



This is where **HOPE** happens.
THIS is Kennedy Krieger.

THE CAMPAIGN TO BENEFIT CHILDREN



This is where **HOPE** happens. **THIS** is Kennedy Krieger.

For nearly 90 years, Kennedy Krieger Institute has grown from a single physician's vision to help children with cerebral palsy live fuller lives into an internationally recognized leader in pediatric care, education, and research. Today, we offer more than 80 programs—including a hospital and schools—that serve nearly 30,000 patients and students each year.

On behalf of our Institute board, our Foundation board, and more than 3,200 staff members, thank you for your interest in supporting Kennedy Krieger's next grand chapter. **Your support makes you a CHAMPION OF HOPE—someone who turns belief into action and possibility into progress.**

Even with all we have accomplished, we know there is much more to be done. Our ambitious campaign, **This is where HOPE happens. THIS is Kennedy Krieger**, will fund a bold vision to:

1. Build a state-of-the-art, patient- and family-centric Innovative Care Center to optimize healing and recovery for children with complex medical, therapeutic, and behavioral needs.
2. Create long-term impact through investments in research and endowed research chairs
3. Launch a Center for Specialized Education Innovation to identify and share proven best-practice educational approaches that can benefit children everywhere.

This campaign is about more than buildings and breakthroughs; it's about hope in action. Hope for healing. Hope for discovery. Hope for every child's potential. And it's about the people—champions like you—who make that hope happen.

This is where HOPE happens. And with your help, IT HAPPENS NOW.

In gratitude,



Bradley L. Schlaggar, MD, PhD
President and CEO



Ronald R. Peterson
Chair, Institute Board



Preston G. Athey
Chair, Foundation Board

Our name today honors a legacy of life-changing innovation.

From our earliest days as the Children's Rehabilitation Institute in **1937**, we have stood at the forefront of pediatric rehabilitation and neurodevelopmental care.

In **1963**, President John F. Kennedy established the University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD), which were originally called University Affiliated Facilities. The John F. Kennedy Institute was the first to be funded (1965) and built (1967), and was affiliated with Johns Hopkins University. The Children's Rehabilitation Institute merged with the brand-new Institute in 1967 and was known as the John F. Kennedy Institute.

In the **1980s**, visionary philanthropist Zanyl Krieger made a transformative investment that empowered us to push boundaries and explore every avenue to improve the lives of children with complex needs.

In **1992**, we proudly became Kennedy Krieger Institute—a name that reflects more than our history. It embodies a shared commitment to the ideals of our namesakes: determination in the face of challenges, innovation in pursuit of progress, and unwavering dedication to those who need us most.

THIS is Kennedy Krieger, Today



We deliver transformative care and education to nearly **30,000 individuals and families** from Maryland, every state in the U.S., and as many as 42 countries each year.



Our scientists lead **over 800 active research studies**—investigating new treatments and interventions, and pushing the boundaries of what's possible.



We operate five specialized schools serving **nearly 500 publicly funded students** each year from Maryland, Virginia and DC, providing a pathway to education for students whose needs cannot be met by their local school system.



Four early childhood programs serve **150+ children** with and without developmental disabilities.

Behind every complex case is a child and family seeking hope and exceptional care.

Our unique interdisciplinary approach to whole-child care brings together world-class experts in neurology, psychiatry, rehabilitation, developmental pediatrics, psychology, therapy, social work, and more. We go beyond the basics to address neurorehabilitation, traumatic stress, feeding disorders, rare neurogenetic diseases like leukodystrophies, Rett and Sturge-Weber syndromes, and chronic conditions such as cerebral palsy.

Through collaboration, we work tirelessly to bring healing and hope, because every child deserves a brighter future.



“When the need was greatest, the greatest need was Kennedy Krieger.”

– Robert L. Sloan, Patient Grandfather; Kennedy Krieger board member; Retired healthcare executive

This is where **HOPE** happens.

At Kennedy Krieger, we are driven by our unwavering commitment to hope for every child, adolescent, and young adult facing neurological injuries and conditions that affect how they think, move, speak, learn, and connect with the world.

