



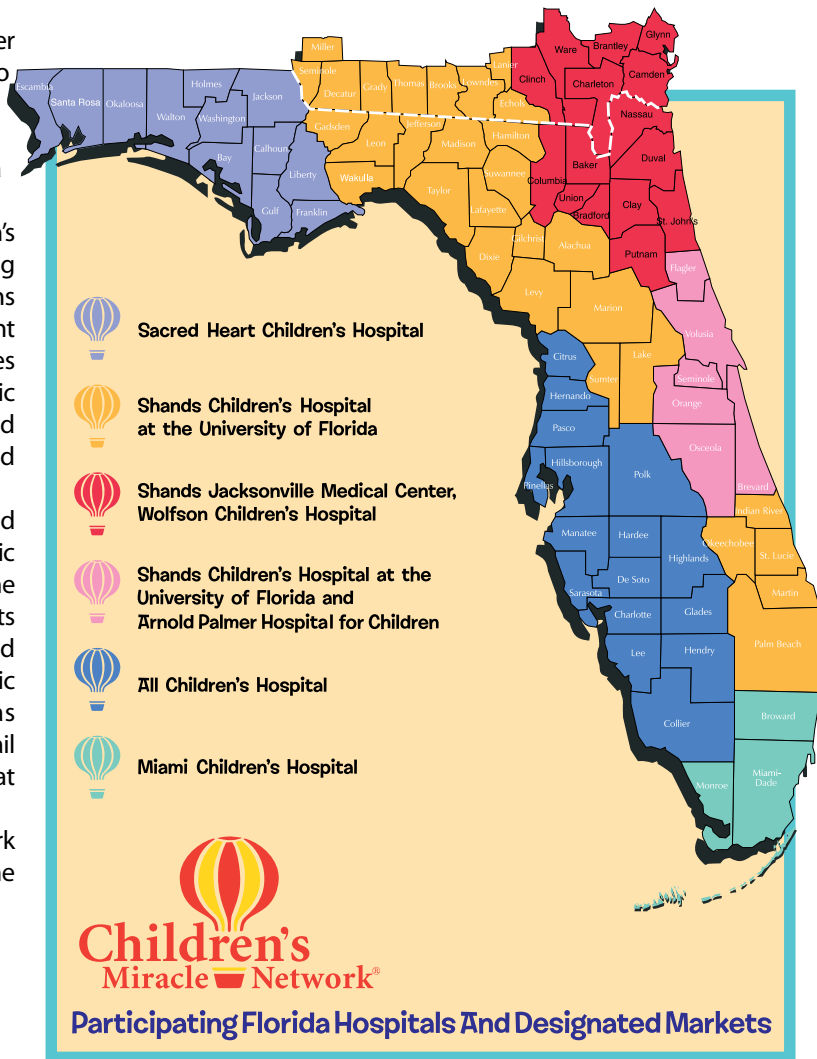
CHILDREN'S MIRACLE NETWORK AT SHANDS CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL AT UF 2008 ANNUAL REPORT

Children's Miracle Network – the alliance of premier hospitals for children – is a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping kids by raising funds for more than 170 children's hospitals across North America. Each year, these nonprofit hospitals provide the best medical care to help 17 million children with a multitude of diseases and injuries.

With more than 8,400 kids treated in 2008, Shands Children's Hospital at the University of Florida is one of Florida's leading referral systems for children. UF College of Medicine physicians treated kids from all 67 Florida counties, 46 other states and eight foreign countries. UF physicians offer nearly all clinical services delivered at any children's health center in the nation from basic primary care to highly specialized procedures such as organ and bone-marrow transplantation, AIDS treatment, diabetes care and monitoring, neurosurgery and cancer treatment.

Throughout the year, fundraising events are conducted through a coalition of hospital employees, media partners, civic organizations and volunteers working together to ensure the health of kids in their community. This past year, different events in Gainesville, Ocala, Tallahassee, West Palm Beach, Orlando and South Georgia helped raise money and awareness for pediatric programs and work conducted at Shands. Events such as radiothons, dance marathons, golf tournaments, art auctions, trail rides and balloon campaigns helped raise money for the kids at Shands.

Shands Children's Hospital, like all Children's Miracle Network Hospitals, are available 24 hours a day to help all kids overcome every imaginable disease and injury.



**A message from Shelley Collins, MD
Chief, Division of Pediatric Hospital Medicine
UF College of Medicine**



My name is Shelley Collins, MD, University of Florida College of Medicine division of pediatric hospital medicine chief. I am a member of the Children's Miracle Network advisory board.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the sponsors and donors from all over Florida and South Georgia for supporting the Children's Miracle Network. Because of your dedication and contributions, you have raised more than \$2.9 million just last year alone.

These are trying times. Financially everyone is struggling to make ends meet. It is partly why the contributions that you have made and continue to make mean so much.

As you walk through the hospital, you may see the effect your contributions made possible. From our child-life specialists who make the hospital and the procedures more bearable for

the children, to the very special equipment our ophthalmologists and pediatric dentists use to take care of our kids, the Children's Miracle Network is a critical part of the UF pediatrics department.

What you may not have seen are the patients who live their lives here – some for just a few days, others for several months to nearly a year. There are thousands of stories. When you dedicate your life to taking care of children, each of them takes a piece of your heart. They are why we are here, why we need your support and why we appreciate so much what you have given to the Children's Miracle Network.

Without you, we could not do what we do. We could not create a child-friendly outpatient surgical center at Ayers Medical Plaza, and we could not continue much of the research in children's health that occurs at UF. Without you and your partnership with the Children's Miracle Network, we would just be another hospital – but we are not. We are Shands at UF and we are so grateful.

