



# 2024 Annual Report



Rocky Mountain  
Children's Health  
FOUNDATION

# Supporting families together

As we reflect on 2024, it's clear that this year has been one of tremendous impact for Rocky Mountain Children's Health Foundation, thanks to the unwavering support of our generous donors, volunteers, and partners.

The challenges facing families with children in the hospital continue to grow, especially as rising costs of housing, groceries, and essentials add additional stress. But with your help, we've been able to provide critical relief for families during some of the most difficult times in their lives. Your contributions have ensured that families can focus on what truly matters—the health and well-being of their child—without the added worry of financial hardship.

In 2024, we celebrated incredible milestones, including the 40th anniversary of Mothers' Milk Bank. We also expanded our PAWS for RMC program by welcoming Lemon, our second facility dog, who joins Posey in providing comfort and emotional support to pediatric patients.

None of this would have been possible without your belief in our work and the families we serve. Your dedication enables us to provide life-changing resources, from housing and grocery assistance to vital medical support. Together, we are making a real difference in the lives of children and families facing unimaginable challenges.

On behalf of the entire team at Rocky Mountain Children's Health Foundation and the families we serve, thank you for your continued support. We are truly grateful for your partnership and look forward to all we can achieve together in the future.

Cathy Sandoval  
Executive Director



Rocky Mountain  
Children's Health  
FOUNDATION



WE BELIEVE

# Every family should feel supported through their child's medical journey.

Through direct financial assistance, the love and companionship of furry friends, and the magic of donor human milk, Rocky Mountain Children's Health Foundation supports families and children how and when they need it most.

**Because when we do, families can focus on what really matters: *their child*.**

Thanks to our incredible community, we provided critical support to thousands of children and families in 2024. **Here's a look at our year of impact:**

**2,693 families** received critical financial support through our Patient & Family Assistance program, including housing, food, and transportation

**6,218 diapers, books, toys, distraction kits, and other items** were distributed to children in the hospital and beyond, giving them a chance to just be a kid for a moment

**2,667 support interactions** from Posey and Lemon, the facility dogs at Rocky Mountain Children's, provided comfort and therapeutic support for children in their care

**611,830 ounces** of donor human milk were distributed to hospitals and newborns across the country

**19 new Stink Bug Project dogs** provided love and companionship to children facing serious health challenges



# Our Programs

## FINANCIAL, NUTRITIONAL, AND EMOTIONAL SUPPORT

### Patient & Family Assistance

When a child is ill or injured, stressors quickly pile up. Day-to-day expenses shouldn't be one of them. Our PFA program offers a lifeline for families to meet their essential needs, from housing to food to transportation, so they can focus on what really matters: their child.

### PAWS for RMC

Through a special partnership with HCA HealthONE Rocky Mountain Children's, our facility dogs Posey and Lemon help ease the stress many children feel while at the hospital. Their companionship gives patients something to look forward to and helps make the medical process less scary, both for them and for their families.

### Mothers' Milk Bank

Mothers' Milk Bank plays a crucial role in supporting premature and medically fragile infants by collecting, processing, and distributing hundreds of thousands of ounces of donor human milk every year. The milk supports babies in the hospital—especially neonatal intensive care units—and those at home in need of additional supplementation.

### The Stink Bug Project

Our Stink Bug dog adoption program embraces the healing power of animals by providing loving companion dogs for children facing difficult medical conditions. These dogs are thoughtfully trained to fit into a family with elevated needs, offering the children unconditional love that gets them through tough times.

## 2024 Board of Directors

Maureen Tarrant, *Chair*  
Sean Endsley, *Vice Chair*  
Greg D'Argonne,  
*Treasurer*  
Eric Kintner, *Secretary*  
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Mike Brooks  
Anna Davis  
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Patrick Hurley  
Patricia Johnston

Kate Levkulich  
Jenny McKowen  
Cory Palmeiro  
Paul Valas  
Emily Valdez  
Quinn Washington

# Highlights from 2024

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## PAWS FOR RMC GROWS BY FOUR PAWS

Lemon joined Posey and the Child Life team as our second facility dog in the PAWS for RMC program, thanks to a generous grant from Shea's Village Foundation. Working alongside the Child Life team at Rocky Mountain Children's, Lemon and Posey help reduce stress and anxiety for children during treatment or hospital stays, offering companionship and emotional support when it's needed most.



