Lives changed. Tomorrows transformed.
All because of the gift of hope.

2019 Annual Report
Our Mission

Children’s Flight of Hope provides air transportation for children in need of specialized medical care.

With love, joy and hope at the forefront of every trip we coordinate, we are changing the way children with serious illnesses and injuries are treated—encouraging faster and safer recoveries for them and easing the burden on their families. Without travel assistance, this care would be out of reach.

Heartfelt thanks to those who have been part of our history. If you’re new to learning about our story, welcome. You will soon find that we are one big family, and we hope you will be part of it.

“We cannot begin to thank Children’s Flight of Hope for their help and support. Because of you and your generosity, our daughter is well on her way to being cancer free and has a chance of living a normal and happy life. We are forever indebted to you.”

—Spencer & Abigail, Edel’s parents

Edel, age 1, from Vineyard, UT, is treated at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center for retinoblastoma.
Dear Friends of Children’s Flight of Hope,

WE FLY FOR THEIR LIVES is more than our tagline, it is the principle that drives every decision at Children’s Flight of Hope. In 2019, we flew more missions and served more children than ever before. Each of those missions represents a child and a family heavily burdened by medical and financial challenges, a burden Children’s Flight of Hope can help to ease.

For these families, **Children’s Flight of Hope provides so much more than air travel. We are giving hope.**

The following pages share more on our mission delivery, our growth, and the supporters who provided 1,336 missions in 2019—an impressive increase of 35% over 2018. And while we are proud and grateful for what so many helped us accomplish, the need continues to be great. We are steadfastly committed to the future of families we currently serve and the ones we have yet to meet. We are focused on expanding partnerships to ensure there is never a pause in welcoming children in need to the Children’s Flight of Hope family.

We invite you to celebrate the 2019 accomplishments in the pages ahead and to join us on our 2020 journey. As we come together, the sky is the limit for Children’s Flight of Hope.

With gratitude,

**Jenn Wade**, Board Chair, **Rick Gardner**, Immediate Past Chair, and **Pat Nelli**, Executive Director

“CFOH has been a wonderful organization to partner with. They have made it possible for severely burned children we serve to receive life altering reconstructive surgeries at our hospital. Without transportation these surgeries would not have been attainable, and the children and their families are forever grateful.”

—Cindy DeSerna, LISW-S, CCM Manager, Care Management, Boston Children’s Hospital
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Best year ever

Our Growth

1,336 total flights

1.5M+ total flight miles traveled

406 children served

68 destination hospitals

242 donors who gave $1,000+

153 diagnoses
How We Soared to New Heights

Our best year ever was made possible by people—working tirelessly, giving fully, making the dream of recovery a reality.

Best year ever

Our Children
The children served by Children’s Flight of Hope will always be the center of our focus. They are doing the real work—to heal and to always keep hope. Their futures are at the heart of what we do.

Our Parents
No one fights harder for the children we serve than their parents. Their strength inspires us and their gratitude motivates us. Every worry we take off their minds gives them more time to care for the little ones they love.

Hospitals
With the gift of air travel, we connect our children to those who compassionately and skillfully offer medical care. Today—more than ever—we appreciate the sacrifice, knowledge, and commitment of our healthcare providers.

Airlines
Generous donations of miles and vouchers from our airline partners allow us to reach more children across our country and internationally. These gifts truly enable us to “Fly for Their Lives”.
Social Workers
Social workers are often the first to give the good news of Children’s Flight of Hope to families, explaining that we are here to ease their healthcare journeys. For many of our international children, they also play an important role in coordinating arrangements.

Donors
The people who financially support Children’s Flight of Hope are often not seen, but their gifts are deeply felt in the lives they touch. Every amount provides hope. And hope is the first step to healing.

Board of Directors
With their steadfast leadership, the Children’s Flight of Hope Board keeps our organization strong for the children we serve today and in the future.

Volunteers
From event committees to office support and every task in between, our volunteers keep us moving forward. The value of their gift of time is immeasurable.
Hope is perseverance, when you are too young to even understand what the word means.

Ryker’s enthusiasm for life is the first thing people notice when they get to meet him. He’s lost more than 85% of his small intestines and 50% of his large intestines, but that has not changed his sweet, life-loving heart.

