Paying Forward Life’s Blessings
Making a Lasting Difference Through a Bequest in Their Wills

“We’ve had a long association with the hospital,” Terry Cornwell Rumsey says. Twenty-two years ago she and her husband, William, gave birth to their only son, Billy. Suffering from meconium aspiration*, Billy was rushed to Children’s National Medical Center in Washington, D.C., where his life was saved. The Rumseys never forgot those early days of Billy’s life, and their relationship with Children’s National deepened even further as Billy continued to receive excellent care through the years.

Seeing how valuable the hospital is to the entire community, especially to those with limited means, Terry began volunteering at Children’s National over five years ago and today is Chair of the Children’s Hospital Board. She also serves on other Boards, working committees, and councils.

Terry is dedicated to helping Children’s National fulfill its mission to be a world-class leader in pediatrics and is passionate in her commitment. She brings a special perspective because of her background as the owner of a full-service management consulting firm. She says, “None of the hospital’s achievements could have been possible without the commitment of so many very dedicated employees and volunteers.”

Terry and William realize the importance of offering financial support to sustain the work done at Children’s National and decided the best way they could make a lasting difference—through a bequest in their wills. The decision was easy.

“We really believe that to whom much is given, much is expected. We were raised that way, and that’s very much a part of our value system and our principles,” Terry says. “I am confident that our gift will be used in the best way possible because, at the end of the day, Children’s National is improving the health and the lives of children. And I trust them to do the right thing.”

* When a newborn baby inhales a mixture of its first feces and the amniotic fluid around the time of delivery.

“We are blessed, and to have that blessing and not turn around and pay it forward is a missed opportunity.”

—Terry Cornwell Rumsey
Working Every Day to Excel in Care for Families

Schonay Barnett-Jones knows the halls of Children’s National Medical Center quite intimately. In November 2004, her 6-month-old daughter, Olivia Grace, transferred to Children’s Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) for what Schonay and her husband, Kevin, suspected was pneumonia. They would soon learn that their little girl was incredibly sick and needed a heart transplant.

For the next 101 days, Kevin and Schonay split time at Children’s National and home with their other two children while Olivia Grace remained in the PICU. “The staff helped us with the little things and understood that spending the holidays in a hospital is tough on a family,” Schonay says. Kevin and Schonay found comfort in the kindness of Children’s staff. Everyone, from the doctors to the custodial staff who brought a balloon each day to make Olivia Grace’s room more festive, supported the family during this time.

In September 2005, Olivia Grace received her heart transplant. When the PICU staff heard the good news, cheers erupted in the unit. The little girl they had nicknamed the “PICU Princess” had received her new heart.

Children’s National is committed to providing family-centered care in all aspects of service. Especially when caring for long-stay patients and families like Olivia Grace’s, the doctors, nurses, and staff encourage parents to voice opinions and identify opportunities to more fully involve parents in patient care.

Families know their children best, so it’s important that we recognize them as central to the care we provide our patients,” explains Wayne Neal, MAT, RN, who leads the Family-Centered Care Committee at Children’s National. “Whatever we do, we have to include the perspective of the family.”

Schonay and Olivia Grace Barnett-Jones

Bequests: A Simple Way to Create Your Legacy

A charitable bequest is one of the simplest and easiest forms of giving. By providing for us through your will, you ensure that all of your assets remain available to you throughout your life. You maintain the use, enjoyment, and control of your assets for as long as you need them.

Children’s National then receives a gift from your estate. Your charitable bequest will benefit many children who need our services long into the future.

Sample Bequest Language

**A specific bequest**

“I hereby give, devise, and bequeath [specific sum of money or specific asset] to…”

**A residuary bequest**

“I hereby give, devise, and bequeath [all or a percentage] of the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate to…”

…Children’s Hospital Foundation for the benefit of Children’s National Medical Center, 111 Michigan Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20010.

**A restricted bequest**

“I hereby give, devise, and bequeath [specific sum of money or a percentage] to Children’s Hospital Foundation for the benefit of Children’s National Medical Center, 111 Michigan Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20010, specifically for [describe the primary purpose, such as equipment, research or a program – cancer, cardiology, birth defects, etc.].”

**Tax ID #52-1640402**
Your Will is Your Permanent Statement

As you assembled your income tax documents, you may have given renewed attention to your finances and investments. This may be the time to ensure that your will still meets your family’s needs and your personal desires. It may also be the time to create your personal legacy.

Consider these will-impacting circumstances:

■ **A change in tax laws.** An attorney can help you determine if anything in your will is affected by federal or state law changes.

■ **A change of assets.** Have you divested or sold certain items mentioned in your will? Or perhaps you have acquired new assets or your estate has increased in value.

■ **A change in your family.** Your own marriage, remarriage or divorce, or the death of your spouse should trigger an update of your will. You also should consider a change in family circumstances of your beneficiaries.

■ **A change of job.** Have you made a career change? Retired? Do you have new pension or profit-sharing benefits? Have you arranged for the continuation or disposition of your business?

■ **A change of needs and interests.** Are your children financially independent now? Do you have more than ample assets? Do you want to continue your support of charitable causes after your lifetime?

■ **Reflect on your values.** Take action to ensure that your personal wishes are carried out and reflect your values. Is it time to create your permanent statement, your legacy? By creating a bequest to support excellence in children’s health care, the world will remember what you cared about.

Your charitable bequest will benefit many children who need our services long into the future.

The Guardian Society

The Guardian Society recognizes the very special people who have included Children’s National Medical Center in their wills or other planned gifts. Through their forethought and generosity, they inspire others to ensure world-class care, advocacy, research, and education at Children’s National through a lasting legacy.

To learn more about The Guardian Society and how to become a member, please call toll free at (866) 458-0686 or guardiansoc@cnmc.org.
Dear Friend:

I’m happy to share with you some of the incredible work of Children’s National and highlight some ways you can support our mission through planned gifts.

All children deserve good health care in order to ensure success in all aspects of their lives. So, please remember Children’s Hospital Foundation when you think of your estate plans. Please help us provide preeminent health care, as well as the benefits of cutting-edge research, to all children...in our backyard and around the world...now and into the future.

The Office of Gift Planning is a resource for you and your professional financial advisor regarding charitable gift planning matters and the specific charitable gift vehicle(s) most appropriate to help you meet your personal financial and philanthropic goals.

Please call us so we may help you create a gift arrangement that suits your needs while providing the best care possible for our young patients and their families. I look forward to talking with you soon.

Thank you for all you do for Children's National!

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How to Make Effective Bequests

You have worked hard to accumulate assets throughout your life. When you create a will, you have the ability to determine how those assets are distributed at death. To learn how to make effective bequests, send for our FREE GUIDE by completing and returning the enclosed reply card.