Reaching the Summit
How innovation is helping to take us to new heights
On the cover: Katrina Schaber has not let cerebral palsy stop her from becoming a champion of the slopes. In fact, her diagnosis inspired her to succeed (page 8).
An Innovative Approach to Care

A message from our Chief Executive Officer.

Apple co-founder Steve Jobs once said that, “Innovation distinguishes between a leader and a follower.”

Throughout this issue of Rady Children’s Magazine, you will learn about our dedication to innovation and how our progress is helping us to become an international leader in pediatric healthcare.

But what is innovation? And what does it mean to our families?

We know that what parents want, first and foremost, is to know that their children are getting the very best care.

For us, that means offering the latest treatments and the most advanced technology. It means an unwavering commitment to research as we seek to treat and cure childhood diseases. It means that we can answer “yes” when a parent asks, “Are you doing everything you can to help my child?” It is reaching higher. It is never settling.

Innovation is what is going to distinguish the Rady Children’s of the future.

While innovation may be as complex as finding a new cure for cancer, it is also as simple as a creative way to distract a child in a moment of pain.

Innovation belongs whenever we are helping a family find services or identifying the needs of a community. Every moment offers us the opportunity to discover new approaches, see something differently or learn something new.

The result? Every child gets the best care. Every day. In every moment.

Thank you for your support in helping every moment matter.

With warm regards,

Kathleen A. Sellick
President and Chief Executive Officer

“I am proud to be a Rady Children’s team member because we are not content with standing still. We look ourselves in the mirror and ask ‘what should we be doing for our patients today?’ We have people here – IT, nursing, home care, social work, doctors and more – all focused on this. We are privileged to have families work with us to develop the best healthcare system possible for their children. That is a trust that has been earned through the great work of so many here at Rady Children’s.”

Dr. Erin Fisher
Pediatrics and Hospital Medicine
Innovation Belongs in Every Moment

From compassionate care to pioneering new procedures, Rady Children’s brings a passion for innovation to every moment, always striving for excellence, always seeking to advance. Never forgetting that kids come first.

As we reach out to offer programs and services to more areas throughout our region, we will hold tight to our commitment toward constant improvement, embodied in one simple phrase:

**Innovation belongs in every moment.**

Look for this message to be a part of our Rady Children’s identity. And when you think about our Hospital and comprehensive healthcare system, you will know that we are working for the community to always be the very best.

On March 21, 22 and 23, Rady Children’s team members from across the county gathered at the Town & Country Convention Center for Team Rady 2013. It was a chance for physicians, employees, volunteers and Auxiliaries to hear from the entire Senior Leadership Team as they shared their aspirations for our future in an interactive presentation.

Team members then had a chance to see some of those future plans come to life in Innovation Hall. A highlight for many was the chance to vote on the name for our new V-1000 robot, amazing technology that gives providers the ability to remotely see and talk to patients and their families in a timely and efficient manner. No more travel time to see a consulting physician; they can come right to you.

The winning name? Rady-D2!
innovation
belongs in every moment

835 AM

MRI Center, Acute Care Pavilion

Our high-tech machine makes an MRI fun. Kids can watch a movie with cool video goggles and headphones, and a stress-free scan means faster and better exams.

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Innovation in Action

Innovation is not just something we talk about – it is happening every day at Rady Children’s. Here are just a few examples of what is new for our patients and families.

Proton Beam Therapy

Imagine a bright beam focused on a life-threatening tumor. It seems like something out of a futuristic movie, but this is not science fiction.

This is real.

Through our collaboration with Scripps Health, Rady Children’s will soon be the first children’s hospital to bring proton beam therapy to the western United States. This incredible new approach will allow us to pinpoint brain and spinal cord tumors without damaging any of the delicate tissue that surrounds it, tissue that is still growing and developing. This treatment gives our kids the best chance at living normal lives.

Psychiatry Services

There is some pain that cannot be measured with equipment. Children and adolescents with depression, psychosis, anxiety disorders and substance abuse are equally deserving of Rady Children’s unique and comprehensive care.

The Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Services (CAPS) program – now located in the Nelson Pavilion on our Kearny Mesa campus – is an acute care, 24-hour, 7-day-per-week unit focusing on crisis intervention, mental health assessments and treatment of a wide array of mental health diagnoses. It opened with 13 beds; 11 additional beds will be available this month.