We believe that hope is not passive; it's active. It's the driving force behind every breakthrough, every milestone, and every moment of transformation. Hope fuels our vision to create an exceptional, integrated environment where clinical excellence, educational innovation, and professional expertise come together in powerful ways.

This commitment takes shape through three interconnected pillars:

- ▶▶ **A world-class, patient- and family-focused Innovative Care Center**
- ▶▶ **Amplified robust research and supported faculty members**
- ▶▶ **A transformative Center for Specialized Education Innovation**

Together, these pillars form an extraordinary approach to care, research, and education—rooted in one unwavering belief: **every child deserves the chance to heal, learn, and thrive.**

HOPE NEEDS CHAMPIONS. At Kennedy Krieger, we are those champions, researchers, educators, clinicians, and supporters, all working together to turn possibility into progress and progress into hope.



THIS is Kennedy Krieger.

At Kennedy Krieger, we're creating a future where clinical care, research, and special education don't just exist side by side; they work together. A future driven by compassion, innovation, and the dedicated effort to do what's best for every child and family we serve.

Our vision is a vibrant, integrated space where healing begins, discoveries unfold, and learning transforms lives. Every corner of this environment is designed to open doors—to possibility, to progress, to hope.

This ambitious plan centers around three interconnected pillars:



▶▶ A state-of-the-art patient- and family-focused Innovative Care Center



▶▶ Long-term impact through investments in Research and Endowed Research Chairs



▶▶ A first-of-its-kind Center for Specialized Education Innovation, pioneering research and training in special education

By bringing these initiatives together, we create something extraordinary; a dynamic space of **INNOVATION, COMPASSION, DETERMINATION, and HOPE**. Here, every path toward a child's progress is pursued with purpose and belief in what's possible. The impact reaches far beyond our walls, uplifting families next door, across the nation, and around the world.

What will it take to realize our **STRATEGIC VISION?**



The Innovative Care Center: \$225 Million

With a major capital investment, you will help provide the significant upfront funding needed for construction and equipment, creating immediate impact through:

- **Building a state-of-the-art pediatric specialty facility for children and families**
- Pioneering onsite, private family accommodations, in partnership with Ronald McDonald House Charities
- Developing specialized treatment spaces, including an outdoor therapy garden, and
- Installing advanced therapeutic equipment.



Investments in Research and Endowed Research Chairs: \$25 Million

An endowed program investment extends our existing research structure, ensuring perpetual funding through endowment returns. This support enables sustained, long-term impact through:

- **Continuous support for world-class researchers**
- Ongoing funding for breakthrough investigations
- Flexible resources for emerging opportunities, and
- A permanent foundation for scientific discovery.



The Center for Specialized Education Innovation: \$25 Million

This start-up investment for program development builds on Kennedy Krieger's education and research expertise. Your support will launch and sustain transformative programs and build momentum through:

- **Initial program establishment**
- Ongoing research and development
- Continuous refinement of educational model, and
- Support for national implementation of programs.

Our vision requires \$275M in funding. We are pursuing \$100M from private philanthropy to support these essential priorities. Thank you.

This is where **PROGRESS** happens. **THIS** is Kennedy Krieger.

Thanks to advances in modern medicine, more children than ever are surviving life-threatening conditions. But survival is just the beginning.

Many survivors are left with complex chronic conditions that demand long-term, specialized, multidisciplinary care—care Kennedy Krieger is uniquely equipped to provide.

As the number of children in need grows, so does the demand for more than advanced therapies and technology. We need space to welcome more patients, environments that inspire healing and innovation, and family-centered rooms that offer comfort and hope.

We are committed to expanding access to our world-class services, ensuring we provide expertise, compassion, and whole-child care to every child we see. Pediatric health is evolving—and so are we. At Kennedy Krieger, we're building the future of care—and hope—for tomorrow's children, today.

The numbers are staggering:

 **20,000 to 30,000** children in the U.S. require prolonged, intensive rehabilitative care each year.

 **70%** increase in brain injury-related ER visits for children in the past decade.

The prevalence of children with chronic, complex medical conditions has increased

 **more than 2X** in the past 20 years.



The prevalence of autism has risen dramatically. Children with severe autism frequently require extended periods of intensive therapy and care.

