

# Urgent Funding Needed in Response to COVID-19



*As the region's only nonprofit pediatric hospital, Children's Hospital Colorado is on the front lines of responding to COVID-19. We are taking every precaution to protect the patients in our care and our medical staff for the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic.*

*This global health crisis has resulted in several urgent funding opportunities at Children's Colorado. We are asking our generous donors to partner with us to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 while supporting our caregivers and helping those affected. The needs outlined here are time-sensitive, require nimble implementation and will make an immediate and significant impact on public health. Please join us in doing all that we can, as quickly as we can, to respond to this public health emergency.*

## Caregiver Emergency Relief Fund

It's a very demanding time for our caregivers. They are on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic, while providing care 24/7 for the patients who depend on us every day to treat their illnesses and injuries. Our providers need the support and resources to stay healthy while navigating daily patient care and the added challenges of the coronavirus outbreak. To address the unique hardships faced by our health care team as a result of COVID-19, Children's Hospital Colorado Foundation has established the Caregiver Emergency Relief Fund. Donations to this fund will be used to support immediate caregiver needs related to the pandemic including personal protective equipment, physical and mental health resiliency, childcare subsidies and other critical needs. Donate online: [ChildrensColoradoFoundation.org/caregiverrelief](https://ChildrensColoradoFoundation.org/caregiverrelief).



## COVID-19 Relief Fund

Your donation to the COVID-19 Relief Fund supports a wide range of critical needs to help us combat the pandemic and help those affected. Donate online at [ChildrensColoradoFoundation.org/covid19](https://ChildrensColoradoFoundation.org/covid19).

**Within this fund, we also have several specific COVID-19 response needs, as outlined below.**



### **NEED: RESPIRATORY SPECIMEN TESTING UNITS**

**COST: \$120,000 FOR SIX TESTING UNITS (\$20,000 PER UNIT)**

Children's Colorado has already proactively purchased six additional specimen testing units to expand our capacity for running respiratory pathogen tests. These units will increase our clinical lab capacity by 144 panels per day across our Anschutz, South Campus and North Campus lab locations. Given anticipated increases in demand, we believe our capacity needs will require a total of 12 new units immediately. We urgently need funding to purchase the additional units. These machines will rapidly test for "routine" respiratory viruses still circulating while effectively complementing COVID-19 rule-out efforts.



## NEED: EXPANDING COVID-19 TESTING CAPABILITY

**COST: \$125,000**

Children's Colorado has already purchased two new molecular test platform machines so we can provide quick and accurate results on COVID-19 specimen tests. This new testing equipment is among the most turn-key options available today, and it is ready for rapid deployment in our health system. Now we need donor support to purchase two additional testing units at a cost of \$30,000 each, as well as funds to support increased staffing support, lab technicians, laboratory equipment and other testing supplies to keep up with an anticipated surge in COVID-19 testing.



## NEED: EMERGENCY TRIAGE STRUCTURES

**COST: \$110,000 PER LOCATION/PER MONTH**

We recently purchased two free-standing tent structures to activate emergency triage settings in the case of an influx of patients during an infectious disease outbreak. We are seeking donor support to purchase two additional structures at a cost of \$55,000 per tent, so we can have one at each of our four emergency department locations. Each of these full-service clinical tent settings will provide 15 beds for patient care just outside of existing hospital locations. These temporary structures are HVAC-controlled with proper heat and airflow and therefore require generator power. The temporary facilities will increase physical space for medical exams and screenings of patients facing COVID-19, while allowing care teams to keep other patients safe by delivering care outside of the hospital buildings. Structured triage care in these settings will require 24/7 staffing of clinical teams and security.



## NEED: 'HEALTHY ROOTS MOBILE' EMERGENCY FOOD ASSISTANCE

**COST: \$15,000 FOR THREE WEEKS OF FOOD SUPPORT**

With most Colorado schools closed for the next several weeks, many vulnerable children are facing food insecurity. Children's Colorado already has the scale, the partnerships and the infrastructure in place to help address this critical need. Increased funding for our Children's Hospital Advocacy Institute (CHAI) will allow us to work swiftly with our community partners to address food insecurity for families in need by converting our Healthy Roots Food Clinic into a mobile operation we're calling "Healthy Roots Mobile." Over the coming weeks, Children's Colorado will spend time at five different Aurora Public Schools to provide 3-5 days' worth of groceries and supplies for individual families. With donor support, we plan to serve around 400 families per week. Funds will cover food supplies, refrigeration, transportation costs, distribution containers and staff support. Additionally, we are screening all families who have appointments in our primary care clinics for food insecurity and providing groceries to them as well.