The secured unit is filled with innovative features, such as breakaway doors in the patient room restrooms that cannot be locked but still provide privacy to help keep these patients safe.

CAPS provides an invaluable service to meet the mental health needs of San Diego County and the Southern California region with referrals from Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino and Imperial counties.

“You cannot surpass Rady Children’s Hospital in quality of care and commitment to the children of the San Diego community. This is clearly evidenced in the recent opening of the new CAPS unit, which rounds out the spectrum of care available to the children and adolescents of San Diego. I am proud to be an employee!”

Stacy Spencer
CAPS
International Peanut Allergy Study

The Food Allergy Center at Rady Children’s is one of only eight places in the United States that is participating in an international peanut allergy desensitization study.

The investigational therapy involves participants wearing a skin patch that contains tiny amounts of peanut. The purpose of the study is to see if people wearing the patch for a certain period of time will develop lower sensitivity to peanut.

“There are almost 3,000 children seen at Rady Children’s who report a peanut allergy. Until now, we have had no treatment to offer; instead, management has involved avoidance and treatment of accidental ingestions. The new patch therapy could prove to be a breakthrough for the peanut allergy sufferers,” says Dr. Stephanie Leonard, Director of Rady Children’s Food Allergy Center.

About 1 percent of the United States population, or about 3 million people, suffer from peanut allergies, and that number is increasing. Only 20 percent of children may outgrow a peanut allergy.

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“This type of groundbreaking clinical research is important for our community.”

Dr. Stephanie Leonard
Pediatric Allergy/Immunology

Bernardy Center Honors

For the fifth consecutive year, the Helen Bernardy Center for Medically Fragile Children at Rady Children’s has received the highest possible overall rating of five stars in U.S. News & World Report’s fifth annual Best Nursing Homes Survey.

The Best Nursing Homes 2013 ratings highlight the top nursing homes in each city and state out of nearly 16,000 facilities nationwide.

“Fewer than one out of every five nursing homes got an overall rating of five stars,” explains Avery Comarow, U.S. News Health Rankings Editor. “Those who require nursing care deserve the best available, and these are homes that merit their consideration by demonstrating such high quality.”

“We are thrilled to be ranked among the nation’s best for the fifth consecutive year,” says Pamela Dixon, Director of the Center. “This honor would not be possible without our highly skilled interdisciplinary team of caregivers. They work diligently to provide effective, individualized care to each of our residents every day.”

“I am proud to be a Rady Children’s team member because we have excellent medical care, innovative technology and show integrity and compassion in the care we provide.”

Susy Kaplan-Schick
Bernardy Center

“I trust the staff impeccably. I love every nurse to death. They treat my child like one of their own, and you can’t ask for more. The love they show can be seen every day everywhere in the facility.”

A Bernardy Center Parent
At our Annual Meeting in January, we celebrated the many ways we reached new heights over the last fiscal year, including:

• An expanded system of care that now reaches more children of our region than ever before. Rady Children’s now delivers care to more inpatients than any other children’s hospital in California, serving the 26,000-square-mile area of San Diego and Imperial counties.

• The successful completion of The Campaign for Rady Children’s, which raised more $229 million, helping us complete our Acute Care Pavilion and fund research and lifesaving technology.

• A favorable operating margin of 5.1 percent, despite the challenges of the economy. Rady Children’s maintained our commitment to fiscal excellence and responsibility while remaining equally committed to being the safety net for the children in our community. Last year, 48.5 percent of our patients had little or no private medical insurance. But each child received the same outstanding care.

In 1987, Rady Children’s made the kite a part of our logo – a symbol of both childhood and the desire to reach new heights. Now, that logo is one of the most recognizable in San Diego. For families, it is the sign of comprehensive, compassionate care. It is the symbol of trust – of an institution that dedicates itself entirely to children.

A Symbol of Invention

The kite has been an integral part of innovation and invention since it first left the ground more than 3,000 years ago. Kites were used by Alexander Graham Bell and Benjamin Franklin to transmit the first radio signal across the Atlantic, and they were integral in aeronautical theory.

At Rady Children’s, our kite now flies over more communities and signals better access to care than ever before. And our commitment to groundbreaking research and vision is helping us soar into a new era of growth.