 **1 in 6 children** in the U.S. today lives with a developmental disability—approximately 20 million children, an increase of 1.8 million compared to two decades ago.

 The number of children with complex, chronic medical conditions has increased, because many more survive catastrophic injury and serious illnesses than did 20 years ago.



Advances in neonatal care mean **more infants born premature survive**, with many needing long-term specialized rehabilitation and expert services.

“There is no greater calling than exploring every path to help children and their families. When my son faced a life-threatening illness, we felt the same fear and uncertainty that families at Kennedy Krieger experience every day. As both a pediatric neurologist and a parent, I know the urgency behind questions like: *Will my child survive? What will their life become?* That understanding drives my unwavering commitment to our mission. This campaign will strengthen our ability to deliver answers—and **HOPE**—to every family who turns to us.”

– Dr. Brad Schlaggar, President and CEO, Kennedy Krieger Institute

Dakota, a Bennett Blazers athlete, and Dr. Brad Schlaggar, at ROAR for Kids 2024.





The Innovative Care Center: Leading the Future of Pediatric Rehabilitation Care

This is where children **THRIVE.**

As we pursue a future filled with hope and healing, we envision the Innovative Care Center—a new, expanded, state-of-the-art facility that reflects the extraordinary compassion and expertise of our care teams.

This space will serve as both a beacon of possibility and a source of comfort for families navigating life's most challenging moments. Children and young adults come to us after several weeks of inpatient care—sometimes six months or more—when they have reached a critical milestone. While they still need several hours of intensive therapy each day, they are ready to transition to our day-hospital setting. This move allows them to continue receiving expert care while spending more time with family and beginning to re-engage with daily life.

Our goal is to create a seamless continuum of care that opens doors to healing, comfort, and connection. By combining innovative therapies with a homelike environment, the Innovative Care Center ensures that every child who needs transformative care can receive it without delay. Patients thrive, families remain supported, and every detail is designed to foster hope and speed recovery.



THIS is Kennedy Krieger.



Continuum of Care is a hallmark of Kennedy Krieger. The new Innovative Care Center will allow patients arriving from acute facilities to transition seamlessly to subacute inpatient services and then to intensive day programs, filling a critical gap between inpatient treatment and traditional outpatient approaches.

The nation's first care facility-based family center, in partnership with Ronald McDonald House Charities, will offer a peaceful, home-like refuge, bringing warmth and familiarity to families within the Innovative Care Center. Whether it's a restful nap, a nourishing meal, or quiet time spent together, the Ronald McDonald House at Kennedy Krieger will offer a space in which families can remain close to their loved ones, ensuring they never miss a moment in the healing journey.



TIMELY ACCESS TO CARE IS CRITICAL. Right now, some children and young adults must wait to be admitted due to limited space, delaying care that could change the course of their lives. The addition of transitional spaces for patients will enable them to move more seamlessly along their care journey, ensuring that more patients can be served at Kennedy Krieger.

Delivering HOPE and HEALING

Kennedy Krieger's roots will always run deep in Baltimore and across Maryland, and our new **Innovative Care Center** will be a powerful reflection of that commitment. This center will be a place where hope grows. With this expansion, we'll be able to welcome twice as many patients, bringing together expert care, advanced technology, and the warmth of family-centered support. It will be a space where healing begins, possibilities are nurtured, and every child and family feels seen, supported, and inspired.



Our **Innovative Care Center** will offer therapies that empower every child—physical, occupational, speech, feeding, and more—along with music, recreation, and behavioral support. Each service fosters strength, independence, and confidence for a brighter future tomorrow.

Through our partnership with Ronald McDonald House, patients move from intensive therapy to comforting routines, creating a healing environment that feels like home.





In our **Innovative Care Center**, patients will receive specialized care, families will remain supported and involved, and everyone will benefit from a space designed to uplift, inspire, and heal.

A rooftop therapeutic playground and respite space will prepare patients and families for life beyond our walls.

