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"Go forth and set the world on fire." "Pray as if everything depended on God and work as if everything depended on you."

#### Saint Ignatius, Feast Day celebrated July 31

July 2016

This month is dedicated to The Precious Blood of Jesus, our hope for eternal salvation. Our faith inspires us to prayer and action. At SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital, we live our mission daily in prayer, faith and action - and have done so - with your help, for the past 60 years. We thank you for your heartfelt support to advance our mission. Your giving honors God by transforming the lives of the children we serve.

July is usually hot and a time for relaxing. As we relax in the summer heat, we also commemorate 240 years since the signing of the Declaration of Independence in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Our freedom truly is a blessing worth celebrating as we ask God to bless our country.

In this issue, we celebrate 20 years of our Cord Blood Bank. We have also included information on the permanent IRA charitable roll over along with our Donor Bill of Rights.

May God bless you and yours with a lovely summer. As always, you are in our prayers at daily Mass.

Rose Brower

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**Major Gifts and Planned Giving Team** 

Enclosures



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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:

July 28 Ambassador Choice Awards

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

**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

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



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## Cord Blood Awareness Month—we celebrate 20 lifesaving years

Last July we featured the St. Louis Cord Blood Bank; this July it celebrates 20 amazing years!

In November 1994, Donna Wall, MD invited four well known scientists and physicians from around the world to SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital, taking the first step to advance a new medical therapy using cord blood to reconstitute hematopoiesis in children with blood disorders. On January 26, 1996, the first clinically available unit was processed and stored, officially launching the St. Louis Cord Blood Bank. Fast forwarding twenty years, the program benefits from the efforts of over 600 doctors and nurse midwives and over 2,000 labor and delivery nurses at 36 participating hospitals throughout Eastern Missouri, Southern Illinois and the Kansas City region.

## Meet Elsa Wiemerslage

Last October, Elsa Wiemerslage suddenly became devastatingly nauseous with a fever. Her pediatrician sent her directly to the Dan Dierdorf Emergency and Trauma Center at SSM Health Cardinal Glennon. Christopher Hugge, MD, a Costas Center oncologist, spent the night beside Elsa, initiating treatment in the pediatric intensive care unit as tests were ordered to pinpoint the cause of her illness.

Elsa's diagnosis was acute myeloid leukemia (AML), says Hugge, assistant professor in hematology-oncology at Saint Louis University School of Medicine.



"Leukemia is a cancer of the blood-making system. About 5,000 kids in the country are diagnosed with leukemia every year," he says. "In pediatrics there are two main types, ALL (acute lymphocytic leukemia), and AML. About 20% of our patients have AML. Their treatment is shorter but is more intensive so the risk of side effects such as infections is higher. "Patients with AML also are more likely to require a stem cell transplant. "Elsa is missing a piece of one of her chromosomes so we knew she had a type that would not respond without a transplant." Elsa Wiemerslage lived on the inpatient cancer unit (4 North) for more than 100 days out of a four month period. Four North is the inpatient home for many patients of The Costas Center. Families stay for weeks or months while undergoing chemotherapy and other treatments.



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The floor also holds the Bone Marrow Transplant Unit, an isolation wing in which patients recover following chemotherapy to eradicate their body's diseased blood-making and immune systems so they can be replaced with cells from healthy bone marrow or cord blood.

While a patient on 4 North, Elsa underwent four rounds of chemotherapy before she entered its restricted transplant unit. When Elsa's younger brother Eli was born a month after Elsa's cancer diagnosis, his umbilical cord was collected by the St. Louis Cord Blood Bank at SSM Health Cardinal Glennon. It was Eli's cord blood that provided the lifesaving stem cells that gave Elsa healthy, functioning blood-making and immune systems.

Sister Claire's blood type matched Elsa's, making her an excellent bone marrow donor. Baby Eli matched, too, so his cord blood offered a still-better source. "Things have gone more smoothly for Elsa than they go for most kids. Having a sibling donor is always our first choice. I'm sure that helped," says Shermini Saini, MD, a transplant oncologist at The Costas Center and a Saint Louis University assistant professor pediatrics.



