

Removing Barriers, Changing Lives

## Packard Family Cares Fund

**All mothers and children deserve the opportunity to reach their full health potential.** Yet, many systemic barriers exist for families, only to be compounded when facing a serious diagnosis. On top of the burden of managing care, everyday costs can pile up quickly—from lost income due to time away from work to additional expenses for food and travel to our hospital.

### Meeting Families' Immediate Needs

Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford is among the top pediatric hospitals in the nation. Since our doors opened in 1991, we have been committed to providing extraordinary treatment for every mother and child, regardless of ability to pay.

However, families too often face financial hardships while caring for a child with complex medical needs. They must balance the cost of basic necessities like meals and rent with treatment-related expenses such as costly at-home medical devices and traveling to access care. Flexible, thoughtfully deployed philanthropy can help fill these gaps.

**We invite you to make a difference through the new Packard Family Cares fund**, launched by the Board of Directors of the Lucile Packard Foundation for Children's Health. Gifts of any size will have an impact, and 100 percent of your contributions will go directly to meet our patients' needs.

**"We are here to alleviate the barriers that keep kids and moms from being well. Compassionate support from donors makes that possible."**— Kimberly Browne, LCSW, ACM-SW, ACSW, Executive Director of Patient and Family Services, Stanford Medicine Children's Health



Cancer survivor Marlee-Jo with her parents, Renee and Joe. Donors helped cover the family's needs during treatment so they could focus on healing. "It was humbling to hear how many people were out there that wanted to help us," says Joe.

**500+**

patient families assisted by Packard Children's Hospital with local lodging in 2022

**3x**

increase in food insecurity in San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties after the COVID pandemic

**40%**

of our patients rely on public insurance

## Every Gift Makes an Impact

For families in crisis, every dollar counts—meaning that gifts of any amount can make a profound difference through the Packard Family Cares fund.



### Easing Food Insecurity

Access to affordable meals is a consistent challenge for our patient families during treatment. What's more, the cost of food in Silicon Valley may be much higher than normal for those traveling from outside the area. Philanthropy can help provide nutritious meals for families while they are staying near the hospital.



### Transportation Assistance

During an extended hospital stay, parents want to remain as close to their sick child as possible. However, lodging assistance near Packard Children's is limited, and loved ones without access to reliable transportation may fall through the cracks. Donor support can help families access resources like gas cards, shuttles, train tickets, and ride shares.



### Equipment for Quality Home Care

The healing process doesn't end when our patients are discharged. Yet for families struggling to make ends meet, expensive at-home equipment may feel impossible to afford. The Packard Family Cares fund can help ensure that high-quality care continues at home by providing devices like blood pressure cuffs for mothers with preeclampsia—a condition that disproportionately affects Black women.

## Philanthropy Will Make All the Difference

Donor support is key to ensuring that families' material needs are met while they focus on healing.

## LESSONS FROM A PACKARD CHILDREN'S SOCIAL WORKER



Kimberly Browne, Executive Director of Patient and Family Services, leads the teams that will connect families with resources supported by the Packard Family Cares fund.

Over the course of her career, Kim has helped to support thousands of patients' cases and learned how to deliver targeted support when families need it most. "Our social work team had the privilege of supporting a mother who had two children with the same rare illness," Kim recalls.

Tragically, one passed away—and her surviving child faced a similar poor prognosis. Mom was unable to work due to the demands of caring for her child, and her sole source of income was a small stipend from the state. When her child was admitted to the hospital, she no longer qualified for the stipend. This made it difficult to consistently pay rent and, in turn, jeopardized her child's health after discharge. Without a safe place to sleep, how could her child heal?

Kim thought outside the box and secured rent assistance for the family. **"This is a small thing in the grand scheme," she says. "If we can stop this mother from having to worry about paying rent on top of everything else, why would we not do exactly that?"**

For more information or to make a gift to the Packard Family Cares fund, please contact:

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