



CHOC Foundation Greatest Needs 2025 Impact

Flexible, philanthropic support empowers Rady Children's Health Orange County, formerly CHOC, to address urgent medical challenges and provide family-centered care for children across our region. **The generosity of our 2025 Gala sponsors and attendees** allowed us to direct resources where both the need and promise were highest. We are honored to share these achievements from the past year, made possible by philanthropy:

CHILD LIFE

- **Served** over 54,000 patients through our child life teams, therapies, and services—an 8% increase from the previous year.
- **Distributed** 600 coping kits in our Cherese Mari Laulhere Mental Health Inpatient Center—an 11% increase from the previous year. These kits serve as a warm welcome to our patients and include art supplies, journals, and other stress-reducing tools.
- **Welcomed** two additional resident dogs—Wise at our Orange campus and Haines at our Mission campus—who bring calm, comfort, and joy to patients and families during some of their most challenging times.

WELSPACES

- **Operating** nearly 70 WellSpaces in schools across 17 Orange County districts, each equipped with a library of wellness activities, coping treatments tailored to students' needs, and a consultant to work alongside school-based mental health staff.
- **Gathered** data from 34,000 student check-ins across all WellSpaces, which indicated strong student engagement, growing demand, and positive reception of the WellSpace Initiative.
- **Completed** our first elementary, campus-wide WellSpace installation at Arovista Elementary School in the Brea Olinda Unified School District, establishing a foundational model for early learners.

CLINICAL EXPANSION

- **Opened** our new nine-story Southwest Tower in June 2025. Complete with more than 25 specialty outpatient clinics, individually themed floors, and a range of family amenities, this state-of-the-art facility is expected to serve more than 168,000 outpatient visits in its first year.
- **Established** a new, pediatric-only urgent care facility in Irvine, further unifying Rady Children's Health across the six counties we serve and providing families with vital, acute urgent care closer to home.
- **Finalized** renovation plans for the Small Baby Unit to create a modern, enhanced space designed to improve outcomes for our tiniest patients. Construction is expected to be completed in summer 2026.

RESEARCH

- **Increased** the number of neonatal studies by 300% and publications by 250% since Dr. Terrie Inder was named the inaugural director for the Center for Neonatal Research in October 2022. Dr. Inder was also appointed to the newly created role of Director of the Center for Perinatal and Infant Research.
- **Awarded** a grant from the National Institutes of Health to study the effects of physical health and lifestyle on cognitive impairments in people with Down syndrome (DS) as they age—a collaboration with University of California, Irvine and other academic institutions.
- **Developing** a lab within our cancer immunotherapy program to research CAR T-cell therapy, a breakthrough approach that modifies a patient's own T-cells and reinfuses them to target and destroy cancer.