Dick Johnston, our CEO from 1954-1980, knew from the start what we could accomplish. He said,

“When we opened in 1954, we envisioned that Children’s would one day be equal to the likes of the children’s hospitals in Los Angeles, Boston and Chicago. The Hospital’s growth must include integrated services, the specialized training of professionals, and an increasing sophistication of its services based on new research and new findings.”

It was with joy that the Annual Meeting recognized and acknowledged the realization of Dick Johnston’s vision.
The Thomas F. Carter Leadership Award
Mr. John Gilchrist, Jr. and Mr. Scott Wolfe

John Gilchrist, Jr. joined our Hospital Board on January 26, 1988. He has served on numerous board committees and was Chairman from January 1997 to December 1999. He has overseen many of our most ambitious projects, such as the award-winning Rose Pavilion and our new Acute Care Pavilion, and set the stage for our amalgamation with UC San Diego.

Scott Wolfe joined the Hospital Board in April 1993. He, too, has served in various board committees throughout his years of service. He was Chairman from January 2000 to December 2003. He also chaired the Foundation Board and several of its sub-committees. Scott was integral in the success of the formation of our Medical Practice Foundation.

Both men have been generous donors and active fundraisers for Rady Children’s, inspiring others to be a part of our growth, and we thank and honor them for their service.
Though she came from a skiing family, Katrina Schaber hated the sport. She could not keep up and would get frustrated and cry. And it was not just skiing. Katrina was also falling behind in other ways. She was clumsy and had trouble with balance, walking and running were difficult, and she was having problems in school.

An occupational therapist diagnosed Katrina with dyspraxia, a developmental condition that affects coordination, but Katrina’s mom, Carolina, thought there was more going on. A nurse by training, Carolina left her executive position and began working for Hank Chambers, MD, who heads Rady Children’s Cerebral Palsy Center and is a professor of clinical orthopedic surgery at UC San Diego. The new position was an incredible stroke of luck.

“By fluke chance I was hired by Rady Children’s, and by fluke chance I was hired as Dr. Chambers’ nurse,” says Carolina.

It wasn’t long before Katrina came into the center and, within just a few minutes, Dr. Chambers diagnosed her with cerebral palsy, a brain disorder that affects development and fine motor skills.

It was a devastating diagnosis, but it also pointed the way forward.

“Finally, we had an answer after trying to figure it out for so long,” says Carolina.
The CP Workout

Katrina was lucky; her cerebral palsy was relatively mild, but she still had to work hard to overcome it.

“Exercise is essential,” says Dr. Chambers. “The stronger these kids are, the better their outcomes.”

Katrina began a rigorous physical therapy and stretching regimen. After finishing her homework, when other kids might be watching TV or playing games, she had to work: learning how to hop, skip and cut in a straight line. There were also surgeries to correct Katrina’s knock knees and improve her gait.

Hitting the Slopes

Dr. Chambers recommended an adaptive ski program through Denver Children’s Hospital and the National Sport Center for the Disabled. The results were magical. When she came home, Katrina said, “Mom, they got me.”

Katrina became progressively better at handling her CP and skiing. Both her confidence and her grades improved. An award-winning athlete, she now trains with Team Summit/Adaptive Adventures and is working towards skiing in the 2014 Paralympics. CP is still a barrier, but one she is eager to overcome.

Recently, Katrina was skiing with her mom and took off down the slope. She had her skis off before Carolina even finished her run.

“When I was first diagnosed, I thought it was the end of the world,” says Katrina. “But I learned to live with it, and it kind of made me who I am.”

Pioneering CP Treatments

The Southern California Cerebral Palsy Center at Rady Children’s is one of the premier cerebral palsy (CP) centers in the word. For more than 30 years, the Center has helped develop new surgeries and other therapies to help people overcome their CP.

The neural damage that causes cerebral palsy can happen during fetal development or in very early childhood. The condition can cause seizures, cognitive disability, attention deficit and other issues. Because the damage interferes with neural signals, muscles get tight and do not function properly.

The Center has pioneered a variety of surgeries, including acetabuloplasty, a procedure to help correct bone and joint problems. Its world-class gait training facility inspired the motion-capture technologies at Pixar and other studios. The team has also investigated new techniques to fight muscle spasticity, such as using botulinum toxin.