## NEED: EXPANDED TELEHEALTH CAPABILITIES

**COST: \$250,000**

To minimize potential exposure to COVID-19, Children's Colorado is reducing many elective appointments and surgeries. In order to continue to provide our patients with high-quality routine care with as little disruption as possible, we want to give families the option of doing online appointments with their providers via a secure, HIPAA-compliant video conferencing platform. While we are already accustomed to using telehealth, we are limited by the costs of software licensure and cannot support this unprecedented scale of virtual visits. Currently our capacity for telehealth appointments maxes at approximately 10 simultaneous calls/visits. With additional licenses (available to activate immediately), we can increase that capacity to at least 100 concurrent virtual visits in the near term, perhaps more in the future. In the coming days and months, it will be vital to address the ongoing needs for vulnerable patients who require routine care despite COVID-19. Your support of telehealth technologies will enable us to maintain our service and connection to those who need us day-in and day-out.

## COVID-19 Donations and the Enterprise Zone Tax Credit

Outright gifts of \$250 or more toward COVID-19 relief efforts at Children's Colorado may qualify for the Enterprise Zone Tax Credit, which gives **Colorado taxpayers a credit of up to 25% against their state income tax**. Gifts made in 2020 designated to the Caregiver Emergency Relief Fund, COVID-19 Relief Fund and other specific COVID-19 needs listed here are eligible for the tax credit, subject to certain limitations. Please visit [ChildrensColoradoFoundation.org/ez](https://www.childrenscoloradofoundation.org/ez) for more details, and be sure to consult a tax advisor prior to taking any action based on this information.



## NEED: TOYS FOR HOSPITALIZED KIDS

**COST: \$60,000 (\$20,000 PER MONTH FOR 3 MONTHS)**

Children's Hospital Colorado is taking every precaution to protect patients from COVID-19. As of March 13, 2020 the hospital closed all playrooms to prevent the risk of spreading illness, and most of our patients are currently in isolation. Now we need more than 1,200 new toys per week so that the kids in our care can continue to experience joy in their hospital rooms during a national health crisis. It's estimated that we will need upwards of \$20,000 each month that the playrooms remain closed.

## Other Funding Opportunities



### NEED: PEDIATRIC MENTAL HEALTH INSTITUTE FUNDING

**COST: ANY AMOUNT**

Children's Colorado has always been dedicated to addressing the youth mental health crisis. Today our needs are greater than ever. Our kids are experiencing unbelievable stress as their routines erode and they see a world in a state of constant anxiety about the coronavirus. Your donation to our Pediatric Mental Health Institute will support our team of experts as we respond to kids in crisis today, while working to build a better mental health system for the future. *Note: Donations of \$250 or more to the Pediatric Mental Health Capital Expansion Fund may be eligible for the Enterprise Zone Tax Credit.*



### NEED: CHILDREN'S FUND (UNRESTRICTED GIVING)

**COST: ANY AMOUNT**

This evolving situation is changing day by day. Your donation to our Children's Fund will give us the flexibility to address the greatest needs of our patients, families and caregivers during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond. Unrestricted giving is urgently needed, so that we can direct immediate funds to where they can do the most good, whether that's additional masks and protective equipment for caregivers, funding the additional staff hours needed to address this outbreak, or providing world-class medical care for the children whose injuries and illnesses will not take a break.

### Did you know?



The federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act expanded tax deductions for charitable giving. For taxpayers who take the standard deduction, the CARES Act created an above-the-line deduction of up to \$300 for cash donations made in 2020. For taxpayers who itemize, the deduction limit for charitable donations was increased. Consult a tax advisor for additional information on how you can support Children's Colorado under these expanded charitable giving rules.



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