

**Special place. Special time.**

We are at a landmark moment in children's health. New scientific advances in genetics are providing unprecedented opportunities to understand, treat, and even prevent the most pressing childhood diseases of our time. These and other extraordinary developments are at the foundation of The Mount Sinai Medical Center's plans for launching the Child Health and Development Institute. Our groundbreaking research will quickly be transformed into revolutionary treatments and preventive therapies that will dramatically improve children's health – both locally and on a global scale.

## The Child Health and Development Institute



### Local Issues. Global Impact.

The Child Health and Development Institute (CHDI) will study the illnesses with the most severe impact on the lives of children: asthma and allergies, diabetes and obesity, neurodevelopmental disorders, and congenital heart disease. Many of these health problems are epidemic in Mount Sinai's East Harlem community and affect an ever-growing number of children throughout the United States and around the world. The discoveries we will make about these conditions will help children in our neighborhood and beyond.

The Child Health and Development Institute will study these diseases through the lens of genetics and the environment, focusing not just on the illness, but also on the complex interplay between them. Recent advances in the field of genomics—the sequencing of the human genome—offer significant opportunities for research that can be rapidly translated into treatments and preventive measures. The outstanding physician/scientists and scientists recruited to the Institute will work together to leverage Mount Sinai's substantive investment and expertise in genomics to improve the health of infants, children, and adolescents.

### Child-Centered, Multidisciplinary Approach

Mount Sinai's depth and breadth of experience in pediatrics, under the leadership of Lisa M. Satlin, MD, makes us particularly well-suited to tackle pressing children's health issues.

- Each year 6,000 babies are born here, and we care for 800 babies in our neonatal intensive care unit (NICU). We are renowned for our premier high-risk obstetrics practice.
- The 17 divisions of our Jack and Lucy Clark Department of Pediatrics are known for innovative clinical care and research. Many of our programs are unique to the New York metropolitan area, such as the Jaffe Food Allergy Institute, headed by Hugh Sampson, MD.
- The Kravis Children's Hospital at Mount Sinai has a long history of community outreach.
- Mount Sinai pediatricians are involved in a wide range of significant research on children's health, including studies on food and nut allergies; the genetic basis of congenital heart disease; neonatal liver disease; the effects of environmental toxins on growth and development; and asthma in New York City children.
- The Mount Sinai Adolescent Health Center supports primarily a broad, otherwise underserved population of children, adolescents, and young adults (ages 10 through 22) in East and Central Harlem.

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Our vision is to focus on specific areas of child health where we're poised to have transformative impact. This is an extraordinary time, when genomic technology will allow us to make quantum leaps forward in a very short period. Mount Sinai, with its great strengths in genetics, environmental health and pediatrics, is particularly well-suited to take the findings from our research and turn them into treatments and preventive therapies for children – the processes that can dramatically improve their lives.”

—Bruce D. Gelb, MD

Director, Child Health and Development Institute  
Arthur J. and Nellie Z. Cohen Professor of Pediatrics  
Professor, Human Genetics  
Co-Director, Cardiovascular Genetics Program



**Bruce D. Gelb, MD, is Director of the Mount Sinai Child Health and Development Institute. His pioneering work in identifying several genes associated with Noonan syndrome—a relatively common genetic disorder that causes heart malformations and related developmental complications—earned Mount Sinai international recognition for Noonan syndrome research.**

**The Child Health and Development Institute will focus on four research areas:**

**Asthma and allergy**

Rates of asthma and allergy among children have increased sharply throughout the United States, and particularly in the New York City area. Some children continue to have breathing problems despite treatment, while others suffer side effects from their therapy. Our research will increase understanding of how genetics and the environment interact in these common, yet complex, diseases. With this understanding, we hope one day to reduce exposure to disease triggers and to tailor specific therapies to help each child suffering with these problems, effectively control asthma or allergies while minimizing side effects.