Recently, the Center began collaborating with Dr. Richard Lieber at UC San Diego to study how CP affects muscles. These investigations may lead to treatments that prevent muscle contractures and decrease the need for surgery.

“I can’t even find the words to say thank you to Dr. Chambers, Rady Children’s, her therapists and her coaches. My kid, who couldn’t even ski before, now has a goal to become a paralympian.”

Carolina Schaber
Gifts that Inspire

Now and Later
Mike Czysz’ generosity helps kids now and for future generations.

Mike Czysz knows a thing or two about finances. He spent his career in the consumer and commercial finance industry, moving to San Diego from Milwaukee in 1985. Now retired, he still understands that every dollar makes a difference, both for the clients for whom he consults – and for Rady Children’s.

“I was invited to a Rady Children’s function by a good friend and was very impressed by the care given to the children, the attitudes of the entire staff and some of the innovative procedures being performed,” he explains.

He began making gifts to the Hospital in 1991, and he has never looked back. “While I don’t consider myself to be at the same level of some of the more wealthy philanthropists,” he says, “I realize that if everyone contributes to their level of financial ability, we can make a huge difference. I get a great deal of satisfaction knowing that my small contributions, along with many others, can make a difference in saving a young life.”

But there’s nothing small about the impact that Mike has made, especially now that he has become a Legacy Circle member, including Rady Children’s in his estate plan. His annual gifts help kids now, and his Legacy Circle gift will benefit children in the years to come. Nor is there anything little about the satisfaction that his financial support means to him:

“It has given me a sense of purpose,” he says.

For more information on our Annual Giving Program, please contact Lori Mathios at 858-966-7731 or lmathios@rchsd.org. For more information on becoming a Legacy Circle Member, please contact Elise Webster at 858-966-7537 or ewebster@rchsd.org.

Rady Children’s Hospital Auxiliary’s 60th Anniversary Celebration
June 5, 2013

For more information, please call 858-966-5887.

Rady Children’s Auxiliary has supported the Hospital even before it opened! In fact, this dedicated group of volunteers has inspired the growth of the institution in many ways, from creating community awareness and advocacy to raising funds for vital equipment, programs and services.

This June, Auxiliary members and guests will celebrate 60 years of caring for the patients at Rady Children’s with dinner, a fashion show and lots of fun.
Words from our Families

Last year, Rady Children’s cared for more than 155,600 children. It’s a big number. In fact, we see more in patients than any other pediatric hospital in California.

Yet, we know that our success as an organization is, and will always be, measured one child at a time.

While we often tell the stories of dramatic treatments and incredible recoveries, we know that, to a family that needs us, every story is important. Every moment matters.

Your support of Rady Children’s makes those moments possible, and we’d like to share some comments that have come to us from our Patient Experience Surveys. Your gifts make programs such as Child Life possible. Your donations fund the research that leads to breakthrough treatments.

Thank you.

“Andie Frenken (Child Life) is truly is an angel, and I do not think our family could have gotten through this without her. Nurses Kate and Jessica also should be recognized for truly caring and taking extra time to educate us on leukemia and her test results.”

Child Life is completely dependent on philanthropy and completely depended upon by our families.

“The Diabetes team of nurses, doctors and nutritionists were fantastic. Our son got the best possible care, a total team approach. We are very appreciative! Thank-you!”

“The nurses, social workers, doctors, the translators, the people in reception areas, the cleaning people, the food staff – all of the people have our respect because they are excellent workers and people.”

“Cydele is one of the most considerate nurses. She helped us celebrate my daughter’s 10th birthday, and it was, according to my daughter, ‘the most wonderful birthday ever!’ I will always be grateful for that. She really made her feel special.”

Inspiration in the Airways

KYXY 96.5 and CBS Radio raised more than $280,000 for patients and families at Rady Children’s when the station broadcast live from the Hospital on December 13 and 14 for the third annual Holiday of Miracles Rady-o-thon. Patients and families shared their stories as listeners learned about Rady Children’s and called in or donated online.

Thank you to our sponsors.

