



40 years of better health **4KIDS**



Over 50 guests gathered at Manchester Hall on 26 June to celebrate 40 years of MedEquip4Kids improving healthcare for eight million children. The evening began with a welcome from the Vice-Chair of Trustees, Professor Jerome Carson, followed by moving reflections from our founders, Jonathan and Shulamit Pfeffer, who shared the story of how their daughter's illness with meningitis inspired them to start fundraising for the hospital that treated her, and how the charity grew from there.

We then heard from Jordanna Whittleston of Green Fold Special School, whose pupils with disabilities have benefited from specialised beds, and an accessible planter (see inside page for more). Awards were presented by CEO Dr Ghazala Baig to long-standing and fantastic supporters of the charity: Elizabeth Stones, John Slattery, VINCI Building Ltd, Bowker Engineering Ltd, Tilbury Douglas Ltd, and the University of Greater Manchester. John Slattery also generously donated a stunning cake for the occasion.

Next was Janet Ash from St Mary's Deane CE Primary School, who spoke enthusiastically about the positive wellbeing impact of our Hummingbird Project in her school. Finally, Dr Baig closed the event with heartfelt thanks to all who have supported our journey so far.

We did it!

New chairs brighten hospital visits for kidney patients

Four new chairs are making a difference at the dialysis unit at Leeds Children's Hospital. Children on dialysis need to visit the hospital three times a week, spending four hours attached to a dialysis machine to receive life-saving treatment for kidney failure. Richard Carless, Paediatric Renal Nurse Specialist said: "Our dialysis chairs were over two decades old, showing lots of wear and tear, and were uncomfortable. The new chairs have not only benefited our patients, but also the staff, as the adjustable height reduces the risk of musculoskeletal injuries." A young patient who visits regularly said: "The new chairs make the unit much more colourful!"



Gardening planter brings joy to disabled pupils

Thanks to support from MedEquip4Kids and our donors at United Utilities, pupils at Green Fold Special School in Bolton are now enjoying a bespoke, wheelchair-accessible gardening planter. Unveiled during a celebratory tea party attended by pupils, staff, and funders, the new feature enables children with complex needs to engage in outdoor learning, develop sensory skills, and experience the therapeutic benefits of nature. The planter forms part of a wider programme of inclusive equipment provided by MedEquip4Kids to support learning and wellbeing.



Pupils at Blackley Academy explore their senses

Our Hummingbird Project team recently delivered the six-week Positive Psychology course at Blackley Academy. As part of the mindfulness sessions, pupils explored their senses, in particular smell, which is linked to memory and emotional wellbeing. Ian Platt led a fun, interactive activity using ten mystery jars filled with different scents, prompting laughter and curiosity as pupils guessed each one. Through reflection, students learned how paying attention to everyday smells can help them feel more grounded, present, and connected to the world around them.



We need your help

Sensory projector for children's waiting area

The new Bassetlaw Hospital's Emergency Village is now open, offering same-day and 24/7 urgent care. A woodland-themed waiting area and age-appropriate toys are already helping to ease the distress of hospital visits for children. We're now fundraising for an Omni-Vista Install, a ceiling-mounted sensory projector offering calming scenes and interactive games. It will benefit up to 12,000 children each year, supporting rehabilitation and easing anxiety, especially for those with additional needs.

Help parents rest at their child's bedside

Royal Bolton Hospital needs four overnight sleeper chairs for the Children and Young People's Unit. These fold-out chairs will give parents a comfortable place to rest while staying with their child in hospital. Better sleep supports emotional wellbeing, decision-making and care. Each chair could benefit up to 1,825 families over five years, helping to reduce stress and improve experiences for both carers and young patients. The new beds will enhance care for children facing a range of conditions, from chronic illnesses to mental health crises.

Image supplied
by Agile Medical



Oxygen monitors for children with breathing issues

Macclesfield District General Hospital still needs four bedside pulse oximeters to monitor oxygen levels for children with a range of respiratory conditions, including chest infections, asthma and croup. These devices are currently needed by around 200 patients per month. Having four new machines available would make such a difference to this busy ward and would help ensure that children with breathing difficulties receive the prompt and effective care they need.

Fundraising News



Easter duck race is a quacking success!

On Good Friday we held our 10th annual duck race at Salford Watersports Centre, which raised an amazing £6,250. The turnout for this event was fantastic, despite the rain. Thank you to all that came along. As well as the duck race itself, the event featured fun-filled activities including a tombola, face painting, and a carousel. We also had the wonderful Louby Lou to entertain and bring smiles to all. The Corporate Duck Race featured ducks decorated by our lovely sponsors, Quartzelec, TSK Group, Kids Planet, Orega Management, Unite the Union, Skilled Personnel Consulting, Soapworks, Hall Brown Family Law, and BBK Partnership. The race was won by Soapworks, narrowly beating Quartzelec's Glindaba.

Join the MedEquip4Kids Lottery

Earlier this year, we launched our charity lottery to help raise vital funds for children in hospital – and give supporters the chance to win fantastic weekly prizes, including a £25,000 jackpot! Tickets cost just £1, with 50p from every ticket going directly to support children's health and wellbeing. **Join in and find out more:**

<https://www.onelottery.co.uk/support/medequip4kids>



Dates for your diary

Charity Golf Day Friday, 12th September

Shimmer Ball Saturday, 8th November



Leaving a gift to a charity in your Will is one of the most wonderful and significant ways you can continue to transform the lives of others beyond your lifetime.

For more information call 0161 798 1600

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