2019 Annual Report
Love to the Rescue-Helping Kids Be Kids®
The primary mission of Shriners Hospitals for Children® — Houston is to help children who need specialized medical care — wherever they may live. Aware of a need for specialized medical care outside of Houston, the hospital offers a range of services that expands our reach, including medical outreach clinics.

Shriners Hospitals for Children — Houston holds outreach clinics in Texas in La Feria, Laredo and Amarillo. The clinics serve children with orthopaedic, neuromusculoskeletal conditions, as well as cleft lip and palate abnormalities. A team that includes doctors, therapists, social workers, nurses, orthotists, and local volunteers set up a temporary clinic, typically in a local Shriners center or local healthcare centers in the area.

Regular outreach clinics make it easier for patients in those areas and patients in northern Mexico to see their orthopaedic physician on a regular basis, as is often needed for patients with orthopaedic conditions. It also allows the prosthetics and orthotics team to fit and cast a large volume of patients for prosthetics and orthotic devices.

We have a lot of families that are very grateful, families that are coming from different areas in Mexico, families that I don’t think would be able to get care anywhere else.

In 2019 Shriners Hospitals for Children — Houston saw 1,073 patients through outreach clinics. The hospital served 14 clinic days in La Feria, 7 clinic days in Laredo and 6 clinic days in Amarillo throughout the year.

I am privileged to attend the outreach clinics and observe the good work that goes on from the Shriners Houston hospital physicians and staff and I am always looking for ways to expand the excellent care we provide.

Cathy A. Moniaci, RN, MS FACHE
Administrator
Subacute Care and Inpatient Rehabilitation

Andrew is a 4-year-old boy with history of cerebral palsy. Before undergoing selective dorsal rhizotomy to help with the spasticity and tone at Shriners Hospitals for Children — Houston, he was walking without an assistive device, but had frequent falls. Andrew was unable to sit or stand independently and he required assistance with daily activities.

After surgery, Andrew spent a few weeks in the inpatient rehabilitation unit and made incredible progress. Andrew proved his grit during every rehabilitation session. He received physical, occupational and recreational therapy, and within four weeks, he was able to do basic tasks independently, walk hospital distances with a walker, and stand at a table to play with supervision. The rehab team worked with him to improve on his safety and balance for ambulation and for overall strengthening.

Thanks to the many generous donors to the Inpatient Rehabilitation Program:
Historical Timeline

1920
First patient admitted to Baptist Sanitarium. Dr. Judson L. Taylor serves as Chief of Staff until 1932.

1932
Relocated to Methodist Hospital with the help of the Blue Bird Circle. Dr. Joseph B. Foster serves as Chief of Staff until 1949.

1934
Relocated to Blue Bird Cottage.

1949
Positioned as a hospital within Hermann Hospital. Dr. Edward T. Smith was appointed Chief of Staff until 1968.

1952
Renamed and opened as Arabia Temple Crippled Children's Clinic and Hospital.

1966

1969
Dr. Michael M. Donovan was appointed Chief Surgeon until 1980.

1978
Houston became the second hospital in the Shriners Hospitals for Children System with a Motion Analysis Center.

1980
Dr. Thomas E. Cain appointed Chief of Staff until 1996.

1996
Moved to current hospital location in the Texas Medical Center.

1998
Dr. Richard Haynes appointed Chief of Staff until 2008.

2008
Dr. Douglas A. Barnes appointed Chief of Staff.

2009
Absorbed Galveston patients after Hurricane Ike for nine months.

2011
Approved the acceptance of medical insurance.

2012
Added Laredo, TX to our outreach clinics.

2013
Opened the Virginia and Robert Magnuson Inpatient Rehabilitation and Subacute Care program.

2014
Established partnership with Cronin and Brauer Cleft Lip and Palate clinic and the Christus Foundation.

2015
Initiated pediatric dental services within the cleft lip and palate program.

2016
Sports Injury Rehabilitation Clinic with Dr. Alfred Mansur

2018
Motion Analysis Center receives accreditation

2017
Established Day Surgery Program. Remained open for patients during Hurricane Harvey.
In the ground floor lobby of Shriners Hospitals for Children — Houston physicians, nurses, therapist, and other staff members shared the same look of pride, as 18-year-old Jonica entered the room. Decorated in black and red, the official colors of Texas Tech University, and twinkle lights lit all over the room—the hospital hosted its very first graduation ceremony.