At Kennedy Krieger's Innovative Care Center, **HOPE LEADS THE WAY**. Here, challenges become opportunities, and every patient is empowered to reach their fullest potential.



Investments in Research and Endowed Research Chairs

This is where **BREAKTHROUGHS** happen. **THIS** is Kennedy Krieger.

With the establishment of new endowed faculty research chairs, we are fueling innovation and expanding the frontiers of knowledge.

For nearly 90 years, Kennedy Krieger has been a beacon of hope, leading the way in preventing and treating life-limiting, and often life-threatening, neurological and neuromuscular injuries, diseases, and disorders.

Driven by decades of groundbreaking research, we've continually pushed the boundaries of what's possible in neuroscience and developmental medicine. Our discoveries have transformed how we understand the developing brain and nervous system, bringing innovations from the lab directly to the bedside. But we know there's more to do, and we must move faster.

With hope as our guide and excellence as our foundation, we are expanding our investment in groundbreaking research by increasing the number of endowed chairs for exceptional scientific leaders. This strategic growth empowers us to recruit and retain the brightest minds in pediatric rehabilitation and neurodevelopmental care—strengthening our leadership and accelerating progress.

We are enhancing our research capabilities to eliminate barriers between discovery and treatment, ensuring that innovation reaches patients faster and more effectively.



**By creating sustainable funding for visionary research leaders, we ensure our ability to
DRIVE INNOVATION and ADVANCE UNDERSTANDING for generations to come.**

Breakthroughs in the lab are rapidly transforming care at the bedside. Our researchers are also clinicians, uniquely positioned to integrate scientific discovery with hands-on patient care. This synergy fosters an environment where daily patient experiences and insights from care teams directly inform new research directions.

This dynamic approach is driving progress on both fronts, translating bold ideas into life-changing realities for children with neurological injuries and conditions that affect how they think, move, speak, learn, and connect with the world.

The Vision

We intend to endow existing faculty and leadership positions, including, but not limited to, the following:

- Chief Science Officer
- Associate Chief Science Officer and Director of the Clinical Trials Unit
- Vice President of Pediatric Rehabilitation, Co-director of the Center for Brain Injury Recovery and Director of the Brain Injury Clinical Research Center
- Center for Autism Services, Science and Innovation
- Psychology
- Center for Excellence in Public Health Leadership
- International Center for Spinal Cord Injury
- Department of Family and Community Interventions
- The Hunter Nelson Sturge-Weber Syndrome Center
- Center for Specialized Education Innovation*

**New position to be recruited*

Each endowed position is more than a leadership role; together they will catalyze transformation in:

- ▶▶ rare neurogenetic diseases
- ▶▶ brain injury and recovery
- ▶▶ movement sciences and disorders
- ▶▶ behavioral and mental health
- ▶▶ autism and related disorders
- ▶▶ traumatic stress and other social determinants of health factors
- ▶▶ spinal cord injury
- ▶▶ clinical trials
- ▶▶ and more

Together, we can empower visionary minds to explore new frontiers and spark innovations that turn basic science into real-world solutions, opening doors for every child to **ACHIEVE MORE and **REACH NEW HEIGHTS.****





Center for Specialized Education Innovation

This is where students' individual **NEEDS ARE MET.** **THIS** is Kennedy Krieger.

From our very beginnings, Kennedy Krieger has pioneered specialized education for children with developmental disabilities and conditions affecting the nervous system.

Today, through our network of five schools, we've developed and refined approaches that enable students to reach their potential academically, socially, and behaviorally—with the goal of enhancing each child's learning trajectory and fueling independence.

Bold Plans

In our next chapter, we're expanding our impact by creating the Center for Specialized Education Innovation—the first of its kind in the nation. **This center will transform how one in six children learns and bring personalized education practices to benefit every student, in school and beyond.**



All children, no matter their challenges, deserve the chance to grow with hope. By building educational models that **CELEBRATE and **DEVELOP** each child's unique abilities, we can reshape special education and create learning environments where **ALL CHILDREN CAN THRIVE.****

This bold initiative will:



Leverage decades of Kennedy Krieger's experience and rich data from educating complex, diverse learners to identify best practices and share insights that shape the future of special education.