"Elsa has become a shining light on our unit. She is probably managing everything far better than I would be able to if I were a 6-year-old little girl with leukemia. She has a great sense of humor and has never really complained," says Natalie Smith, RN, BSN, nursing team leader on 4 North at SSM Health Cardinal Glennon. When Elsa's parents brought her sister Claire and brother Eli to the hospital for visits, nurses held and hugged the siblings behind the nurse's station outside the isolation unit doors. "Of course it is fun to play with Claire and Eli," Smith says. "We enjoy doing that for her mother Adrienne because we know how stressful her life is."

"There were nights when I was here with Elsa and Kevin was working, so I had my other two children here," Adrienne says. "The nurses would have the other kids behind the desk, holding them and loving on them. It has cushioned the blow of living in a hospital. These doctors and nurses are amazing. You get really close. They take care not only of Elsa but all of us."

Elsa was discharged from the hospital on March 30 to continue her recovery. "Elsa is doing awesome," Adrienne says. "I strongly believe it is because of the care we got here from the doctors and nurses from the emergency room to the PICU to The Costas Center to 4 North. Words cannot express the gratitude I have for these people."



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#### TAX-FREE CHARITABLE IRA GIFTS NOW PERMANENT

In January's newsletter we informed you that President Obama signed into law a permanent IRA Charitable Rollover provision for 2015 and beyond.

As you begin to plan your year-end giving and are considering a tax-free rollover gift from your IRA to SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Foundation, below is a summary the legislative provisions for ease of reference.

- You must be 70 ½ years of age or older when the distribution is made.
- The transfer must go directly from your IRA to SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Foundation.
- You may make tax-free transfers from your IRA to a charity or charities totaling up to \$100,000 in a given calendar year. Your spouse also may be eligible to make such gifts up to \$100,000 from his or her IRA.
- A charitable rollover transfer from your IRA will count toward your required minimum distribution (RMD).
- Since IRA funds are not being taxed it is the equivalent of a full income tax deduction.
- Gifts from an IRA may only be used to make an outright gift to a qualified public charity, such as Cardinal Glennon Children's Foundation. Your IRA assets cannot be used to fund a gift annuity, charitable remainder trust, a donor advised fund, or a private foundation.

Please consult with your tax professional to see if you are eligible to benefit from this new legislation. If you have any questions, please contact Rose Brower at 1-800-269-0552.

Thank you for your generosity to the children at SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital.



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# Donor Bill of Rights

hilanthropy is based on voluntary action for the common good. It is a tradition of giving and sharing that is primary to the quality of life. To assure that philanthropy merits the respect and trust of the general public, and that donors and prospective donors have full confidence in the not-for-profit, such as SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital, they are asked to support, we declare that all donors have these rights:

- **1.** To be informed of the mission to SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital; of the way the hospital intends to use donated resources; and of its capacity to use contributions effectively for their intended purposes.
- 2. To be informed of the identity of individuals serving on the governing body of SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital, and to expect such body to exercise prudent judgment in its stewardship responsibilities.
- **3.** To have access to the most recent financial statements of SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital.
- 4. To be assured your gifts will be used for the purposes for which they were given.
- **5.** To receive appropriate and timely acknowledgment of recognition of your gift.
- **6.** To be assured that information about your donations is handled with respect and confidentiality in accordance with your wishes to the extent provided by law.
- **7.** To expect that all relationships with individuals representing SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital will be professional in nature.
- **8.** To be informed whether those seeking donations are volunteers, employees of SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital or hired solicitors.
- **9.** To have the opportunity for your name to be deleted from our mailing list. To know that SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital will never sell, give or trade your name to another organization.
- **10.** To feel free to ask questions when making a donation and to receive prompt truthful and forthright answers.