Wearing her cap and gown and with the graduation march playing in the background, Jonica was beaming as she received her high school diploma—an accomplishment she worked diligently to achieve.

Jonica spent three months in the inpatient rehabilitation unit for a spinal cord injury after a car accident. Regular physical and occupation therapy was more than challenging for her, but she still made every effort necessary not to fall behind in her education.

Just a couple of days after being admitted, Jonica was enrolled in the University of Texas Charter School at Shriners Hospital for Children — Houston. Even on the days she was not feeling well, was in pain, or was tired from doing therapy all day, she still did what she needed to do during her daily school session.

Jonica said trying to learn how to work with her new body and figuring out what she could and could not do without pushing herself too far was one of her biggest challenges. With a C5 and C6 spinal cord injury, Jonica experienced partial paralysis but she pushed through and made incredible progress.

Jonica was accepted to Texas Tech University, where she plans to complete an undergraduate degree in Business and later attend law school. The sky is the limit for this courageous young woman and the entire Shriners staff will continue to cheer her on.

Special Thanks to our many generous donors who support our Inpatient Rehabilitation Unit: Robert B. Donald, David N. Greenberg, Edgar and Carolyn Reeves, Chuck and Tracy Southard, Geraldine Timmermann, The Jack Jr., and Nance Foules Wier Endowment, Karen Wheeler
Outreach Clinics

Maya has been attending the outreach clinic in the Rio Grande Valley of Texas for most of her childhood. Born with a dislocated spine and lower extremity challenges, Shriners Hospitals for Children — Houston has been able to provide Maya with world-renowned care. For nearly ten years, Maya and her mother have been traveling from Matamoros, Mexico to the outreach clinic. “When Maya was born, I was scared that I was going to lose her. Doctors told me that she was going to have many difficulties. The Houston Shriners Hospital has given me hope. Today Maya is walking, running, and playing just like any other child her age.” Maya’s mother said.

With a powerful and charming personality, Maya’s presence is always known at the clinic. Whether she is in physical therapy, being seen by doctors, or in the waiting room, Maya does not shy away from making new friends.

Special thanks to the Robert J. Kleberg, Jr. and Helen C. Kleberg Foundation and the Guerra Family Fund for their continuing support of the Valley Outreach Clinic in La Feria, Texas.
Camp Love without Limits was a success yet again! Camp took place from February 15-17, 2019 in Burton, Texas. Camp for All, our hosting camp grounds, was founded by two Houston physicians who care for children with special needs and a parent who lost a child to cancer. For one weekend, children from Shriners Hospitals for Children — Houston have the opportunity to experience camping and outdoor activities free of barriers and completely adaptive to their mobility needs.

Forty excited campers and about twenty counselors and medical staff loaded up two buses and made our way to Burton, Texas. The campers arrived, full of snacks from the bus. Immediately the campers began to form friendships and reunite with friends from last year. Campers then went back to the cabins to settle in and decorate signs “naming” their cabin! We had quite an array of names- from the Cabin 7 Savages to the Cabin 4 Fancy Foxes. You never know what you are going to get when you leave a group of children up to naming themselves! All of the cabins were excited to jump right into activities and bonding over games at carnival night.

There are not enough words or pictures to explain the feeling you get from seeing these kids accomplish things they never thought would be possible as well as empower and embrace each other for their differences!

Many thanks to Scott and Kay Brown for supporting Camp Love without Limits!
Libbie has been a patient at Shriners Hospitals for Children — Houston since she was 3 years old.

