

*"Then Mary said, 'My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my savior.'"*

**Luke 1:46-47**

August 2016

Where has the summer gone? We hope you are enjoying a lovely summer.

We want to note that on August 15 we celebrate the solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God. In addition, August 12 is International Youth Day.

Part of being a youth is attending school to study and build the foundation for a bright future. Yes, schools are back in session and students are ready to learn. In this issue, you will read about the Shining Star School at SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital and our Reach Out & Read Program that is part of a National Pediatric Early Literacy Program. These programs provide normalcy for school-aged patients and help them stay current with their studies for a smooth transition back into their community.

We thank you for your support that makes a meaningful difference in the lives of the children we serve. A special thank you for all who are participating in our Homers for Health program. Please remember our children in your year-end giving plans.

We pray for you and your intentions at daily Mass. May God bless you.



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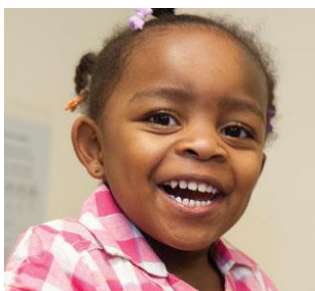
## THANK YOU FOR YOUR LOVING SUPPORT!

YOU make life better for the children at  
SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital

If you are in town, we hope to see you at our upcoming events:

|                |  |
|----------------|--|
| September 9    | Glennon Golf Classic                             |
| September 17   | Glennon Gallop Polo Match                        |
| October 17     | Dierdorf-Pronger Golf Tournament                 |
| November 5     | Glennon Glow (60 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala) |
| November 17    | Tree of Hope Opening                             |
| December 7     | Foundation Holiday Party                         |
| April 21, 2017 | Glennon Guild Fashion Show                       |

**OUR MISSION:** THROUGH OUR EXCEPTIONAL HEALTH CARE SERVICES, WE REVEAL THE HEALING PRESENCE OF GOD.



For more information about these events,  
call 1-800-269-0552 or visit [glennon.org](http://glennon.org)

Please consider making a heartfelt gift in your will to have a lasting impact  
on our children now and for generations to come.

The Shining Star School opened its doors in January 2014. Children who are hospitalized or who live with chronic illness benefit from keeping much of their regular routines from their lives outside the hospital. To meet this very important need for normalcy and development, SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital has its very own school, the Shining Star School. The Shining Star School helps promote general academic development, social and emotional development, as well as the overall well-being of individual children and groups in the hospital setting.

### Who participates

- Children enrolled in Kindergarten – Grade 12 (high school senior) who have been hospitalized for four or more days
- Children whose chronic illness requires frequent admissions to the hospital
- Children whose treatment requires they regularly miss part or all of a school day



SSM Health Cardinal Glennon teachers also spend time collaborating with treatment teams, patients' schools and families, planning lessons that fit individual children and their learning goals, acquiring or creating appropriate teaching materials, and coordinating volunteer tutors. Although every child's story is important and special, following are three examples of the types of support Shining Star School provides every day for Cardinal Glennon's patients:

- A severely injured teenage patient, who was in the intensive care unit for a significant amount of time, had dropped out of high school previous to his injuries. His experience led him to decide he wanted to earn his high school credentials, so since his transition to general care, he has been studying daily for his High School Equivalency Test with a Shining Star School teacher. The teacher also has helped the family find community resources the patient may use to continue his studies once he is discharged.
- Starting off on the right track in kindergarten can make all the difference in a child's education. In an effort to ensure a positive beginning, teachers began working with a four-year old patient with end stage renal disease who receives outpatient treatment three days a week. This patient had difficulty with change, following directions, playing by "rules" and encountering new things. This August, she will be attending Kindergarten and has learned many age-appropriate learning games, how to follow directions, how to take her turn, along with many early childhood academic skills. She can even read simple books! Thanks to her attentive parents who have worked collaboratively with the teachers, she is more than ready to begin her school career.
- A fifth grader missed the last month of school due to hospitalization, but was able to complete her required assignments while at SSM Health Cardinal Glennon, successfully ending her fifth grade year and is well prepared for middle school.





As part of a National Pediatric Early Literacy Program, Reach Out and Read St. Louis began in 2005 at SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital – a highly respected children's hospital affiliated with Saint. Louis University School of Medicine.

**where great stories begin™** **The ability to succeed begins with the ability to read.** A 6-month-old doesn't realize she or he is at a crossroads, where one path leads to literacy and the other to lost opportunity. In fact, a third of all children are destined to reach Kindergarten without the language skills necessary to learn to read because:

- Their families live at or below the federal poverty level;
- They are not exposed to books;
- They are not read to at home;
- And they are not privy to early childhood education.

Consequently, academic achievement is out of reach before they set foot in a classroom. And along with that is any significant chance for success in a career – or in life.

Reach Out and Read prepares America's children to succeed in school by partnering with doctors to prescribe books and encourage families to read together. Our focus is the formative years, age 6-months to 5 years, when the foundation for literacy is laid through exposure to books and vocabulary development. We purchase and distribute age-appropriate books to pediatricians at our affiliate sites. These pediatricians then provide the books to children and their families, stress the importance of parental involvement, and encourage parents to read to their children. **Literacy becomes part of primary pediatric care.**

This partnership allows Reach Out and Read St. Louis to support a unique outreach through the hospital at Danis Pediatric Center and the additional affiliate sites in the metro area. In Missouri and nearby areas of Illinois our affiliate sites average about 80,000 well-child visits annually and distribute more than 70,000 books annually through our 34 locations.

Since the elimination of federal support in 2013, we've been busy seeking additional funding sources. Each gift of \$100 provides the five-year program to one more child and helps unlock his or her potential. To the many donors and volunteers who have been working on our behalf, we say "**THANK YOU!**" We could not have achieved the success we've had without your gifts and efforts. Reading makes a difference, and so can you.

If you want to donate to these programs, please call Rose Brower at 314-633-7351.