develop targeted, molecular-sized nanoparticles as part of a unique approach to treating pediatric diseases.

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Radiant Sprint for Cancer Raised \$125,000—View the Slideshow

Saturday, April 16, hundreds of Children's employees participated in the Radiant Systems Sprint for Cancer 5K run/walk and 10K road race in Dunwoody.

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Nurses: What Do You Think of Your Practice Environment? Share Your Opinion by April 24

Children's nurses have something to say, so come on—speak up! Your [insight is valuable](#) and will help establish national standards for the practice of nursing and patient care climate.

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Attention: Unit-Level Action Required for Recall

Children's recall team is managing another voluntary recall surrounding two products we currently use.

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Chronicle Quiz: And the Winners are...

Thanks to all *Careforce Chronicle* readers who submitted answers to the Chronicle Quiz in the latest issue of the magazine!

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- Diana Ketchum, Cardiac Sonographer, Children's at Egleston

Cardiac Outpatient Services Receives Perfect Customer Service Scores

In February, the Children's at Egleston Cardiac Outpatient Services celebrated receiving 100 percent scores on all five Customer Service key indicators for 13 consecutive months. They noted a 35 percent survey return rate.



Clinical Educators Present at GANE Conference

Clinical Educators Kelly Inoue, TICU, Children's at Scottish Rite, and Angie Hawthorne, Cardiac Stepdown Unit, Children's at Egleston presented at the Georgia Association of Nursing Educators conference last week. Their presentation, "A Year in the Life of a Novice Nurse Educator," explored the role of Clinical Educators at Children's, how to be successful and lessons the two have learned through their experiences.

Annual Cardiology Conference Accepts Nurses' Abstracts

Audrey Beckman, BSN, RN and Sherry Smith, RN, produced two of the 12 abstracts accepted at Cardiology 2011: 15th Annual Update on Pediatric and Congenital Cardiovascular Disease, hosted by Children's Hospital of Philadelphia in February.



"Family Education in Growth and Nutrition Increases Infants' Transition from Tube Feeding to Oral Feeding between Heart Surgery Stages" Feeding problems are a known complication among infants following surgery for congenital heart disease. Sherry Smith, R.N., led a team at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta in implementing and studying a feeding advancement plan (FAP) used for infants with hypoplastic left heart syndrome. The FAP protocol included a session with a licensed dietitian, parent education on transitioning the baby from continuous tube feeds to oral on-demand feeds, and other instructions. The team analyzed the feeding progression in the period between initial hospital discharge after the Norwood procedure until presentation for the second stage of surgery, the Glenn procedure. There were 24 infants in the study, 10 of whose families received standard feeding instructions, and 13 who underwent the FAP protocol. The FAP significantly increased the rate at which infants transitioned to taking full oral feeds, although there was no difference in the rate of weight gain between both groups.

Sherry Smith, RN, et al, Institution of a Feeding Advancement Plan Increases Full Transition from Tube to Oral Feeding in Patients with HLHS

"Better Pain-Control Treatments May be Available to Children during Chest Tube Removal after Heart Surgery"

For children who have undergone heart surgery, pain control during chest tube removal has been understudied. This gap in research to guide pediatric practice may result in preventable pain for child patients. Audrey Beckman, BSN, RN, led an experimental, blinded randomized study of pain management at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta. The study team randomized 27 children who had undergone heart surgery into two groups. During chest tube removal, 14 patients received a combination of Toradol and Versed (non-narcotic pain medications), while 13 patients received a morphine-Versed combination. At three time points, nurses evaluated the child's pain using an observational score. In addition, parents and the clinicians who performed the chest tube removal provided assessments of the child's pain during and shortly after the procedure. During the procedure, the difference in pain score was not statistically significant between the two patient groups. However, immediately after the procedure, patients receiving Toradol and Versed experienced significantly less pain than patients receiving morphine and Versed.

What Does a "Best of" Ranking at Children's Have to Do with Me?

As we celebrate making the AJC's Top Atlanta Workplaces list for 2011, you may wonder what this sort of recognition really means for Children's—and for you.

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Where's Joyce? Continuing our Magnet Journey

Where's Joyce? As we continue our Magnet journey, see if you can guess where Joyce Ramsey Coleman, our Chief Nurse Executive, is located.

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Children's Employee Choir Gets Its Own Piano

For two years, Children's Employee Choir has lugged the digital keyboard from Children's at Egleston over to The Park every Monday night for choir practice.

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Children's Earns No. 6 Spot on AJC's Top Workplaces List

As we told you last week, the *Atlanta-Journal Constitution* published its Top Atlanta Workplaces special edition Sunday, and—thanks to your survey responses—Children's earned the No. 6 spot on the list in the large company category.

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Service Awards Moving to Fall—Save the Date

To give employees more time to enjoy Hospital Week and Nurses Week in May, beginning this year, Children's is moving our annual Service Awards activities to the fall.

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Two Service Line Chiefs at Children's Awarded for Community Contributions

Children's is proud of Dr. Woods and Dr. Campbell for their commitment to clinical excellence and community service impacts children from throughout Atlanta and all across Georgia.

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Sign Your Kids Up for the AJC Peachtree Jr. 3K, May 14

Kids can experience all the excitement of Peachtree when they lace up their running shoes for the AJC Peachtree Jr. 3K., May 14.

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