

# 70 Years of Pediatric Care Leadership

**N**icklaus Children's Hospital traces its roots back 70 years to the opening of a regional center for the care of children with polio. "Today, we are honored to be the region's pediatric care leader," says Matthew A. Love, president and CEO of Nicklaus Children's Health System, the hospital's parent organization. "Our 309-bed hospital is renowned for expertise in virtually every pediatric specialty, and draws children and families from throughout Florida and beyond for the latest care offerings." With nearly 800 attending physicians and more than 475 pediatric subspecialists, this state-of-the-art, community-centered jewel of pediatric healthcare saves and transforms young lives, and does it with the deep compassion that inspired its founders.

"We are enormously proud of our many leading-edge specialty programs, which offer the most current evaluation and treatment methods in a compassionate, family-centered environment," says Nicklaus Children's Hospital president Perry Ann Reed. The hospital is known nationally and internationally for the strength and breadth of its clinical care programs in neurology and neurosurgery, cardiology and cardiovascular surgery, cancer and blood disorders, orthopedic surgery, and fetal care. Its outpatient/urgent care centers and outreach programs in obesity, dental care, and injury prevention provide health and healing throughout South Florida.



**Nicklaus Children's Hospital**  
70 Years of Pediatric Excellence



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## Coveted Recognition

Nicklaus Children's regularly receives awards and recognition at the pinnacle of the pediatrics field. Hospital programs are routinely ranked among the best in the nation by *U.S. News & World Report*. In 2019, the hospital attained Magnet recognition by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Magnet Recognition Program\* for the fourth consecutive term, one of only six children's hospitals to have done so. The program distinguishes healthcare organizations that meet rigorous standards for nursing excellence and is the highest honor an organization can receive for professional nursing practice.

Also in 2019, the hospital announced the successful completion of its ISO 9001 Quality Management System certification by DNV GL—the second freestanding children's hospital in the nation to obtain this certification. "ISO 9001 sets forth criteria for quality management that includes a strong customer focus, engagement of top management, a process approach, and continual improvement," says Matthew A. Love, president and CEO of Nicklaus Children's Health System. "This is an extraordinary achievement and a reflection of our organization's dedication to excellence."

## Special Delivery

It was during a routine ultrasound that Allyson Page (not her real name) learned that her unborn daughter had a complex heart abnormality and would need surgery immediately after birth. "The thought of my baby being taken from me and transported via ambulance within minutes of being born was terrifying," says Page. Then, she learned about Nicklaus Children's Fetal Care Center's Special Delivery Unit. The 10-bed, high-risk infant special delivery unit cares for healthy mothers whose infants will require immediate access to pediatric intensive and critical care after birth.

The program eliminates the need to transfer an infant after birth, creating better outcomes for the infant while keeping families together in the same hospital. The Pages traveled from their home in Sarasota for the delivery and their baby's surgery. Today, little Kayleigh is a happy and healthy 1-year-old. "The care we received at Nicklaus Children's was superb—compassionate and unbelievably skilled," recalls Page. "They didn't just heal Kayleigh, they took care of us, too. We're forever grateful."