Create an education innovation hub powered by technology, uniting educators, researchers, therapists, behavioral scientists, and technologists to transform learning for every child.



Rapidly design, test, and refine evidence-based learning strategies, driven by our unique role at the intersection of education, clinical care, and research.



Craft replicable pre-K to 21 educational models that are customizable to meet the unique needs of students across a spectrum of abilities and challenges.



Share these proven approaches with schools nationwide, setting new standards, scaling excellence in special education, training special educators, and improving lifelong outcomes for every student.

The urgency is clear. Despite decades of progress in special education, a critical gap in evidence-based research for children with learning disabilities remains.

With our specialized schools, clinical expertise, and research capabilities, Kennedy Krieger is uniquely positioned to bridge this gap. Our impact could benefit every student nationwide.

Just as precision medicine is revolutionizing healthcare, precision education, with approaches tailored to each student's unique needs, is the future of transformative learning.

Within five years, we believe this center will:

- ▶ **Influence guidelines across the country, reshape teacher preparation programs, and set new standards for special and general education.**
- ▶ **Transform educational policy and practice nationwide.**
- ▶ **Most importantly, ensure that time in school delivers the greatest impact on children's future independence, work and community participation, and quality of life.**

This is where **HOPE** happens. **THIS** is Kennedy Krieger.

Hope is powerful. It reminds us that every child—no matter their challenges—can grow, learn, and thrive. Hope drives breakthroughs in treatment, brings comfort to families facing rare diagnoses, and inspires education systems to embrace each child's unique strengths. By investing in this vision, you affirm that all children deserve a future filled with opportunity and promise. **Together, we can turn HOPE into reality.**



Establish a cutting-edge Innovative Care Center equipped with advanced technologies designed to help patients take their first steps or regain mobility after life-altering illnesses, diagnoses, and injuries.



Provide comfort and welcoming spaces for families during their most stressful times.



Fuel groundbreaking research that discovers new treatments for rare and common diseases and injuries.



Reshape special education and create learning environments where every child has the opportunity to thrive.

With your support, there's no limit to what we can achieve for the children and families who need us most. Your generosity fuels **LIFE-CHANGING CARE, OPPORTUNITY, and HEALING. This is where **HOPE** happens, and with your help, it happens now.**

Choose Your Strategic Investment for **LASTING IMPACT**



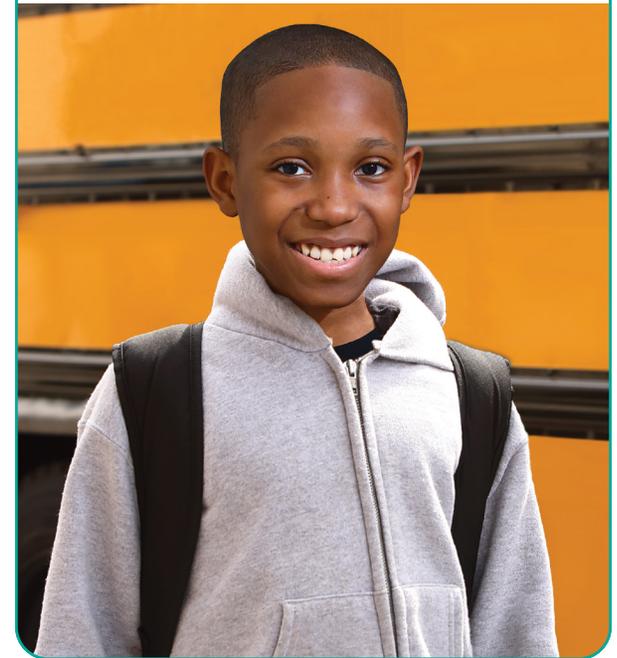
**The Innovative
Care Center**



**Investments in Research and
Endowed Research Chairs**



**Center for Specialized
Education Innovation**



We are pursuing \$100M from private philanthropy to support these priorities.

Thanks to you, HOPE HAPPENS NOW!

To learn more about the Campaign for Kennedy Krieger, please email: HopeHappens@KennedyKrieger.org



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