The Holiday of Miracles Rady-o-thon was presented by Illumina, Inc. and powered by Cox Communications and Wells Fargo. Other generous sponsors include Kiwanis Club of San Diego, Honda Dealers of San Diego County, Wendy’s of San Diego, The UPS Store Centers, Mission Federal Credit Union, Holiday of Lights-Del Mar Fairgrounds, California Closets, GEICO, Evans Tire & Service Centers and PermaDonics. We are grateful for the donations provided by Pacific Event Productions, Stacked, Tabe BBQ, Chipotle, Chili’s and Origano.
Throughout May, San Diegans supported Rady Children’s and Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals by purchasing Miracle Balloons at local retailers. You might think that $1 will not make a difference, but those dollars have added up to millions in support during the year. Businesses with Miracle Balloon campaigns, such as RiteAid, Chico’s/White House Black Market, COSTCO Wholesale, Walmart and Sam’s Club, and Credit Unions for Kids participating members, know that they help create miracles for kids. The impact that the campaign has on the employees also feels pretty miraculous.

Here are just a few of the amazing people that help our Miracle Balloon campaign soar:

Johnny Martinez
COSTCO, San Marcos
Last year, Johnny raised more than $13,000 for Rady Children’s in balloon and banner sales. A dedicated father of five, he’s been to Rady Children’s as a parent, and he now works to make sure every family has access to the Hospital’s excellent care.

“We greatly appreciate everything you do for children. Children are our future, and I look forward every year to raising money for the children. I’m there for my children, but also for all the children in our community. I’m so honored to be part of it every year. I’m there 110% every year.”

Brenna Young
Marketing Coordinator, SD Medical Federal Credit Union

“As a former patient, helping support Rady Children’s is near and dear to my heart. Giving back is my way of making sure they are able to continue the excellent services they provide, the lifesaving technology and research that gives hope to children and their families every day.”

Martha Manzano
Walmart, San Diego
Cashier Martha Manzano is extremely dedicated to Rady Children’s and says she works hard to raise money to ensure more children can live a better life. Each day, she wears a sign almost as big as she is to share the cause with Walmart customers.

“I love to help the kids,” she says. “I enjoy knowing we are making a difference in the lives of the children.”
Coming in October
The Shamu & You Family Walk at SeaWorld

Sure, there are lots of walks around – but this one is truly special. Not only do you begin with an easy 1-mile walk through SeaWorld and a chance to see some cool animals (have you strolled with a flamingo lately?), but you can also choose to continue on a scenic 3-mile walk along Mission Bay. That makes this event perfect for all ages. There's a fun family festival, too.

But the real reason this Walk stands out? It benefits Rady Children’s! You will help the kids and families we serve at Rady Children’s in a profound and significant way.

How can YOU get involved?
Start or join a Walk team. It is so fun and easy. You can even choose to designate the funds that your team raises to a department or area of the Hospital that is close to your heart.

The Walk is Oct. 5.
Why sign up now?
We’re offering early-bird registration through July 31, so the best time to sign up is…NOW

Register at www.shamuandyouwalk.org.

To keep up-to-date on Walk activities, like us on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/shamuandyouwalk.
Parental instinct tells us to blanket newborns with warmth, especially when they are sick. It is surprising then, that research shows that it is cold comfort that can help save the life of some infants.

A new cooling blanket is just one of the pioneering tools used by the new Neurological Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (Neuro-NICU) at Rady Children’s. An all-star team of neurologists and neonatologists have recently implemented a new approach to infant care, identifying babies at risk for neurological problems and intervening to reduce the chance of seizures and other conditions, protecting their precious brains.

It is innovation itself that created the need for this Unit.

Advances in neonatology have saved babies that, in previous decades, might not have survived. Though their lives were saved, many of those children faced developmental disabilities, such as cerebral palsy or cognitive limitations. Our team needed to take the next step to help our smallest and most fragile patients.

“One of the biggest problems is seizures,” says Mary Harbert, MD, a neurointensive specialist at Rady Children’s and assistant clinical professor of child neurology at UC San Diego. “The newborn brain is immature, and immature brains are highly predisposed to seizures.”

The process to help these babies begins with extra vigilance. Nurses in the Neuro-NICU watch for signs a baby might be at risk, such as fluctuating vital signs and poor alertness. From there, clinicians use an electroencephalogram (EEG) to measure brain activity, a crucial test, as seizures are not always accompanied by visible convulsions.

