



FRIENDS OF DOERNBECHER

# Philanthropic Impact Report

For more than 30 years, Friends of Doernbecher has been a stalwart and valued partner in promoting hope and healing at OHSU Doernbecher Children's Hospital. This all-volunteer organization has been tireless in its efforts to raise funds and increase awareness for an array of programs and projects that make a transformative difference in the lives of Doernbecher patients and their families.

Thanks to the advocacy and support of dedicated Friends of Doernbecher volunteers, countless children are leading safer and healthier lives. We are pleased to present this report highlighting the myriad ways that financial grants from Friends of Doernbecher are advancing Doernbecher's mission to meet the medical needs of all its young patients.

**Friends of  
Doernbecher**

GENEROUSLY SUPPORTING



DOERNBECHER  
CHILDREN'S  
Hospital

# FRIENDS OF DOERNBECHER GRANT PROGRAM

All money raised by Friends of Doernbecher is directed to the Friends of Doernbecher Grant Program, which funds innovative projects and cutting-edge research that directly benefit current and future Doernbecher patients and families. For 18 years, the grant program has provided seed-stage funding for faculty and staff in numerous specialties to pursue and develop relevant and impactful projects.

Proposals for funding are reviewed annually by Friends of Doernbecher volunteers and select Doernbecher Children's Hospital faculty. The program has funded more than 70 projects, totaling more than \$2 million.

## AWARDEES

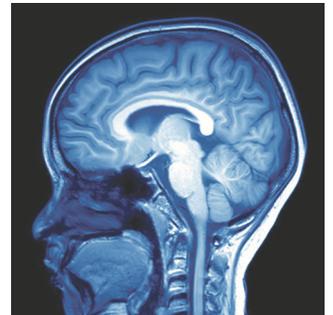
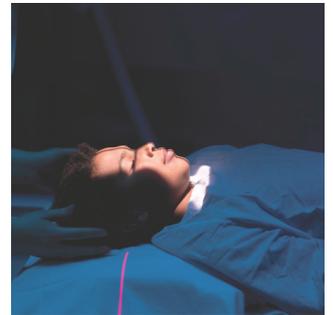
### DAVID SHERIDAN, MD 2017 AWARDEE

#### *QuickBrain MRI for Pediatric Head Trauma: A Pilot Study*

In 2017, Dr. David Sheridan received a Friends of Doernbecher grant to run a clinical trial exploring the use of QuickBrain MRI in lieu of computerized tomography (CT) scans for pediatric head trauma patients. CT scans, while effective, expose patients to radiation; in fact, 1 in 1,000 CT scans result in the patient developing leukemia or lymphoma later in life.

With the support of the Friends of Doernbecher, Dr. Sheridan's team enrolled 76 patients in the study and found that QuickBrain MRI was just as effective as CT scans 95.2% of the time. As a result of these findings, the protocol for head injury patients at Doernbecher has changed: by default patients receive a QuickBrain MRI for imaging instead of a CT scan, eliminating the risk of radiation exposure for the estimated 200 to 300 head trauma patients that come through Doernbecher's emergency department doors each year.

Doernbecher is currently the only children's hospital in the U.S. that has created a protocol to reduce CT scan use. Dr. Sheridan presented the results of this project at the annual Pediatric Academic Society's annual meeting, and has also been published in the *Journal of the American College of Emergency Physicians*.



**“The Friends of Doernbecher funding to support this project has had a significant impact on the care we provide to children in Oregon as well as nationally, and has helped to recognize Doernbecher as a leader in neuroimaging for pediatric head trauma.”**

#### **David Sheridan, MD**

Assistant Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, Pediatrics

**“The Friends of Doernbecher Grant Program is truly unique as it provides investigators an opportunity to perform initial investigations that generate valuable preliminary data that can be subsequently used to support larger grant applications and projects. This type of “seed” money is really critical for pediatric research, which is generally very underfunded by federal agencies.”**

**Dr. Christina Lancioni, MD,**  
Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Division of Infectious Diseases  
and 2018 Friends of Doernbecher grant awardee



**DEBORA BURGER, RN, MSN AND LISA JUNGWIRTH, BSN, RN, CPN**  
**2019 AWARDEES**

*CPR for Caregivers of Children of All Ages at Doernbecher Children’s Hospital*

As care providers at Doernbecher, Debora Burger, RN, MSN and Lisa Jungwirth, BSN, RN, CPN recognized a problem with the discharge process for their patients: to qualify for discharge, families with children admitted for complex or cardiac needs were required to take CPR training. However, the only CPR training offered on site was a small capacity, in-person class. These training sessions filled so quickly that waiting on a class would often cause a delay in the patient’s discharge from the hospital.

Their solution: American Heart Association CPR Anytime Kits, that provide families with high quality CPR training to perform CPR without taking an in-person class. Friends of Doernbecher generously funded Burger and Jungwirth’s proposal to implement the kits in 2019, allowing the hospital to purchase a multi-year supply of CPR kits to use across four units. In the first year, seventy-five families received training kits, with resounding positive feedback from families and care providers alike.

Parents enjoy the ease of learning at their own pace and, since they can bring the kits home with them, they are able to revisit the material and extend training to other family members and babysitters. Additionally, since this program was implemented, there have been no delays in discharge because families were waiting for CPR training.

**“The kit was not only easy to use, but it provided a calming, non-stressful, and encouraging experience, giving us the confidence that we can perform CPR if needed. It was also very convenient that we could do the training on our own schedule. Our 10-year-old daughter even learned (with her own doll) along with us and performed very well.”**



**The Stephens Family**

**TREVOR HALL, PSYD, ABPDN AND ROBERT NICKEL, MD**  
**2016 AWARDEES**

*Parents as Partners in Autism Intervention*

Young children diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) often are delayed in speech and language skills and have critical deficits in imitation and joint attention. Research has shown the benefit of early and intensive intervention for young children with ASD. In 2016, Dr. Hall and Dr. Nickel applied for a Friends of Doernbecher grant to expand access to services for children with ASD in rural and underserved communities across Oregon.

The grant allowed Doernbecher to train eight parents of ASD patients to be Parent Partners. These Parent Partners attended workshops at Doernbecher to learn an evidence-based intervention called Reciprocal Imitation Training (RIT). The Parent Partners then trained and supported other parents of young children with a new diagnosis of ASD to use RIT in the home.

RIT is an intervention designed to teach young children with ASD who are not yet verbal to imitate spontaneously during play. It can be implemented in a variety of play settings as well as during daily routines, such as bath time. Research on RIT shows that it is effective for teaching object and gesture imitation skills and increases other social-communication skills such as social engagement, language, pretend play and gesture use.

This program was among the first of its kind to launch in the U.S. and its success has led to the formation of parent-led early intervention programming in Albany, Coos Bay, Grants Pass, Portland and Salem. Discoveries from the development of the program were later published in an international peer-reviewed journal, offering recommendations for others seeking to establish parent-led intervention programs. As a result, the impact of the parent-led program in Oregon has the potential to effect countless children and families as others in the field look to develop and implement similar parent-led programs.



**“The mom [I’m working with] is happy to be receiving this training! There are no [autism specific] practitioners on the south coast in Oregon and her insurance only qualifies her child for a few visits of private speech therapy. She is happy to be receiving a service that is parent-led and doesn’t require a fee.”**

**Karen Plagmann**  
Southern Oregon Coast parent

**Thank you!** For more information, please contact:

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