## MOTHERS' MILK BANK CELEBRATES 40 YEARS OF IMPACT

In 2024, Mothers' Milk Bank celebrated 40 years of providing lifesaving donor human milk to babies in need. Since 1984, the bank has dispensed over 10 million ounces of milk, supporting fragile infants in hospitals and homes across the country. This milestone reflects the generosity of thousands of donors and the lasting impact of human milk on infant health.



## DIAPER DRIVE SUPPORTS HUNDREDS!

As part of September's Diaper Need Awareness Month, we hosted a diaper drive with Carly Moore from Fox31/CW2. Thanks to an incredible community response, we ended up collecting around 17,500 diapers—enough for us to dispense for many months to come! These diapers help ensure families have enough diapers to keep their babies dry and clean and reduce health risks associated with soiled diapers.





## 19 STINK BUG DOGS (AND A REUNION!)

In 2024, the Stink Bug Project welcomed 19 new Stink Bug dogs, each specially trained to support children facing medical challenges. These furry friends were each adopted into a family where they provide comfort, companionship, and emotional support, helping kids navigate difficult times with unconditional love.

In the fall, Stink Bug families from past and present came together for a special reunion, celebrating the bond between these incredible dogs and the children they support.



## ZEN DEN UNVEILED

In August 2024, Rocky Mountain Children's unveiled "Rowan's Zen Den," a peaceful space for NICU nurses and care teams at HCA HealthONE Rocky Mountain Children's. Created in partnership with RMCHF, the Zen Den honors Rowan Endsley and the NICU staff who cared for him. Thanks to the generosity of Rowan's parents, Sean and Shelley Endsley, this initiative provides a retreat for healthcare professionals to recharge, ensuring they can continue delivering the best care to the hospital's tiniest patients.



## HONORING NICU NURSES

When twins Everleigh and Scarlett arrived three months early, their NICU nurses provided expert care and steadfast support, especially through Everleigh's surgeries and complications. At the same time, RMCHF helped parents Brooke and Nick with gas and grocery cards, rental assistance, and holiday gifts, easing their burden as they cared for their daughters. At our 2024 Cradling Hearts Celebration, RMCHF honored incredible NICU nurses who make a difference for families like Brooke and Nick's.



SCAN TO WATCH  
THEIR STORY



# 2024

## Annual Financials

Year Ending December 31, 2024

### Sources of Support

● Contributions	\$835,090
● In-Kind Donations	\$53,142
● Other Revenue	\$41,433
● Mothers' Milk Bank Program Revenues	\$3,047,492

**Total Support**

**\$3,977,157**



### Utilization of Support

#### Program Expenses

● Patient & Family Assistance	\$1,356,597
● Mothers' Milk Bank	\$2,218,968
<b>Total Program Expenses</b>	<b>\$3,575,565</b>

● <i>General Administrative Expenses</i>	\$457,974
● <i>Fundraising Expenses</i>	\$491,952

**Total Annual Expenditures**

**\$4,525,491**

Revenue from our social enterprise, Mothers' Milk Bank, helps cover our operating costs, allowing more donor contributions to directly support pediatric patients and their families. Like many milk banks nationwide, we faced challenges in 2024 due to a drop in milk donations, which impacted our financials. Thanks to careful cost reductions and the continued generosity of our community, we've already seen strong improvements.

**Your support truly makes a difference.**

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Rocky Mountain Children's Health Foundation, a registered 501(c)(3), depends on the donations of individuals, foundations and corporations to fund critical programs.

[rmchildren.org/give](https://rmchildren.org/give)



# Rocky Mountain Children's Health FOUNDATION

## OUR MISSION

*To ensure newborns, pediatric patients,  
and their families have the financial,  
nutritional, and emotional support  
they need during the most challenging  
moments in their lives.*



If you are interested in supporting  
the programs of Rocky Mountain  
Children's Health Foundation, please  
contact us or visit us online:

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rmchildren.org

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