And, to make it even more effective and easier on a baby’s sensitive skin, researchers at UC San Diego have created micro circuitry that can be applied to the skin like a temporary tattoo, allowing physicians to accurately measure brain activity without damaging the skin.

Other research is looking at a drug called Keppra, designed to reduce neonatal seizures.
Innovation

Keeping it Cool

In addition to seizures, infants can suffer from lack of oxygen at birth. For these babies, the first line of defense is something people usually protect against—hypothermia, or reduced body temperature. That’s where the cooling blankets come in. Clinicians use the special equipment to reduce the baby’s core temperature by 4 or 5 degrees Celsius, dramatically lowering the risk.

While significantly reducing the body’s core temperature is generally dangerous, it has been shown to reduce infant deaths and benefit their long-term development. Our researchers are also investigating whether therapeutic hypothermia during transport helps outcomes, using a smaller, portable version of the cooling blanket equipment.

Though the Neuro-NICU just launched at Rady Children’s last October, doctors are already seeing positive changes.

“It’s been a thrill to see how well our graduates are doing when they come back to see us in clinic,” says Dr. Harbert. “They’re achieving their developmental milestones. They’re happy, smiling and interactive.”
The 104th Anniversary Charity Ball – *When You Wish Upon a Star* – was held February 16, 2013 at the historic Hotel del Coronado.

History is a big part of the Charity Ball, San Diego’s longest running and most prestigious philanthropic event. Over the years, the Ball has raised more than $7 million for Rady Children’s, increasing excellence in patient care by funding equipment, programs and services.

This year was no exception. *When You Wish Upon a Star* raised more than $260,000 to benefit The Peckham Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders at Rady Children’s. The Peckham Center is the largest pediatric hematology/oncology program in the region and the only facility in San Diego County for pediatric bone marrow transplants. Through its affiliation with the UC San Diego Moores Cancer Center, participation in the Children’s Oncology Group, alliance with St. Jude’s Children’s Research Hospital, and other research efforts, the Peckham Center is a leader in clinical research.

And that leads us to the real stars of the Charity Ball – the children, like little Laykin. She was just 7 months old when she was diagnosed with a rare and aggressive cancer. At the Peckham Center, Laykin received an innovative treatment protocol – lower dosages over a shorter time period – that reduces serious side effects. Today, Laykin is a spunky toddler and remains cancer-free.

That is what we all wish for, and we thank everyone who supported the Charity Ball for helping to make those kinds of wishes come true.
Saturday, October 5, 2013
Rady Children's Hospital Shamu & You Family Walk
sponsored by San Diego County Credit Union

7:30 a.m. – SeaWorld/South Shores Park

You can make a real difference in the life of a critically ill or injured child – and enjoy a fun morning at Mission Bay with your friends and family! All proceeds from the Walk benefit Rady Children’s. Register at www.shamuandyouwalk.org

Tuesday, October 22, 2013
U-T Kids’ NewsDay


In partnership with NBC 7 San Diego, on Tuesday, October 22, 2013, thousands of volunteers, including school children, firefighters and media celebrities, will sell the special $1 edition of the U-T San Diego on the streets throughout San Diego County. The front section of the issue will be filled with stories about Rady Children’s patients and the outstanding care they receive at the Hospital. All proceeds from the paper benefit Rady Children’s. For more information on buying papers and volunteering, visit www.kidsnewsday.com or call 858-966-5887.

See a listing of more community events online anytime at www.HelpSDkids.org.
If you receive an extra copy of Rady Children’s Magazine, please call Donor Services at **858-966-7749** so we can reduce our mailing costs.

For more information on Rady Children’s Hospital-San Diego and a calendar of events:
- Our website: [www.rchsd.org](http://www.rchsd.org)
- Facebook: [www.facebook.com/radychildrens](http://www.facebook.com/radychildrens)
- Twitter: [www.twitter.com/radychildrens](http://www.twitter.com/radychildrens)
- Flickr: [www.flickr.com/photos/rchsd](http://www.flickr.com/photos/rchsd)
- YouTube: [www.youtube.com/radychildrens](http://www.youtube.com/radychildrens)

To find out more about our programs and giving opportunities, please visit [www.HelpSDkids.org](http://www.HelpSDkids.org) or call **858-966-5804**.