



The Foster G. McGaw Prize  
Health Research & Educational Trust  
155 North Wacker Drive  
Chicago, Illinois 60606  
312/422-3932

## DRAFT

### **Media Contacts:**

Dawn Kahle, Children's Health System of Texas  
[dawn.kahle@childrens.com](mailto:dawn.kahle@childrens.com)  
214-456-5379

Samantha Dean, American Hospital Association  
[sdean@aha.org](mailto:sdean@aha.org)  
202-626-2264

Jori Fine, Baxter  
[media@baxter.com](mailto:media@baxter.com)  
224-948-5166

### **Children's Health<sup>SM</sup> Recognized as Finalist for 2016 Foster G. McGaw Prize for Excellence in Community Service**

DEERFIELD, Ill., and DALLAS, January 18, 2017 – In honor of its exemplary advocacy and commitment to addressing social and environmental challenges facing children and families, Children's Health<sup>SM</sup> has been recognized as one of three national finalists for the 2016 Foster G. McGaw Prize for Excellence in Community Service. As a finalist, Children's Health will receive \$10,000 to be used in support of its community health initiatives.

The Foster G. McGaw Prize is sponsored by the Baxter International Foundation, the American Hospital Association (AHA) and its not-for-profit affiliate Health Research & Educational Trust. First awarded in 1986, the prize recognizes the achievements of hospitals and health systems and inspires strong partnerships that significantly improve the health and well-being of their communities.

"Children's Health is a respected voice for children's issues and continues to deepen its role and reach in the community to engage children and families in co-designing offerings to better meet their critical health needs," said John O'Brien, chair of the Foster G. McGaw Prize Committee.

Children's Health is the eighth-largest pediatric healthcare provider in the nation, the largest provider of pediatric care in north Texas and the region's only academically affiliated healthcare organization (UT Southwestern Medical Center) dedicated exclusively to the comprehensive care of children. The organization works closely with

community partners, such as police and pastors, inspectors and school boards, to test new models of collaboration that address the most pressing challenges children face, including access to healthy foods, neglect and traumatic injuries. Children's Health cares for more than 280,000 children.

"Children's Health is invested in the health and well-being of our entire community, and this prestigious recognition is a testament to the success of the programs we have put in place to empower families beyond our hospital walls," said Christopher J. Durovich, president and chief executive officer of Children's Health. "With a mission to make life better for children, we remain committed to providing the right care at the right time and at the right place, helping families live safer, happier and healthier lives each day."

Among other programs, Children's Health was recognized for the following innovative community service initiatives:

- **Child Passenger Safety** – Children's Health initiated its Injury Prevention Service in 2004, with a charge to reduce the incidence and lessen the burden of childhood trauma through scientific methods of investigation and comprehensive programs, including the Child Passenger Safety initiative. Twice a month, car seat safety events are held throughout Dallas and Collin counties where certified technicians inspect car seats for proper installation and free car seats are offered to families who are unable to afford one. In the initial five years of the program's implementation, deaths of children living in Dallas from improperly installed car seats decreased by 48 percent.
- **Health and Wellness Alliance for Children** – Formed in 2013 after a "listening" tour of local organizations serving children and families that identified asthma as the most significant chronic condition of local children, the Health and Wellness Alliance for Children focuses on reducing the burden of asthma for children. As a result of the initiative, the Alliance spearheaded the adoption of new housing standards for the city of Dallas that protect children with asthma from common triggers such as mold or extreme temperatures. The Alliance's work with asthma action plans, collaboration with school nurses and healthcare providers, as well as the launch of a mobile asthma app, helped contribute to a 49 percent reduction in visits to the Children's Health emergency department for asthma over a three-year period.

- **Know Before You Go** – The Know Before You Go (KBYG) program is a drowning prevention and water education safety platform created in collaboration with the YMCA Dallas Chapter, Alliance Data, the International Pool Spa and Safety organization, and the Children’s Health Safe Kids Greater Dallas Coalition, to address the increasing number of drowning and near-drowning incidents of children living in the Dallas area. More than 257,000 children and their caregivers have been served by the program, with more than 9,000 free life jackets distributed to children in the area.

“The Foster G. McGaw Prize recognizes healthcare organizations that serve as role models for taking a synergistic approach to improve the health of the people in their communities. This year’s winner and finalists offer wide-ranging programs to meet the needs of their vulnerable populations,” said Stacey Eisen, president of the Baxter International Foundation and vice president, global communications at Baxter. “Through involved leadership, dedicated staff, and community collaboration, they significantly improve the lives of the patients they serve.”

The 2016 winner of the \$100,000 Foster G. McGaw Prize is Spectrum Health in Grand Rapids, Mich. In addition to Children’s Health, other finalists include ProMedica in Toledo, Ohio, and White Memorial Medical Center in Los Angeles.

###

### **The Foster G. McGaw Prize**

Celebrating more than 30 years of honoring excellence in community service, the Foster G. McGaw Prize recognizes healthcare organizations that are committed to community service through a range of programs that demonstrate a passion and continuous commitment to making communities healthier and more vital. The prize, first awarded in 1986, inspires hospitals, health systems and communities to assess and implement programs that improve their communities. For more information, visit [www.aha.org/foster](http://www.aha.org/foster).

### **Children’s Health<sup>SM</sup>**

Children’s Health<sup>SM</sup> is the eighth-largest pediatric health care provider in the nation and the leading pediatric health care system in North Texas, providing a full spectrum of health care services — from daily wellness and primary care to specialty visits and critical care. Holding eight disease-specific care certifications from The Joint Commission, Children’s Health has been consistently named one of the nation’s top pediatric providers by *U.S. News & World Report*. The Children’s Health system includes Children’s Medical Center Dallas, as well as Children’s Medical Center Plano, multiple specialty centers, Children’s Health Pediatric Group primary care practices, Our Children’s House rehabilitation facilities, home health, physician services and the Children’s Medical Center Research Institute at UT Southwestern. For more information, visit [www.childrens.com](http://www.childrens.com).

### **The American Hospital Association**

The American Hospital Association is a not-for-profit association of healthcare provider organizations and individuals that are committed to the improvement of health in their communities. The AHA is the national advocate for its members, which include nearly 5,000 hospitals, health care systems, networks and other providers of care. Founded in 1898, the AHA provides education for health care leaders and is a source of information on health care issues and trends. Its not-for-profit research and education affiliate, the Health Research and Educational Trust, aims to create new knowledge, tools and assistance in improving the delivery of healthcare by providers and practitioners within the communities they serve. For more information, visit [www.aha.org](http://www.aha.org).

### **About Baxter and the Baxter International Foundation**

Baxter and the Baxter International Foundation are committed to saving and sustaining lives and creating healthier communities. Every day, Baxter employees strive to make a meaningful difference in the lives of people who depend on Baxter products, and in the communities where employees live and work. The company focuses on three core areas including improving access to healthcare; fostering tomorrow's innovation and serving its communities. Baxter works closely with public and private partners around the world to ensure people have access to the healthcare they need, to develop the next generation of innovators who will lead the way in advancing care, and to create long-lasting impact in Baxter's communities. The Baxter International Foundation supports initiatives and organizations that make a positive, lasting impact on increasing access to healthcare for the disadvantaged and underserved.