Libbie was adopted by her parents in 2011 from China. She was 3 years old. They were told that she had a corrected clubfoot. When they arrived in China, they knew immediately she had more than a corrected club foot.

They were told that she would never walk, or live independently. When the family arrived back in the U.S., they saw several orthopedic doctors. They were not familiar with her condition and mostly handled sports injuries. A Shriner friend suggesting going to Shriners Houston and assured them that they would receive the best care ever and would not be sorry.

Libbie was diagnosed with Arthrogryposis and was given a treatment plan for her future. Her mother says, “The first time we saw her walk was just a day of pure joy and astonishment!”

During a recent visit, Libbie was asked if there were any areas in her daily life that could be improved. She told them that she loves to play ping-pong but has difficulty holding the paddle for extended periods. Her orthotist, Jeremy, asked if he could engineer an orthotic that might help her. He designed a custom-made brace with a ping-pong paddle for Libbie.

Special thanks to the Allied Advocates Foundation and the Max and Charlene Key Trust for their generous support of Shriners Hospitals for Children – Houston and our Rehabilitation Services.
8-year-old **Xavi** loves music, he likes to dance, and plays the drums. He was born with spina bifida and received surgery for clubfeet at Shriners Hospitals for Children — Houston in 2013. He now has more flexibility on both feet and continues gaining strength to walk but still relies on a wheelchair and walker. Xavi continues to have periodic visits for orthotic services.

“The people here are special. I always have wonderful experience. Smiles everywhere, very helpful,” said Ana, Xavi's mom. “There a lot of programs for kids with differences and disabilities that you can't find anywhere else. Everything is so accessible for him.”
Being born with a bilateral cleft lip and palate was not a misfortune for Reese, but rather a challenge that his family was ready to embrace.

Living with cleft lip and/or palate can be challenging for children. The stigma of an abnormal appearing lip or speech production can be difficult to cope with. Reese endured constant bullying growing up; his family moved from city to city but it was during their time in Colorado that Reese started homeschooling, right before his teenage years, to avoid harassment.

With the full support of his family, Reese overcame every challenge and found comfort in doing the things he loved. His peers at 4-H encouraged him to go back to public school, and since enrolling in high school, Reese remained at the top of his class, academically. The 18-year-old graduated as salutatorian in May 2019 and earned the Horatio Alger Scholarship. He plans to pursue a degree in mechanical engineering at Oklahoma State University.

Throughout his childhood, Reese required 13 facial surgeries affecting his ears, throat, mouth, and palate, but it wasn’t until Reese was 15 years old that they were referred to Shriners Hospitals for Children — Houston and the Cronin Brauer Cleft Lip and Cleft Palate Program, after losing insurance benefits. Reese’s mother said making the eight-hour drive from Boswell, OK to Houston multiple times a year with Reese and her younger daughter, was absolutely worth the drive every time.

“I have learned to always respect others. You never know what a person is going through and how just being a friend can make all the difference,” Reese said. “I would tell kids facing similar difficulties that it does get better. Just overcome it and you will do amazing things.”

Many thanks to the CHRISTUS Foundation for Healthcare, the Reliant Charitable Foundation, and the Shriners Smiles for Tots and Teens event volunteers for their generous support of the Cronin Brauer Cleft Lip and Cleft Palate Program.
A new group was formed in 2018 to support development and fundraising efforts for SHC-Houston. The Philanthropy Council meets quarterly and includes SHC-Houston Board of Governors members as well as community members committed to supporting the Houston Shriners Hospital. Our 2020 members include:

David Henderson — President, Seeley Oil; Chair, SHCH Board of Governors
Matt Bell — President, Primesource Sports LLC
Sylvia Brauer — Attorney, CHRISTUS Foundation for Healthcare Board
Cheryl Byington — Vice President, BP (ret); Chair, Shriners Smiles for Tots and Teens
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Special acknowledgement to the members of the Texas Shrine Association who have dedicated their time, talent, and treasure to continue what is considered the greatest philanthropy in America.

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