**Congenital heart defects**

Heart defects remain the leading cause of infant mortality among all birth defects. In the past two decades, Mount Sinai has been at the forefront of research into the root causes of congenital heart defects. We will apply genetic information to provide better understanding, prediction, prevention, and treatment of congenital heart defects. One of our goals is to predict what additional problems children with congenital heart defects will develop later in life so that we can better target the best treatment for each child.

**Neurodevelopmental disorders**

Autism, attention deficit disorder, dyslexia, mental retardation and other congenital conditions affect 10-15 percent of our nation's children. We are learning that each of these disorders has subtypes, each with its own genetic variations. Our goal is to build on Mount Sinai's research strengths in genetics and autism to learn more about the variations of a broad range of neurodevelopmental disorders so we can maximize each child's potential by more precisely tailoring medical and educational approaches.

**Obesity and diabetes**

Obesity, an ever-growing epidemic, affects 41 percent of children entering kindergarten in New York City. This has led to a second-wave epidemic of diabetes of the type formerly seen only in adults. We will investigate possible environmental causes and genetic risk factors contributing to the rise of obesity and diabetes. One of our goals is to use genetic tools to identify children at risk of diabetes, and to provide interventions before the disease causes irreversible damage.



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The National Children's Study will drive much of next generation's research in children's health for the next several decades, and will be a remarkable training ground for developing the next generation of pediatric scientific investigators.”

—Philip J. Landrigan, MD



**National Children's Study**

**Mount Sinai's Child Health and Development Institute is a vanguard participant in the National Children's Study. One of the pioneers of this groundbreaking effort is Mount Sinai's Philip J. Landrigan, MD, an internationally known expert in environmental health and a key faculty member of the Child Health and Development Institute. The study will examine the effects of environmental influences on the health and development of more than 100,000 children across the United States, following them from before birth until age 21. Mount Sinai is one of the first two centers to launch the study, which is run by the National Institutes of Health.**

## Research and Treatment to Benefit Children

You can make a difference not only in the health of children today but for generations to come by making a gift to the Child Health and Development Institute. Mount Sinai seeks to raise a total of \$75 million by the end of 2013 for the Institute and the rebuilding of the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit and Pediatric Intensive Care Unit. Giving opportunities are available at all levels. Our funding priorities include:

- Intellectual Capital: \$25 million to recruit and retain leading physician scientists and scientists.
- Capital: \$30 million for Children's Health construction efforts in the Center for Science and Medicine, laboratories, and the rebuilding and expansion of our children's Intensive Care units.
- Clinical and Programmatic: \$12 million to create and expand programs within the Child Health and Development Institute.
- Endowment: \$8 million to create an endowment to seed high risk/high reward research and support, and to sustain facilities and operations for the future.

## Naming Opportunities

There are many exciting naming opportunities available in recognition of the commitments of our most generous and visionary children's health donors. A selection is included below. For the full list, please get in touch with Mount Sinai's Development Office.

- The Child Health and Development Institute \$40 million
- Pediatric Intensive Care Unit \$10 million
- Large Neonatal Intensive Care Unit Patient Wing \$5 million
- CHDI Directors Laboratory \$5 million
- CHDI Programs \$3 million and up
- Children's Intensive Care Unit Promenade \$3 million
- Endowed Professorships \$2 million and up
- CHDI Founder \$1 million and up
- Newborn Patient Suite (4 beds per suite) \$1 million
- Large Newborn Patient Room (encompasses two beds per room) \$500,000
- Private Newborn Rooms (one bed per room) \$250,000

**To learn more about Mount Sinai's Child Health and Development Institute and specific giving opportunities, please contact:**

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THE CAMPAIGN FOR **MOUNT SINAI**



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The Child Health and Development Institute represents the cutting edge of medical research with profound implications for improving the health of our children. The Institute's collaborative approach brings together Mount Sinai's great traditional strengths in Pediatrics and Preventive Medicine with the breakthrough science of genomics. We cannot imagine doctors, scientists, and a medical center more worthy of support.”

—Georgia and Donald Gogel

Co-Chairs, Mount Sinai's Children's Health Leadership Council



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