



ChildrensHospitalLosAngeles
International Leader in Pediatrics

June 2009

making a world of difference

THE CAMPAIGN FOR CHILDRENS HOSPITAL LOS ANGELES

The Ahmanson Foundation gives second major grant for New Hospital Building

For the second time in three and a half years, The Ahmanson Foundation has made a major gift to support construction of the New Hospital Building at Childrens Hospital Los Angeles. The Foundation, which has been supporting Childrens Hospital for more than four decades, recently announced a \$2 million grant—adding to a \$3 million grant made in 2005.

With its generous support for the New Hospital Building, the Los Angeles-based foundation has become a member of the “Champions for Children” at Childrens Hospital—a group of visionary community philanthropists who each have contributed \$5 million or more to the New Hospital Building. The Champions will be recognized on a special donor wall installation at the entrance to the new facility.

Scheduled to be completed in 2010, the New Hospital Building

will provide the finest medical and surgical environment for children in the United States. The 317-bed, 460,000-square-foot facility will feature a model family-centered care environment in which children and their families can learn and heal together. Eighty-five percent of patient rooms will be private.

“The New Hospital Building is critical to ensuring that Childrens Hospital can continue to deliver state-of-the-art care far into the future,” says Bill Ahmanson, president of The Ahmanson Foundation. “We feel it’s extremely important to support this facility, which will benefit children and families not just from Los Angeles, but also from around the world.”

In recognition of The Ahmanson Foundation’s generous support, the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) in the New Hospital Building will be named “The Ahmanson

Foundation Pediatric Intensive Care Unit.” The PICU is the largest such unit on the West Coast, serving nearly 1,400 critically ill and injured children each year, and it will increase in size by 20 percent in the New Hospital Building. In fact, nearly 38 percent of beds in the New Hospital Building will be in intensive care units—a direct response to rising community need.

In addition to its support of the New Hospital Building, The Ahmanson Foundation recently made a \$125,000 grant to The Vision Center at Childrens Hospital Los Angeles. The grant enabled the purchase of spectral domain optical coherence tomography equipment, a highly specialized imaging system that allows physicians to image the retina and cornea at the cellular level and identify problems at their earliest possible stages.

Childrens Hospital is one of the only hospitals in the nation

with this state-of-the-art equipment, which already has led to two significant novel findings that may help physicians save the vision of countless premature infants and babies. The system also is invaluable in diagnosis and imaging in children who have undergone a new type of corneal transplant procedure.

Established in 1952, The Ahmanson Foundation serves Los Angeles County by funding cultural projects in the arts and humanities, education, health care, programs related to homelessness and underserved populations and a wide range of human services. The Foundation was established by Los Angeles businessman Howard F. Ahmanson—the founder of H.F. Ahmanson & Company, a savings and loan holding company—and Howard’s wife, Dorothy.

The Foundation’s support of Childrens Hospital dates back to



Bill Ahmanson

1964 and is more critical today than ever, Bill Ahmanson says.

“Given the current economic downturn, it’s more important than ever to support places like Childrens Hospital Los Angeles,” he explains. “The people at this hospital are tremendously dedicated to helping critically ill children from all walks of life. We’re honored to be able to lend them our support.”

CONSTRUCTION ZONE

Living Proof: Building for Our Children



Dollars raised and designated for the New Hospital Building as of March 31, 2009

PHOTO BY MWMI HADDON