Ryker is a four year old diagnosed with the rare conditions of Gastrochisis and Short Bowel Syndromes. He has flown 37 missions from Oklahoma City to a specialty clinic at Boston Children’s Hospital for treatment.
Our Impact

1,336 total flights
43 states
35% flight increase over 2018
23 countries

National Mission Impact

Mission Departures
- 1–9
- 10–19

Mission Destinations
- Destination Hospitals
- Top Destination Hospitals
In 2019, we provided flights for children from 43 states and 23 countries to visit medical specialists throughout the United States. These flights changed—and saved—lives.

Every day, we work to tailor travel options to each family’s needs while still efficiently managing CFOH resources. Each CFOH family completes an annual verification process to establish medical and financial need for flight assistance. As families remain eligible, we commit to being a trusted and compassionate partner throughout the child’s medical care to age 18.

**No matter the frequency or duration of medical travel needs, CFOH keeps our families flying.**

On average, every child took three flights in 2019, but there is nothing average about the children we serve. Some children might only need one flight to receive care, while others need to fly every three weeks. When we commit to a family, we support them throughout the child’s healthcare journey.

**Hope is not bound by geography.**

“We are so thankful to CFOH for being part of our miracle.”
—Karla, Larissa’s mother
Nine-year-old Larissa flew from Honduras to Dallas for a life-changing surgery at Texas Scottish Rite Hospital three years ago and returns annually for her follow-up care. In 2019, Larissa’s doctor found she would have to repeat the same major procedure for her hip dysplasia. Being in two casts for ten weeks gave her the ability to walk again.
### How We Provide Our Flights

| Partnerships with Major Airlines | Airline Ticket Purchases | Donated or Chartered Private Flights |

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**Partner with Major Airlines**

**American Airlines**

American Airlines is our primary corporate partner. We are appreciative of the 30 million miles they donated in 2019. In addition to supporting our own client families, we also administer the American Airlines “Miles for Our Well-Being” program. This facilitates international and domestic travel for children visiting Shriners Hospitals for Children and other medical partners throughout the United States. **Our mission would not have reached its current heights without American Airlines.**

> True to its commitment to ‘let good take flight’, American Airlines is honored to serve as the primary airline partner for Children’s Flight of Hope because both organizations share a passion for helping people make connections with others who can positively impact their overall health and wellness. American is proud to partner with an organization that cares so deeply for children and improving their quality of life.

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Getter Gonzalez  
Global Charitable Initiatives, American Airlines

Southwest Airlines continues to provide an annual Medical Transportation Support Grant to CFOH. In 2019, they donated 320 one-way vouchers for travel. We are grateful for this generous contribution and the support it offers our families.
**Ticket Purchases Funded by Donors**

We purchase one-way or round-trip tickets from all major airlines on behalf of our client families. For each mission request, we provide reservations for the child and one adult travel companion. Our generous donors make this possible.

Nearly one year ago, my son was in a wheelchair and was giving up on his life! Today he is out of a wheelchair, walking, laughing, and has his life back. He’s not 100%, but over time we’re looking forward to a complete recovery. It truly is a miracle! Thanks again from the bottom of my heart for all the flights.

—Gary, father of Cade, a 17 year old with cervical instability
Flies from Los Angeles, CA to Chicago, IL

**Donated or Chartered Private Flights**

The most medically vulnerable children are sometimes unable to fly on a commercial airline, so when resources allow, we arrange a private flight option for them. We strive to find corporate or private jet owners to donate these flights. When needed, we partner with charter services to provide flights with a high standard of safety, ideally at discounted rates. We are also building partnerships with other nonprofits to fulfill private flight needs with the greatest efficiency and impact. We are very thankful to those who donated private flights in 2019: Hales Management LLC and Pittsburgh Jet Center.

We are so thankful that CFOH makes it possible for Maisie to receive the highest quality care. We have so many things to worry about but getting her to her team of specialists in Boston is not on that list, thanks to your constant, generous support!

—Sarah, mother of Maisie, a two year old with Short Bowel Syndrome
We are better together. Donations of every size contribute to an immeasurable mission impact and hope to families. In order to ensure we serve every child possible, we are committed to responsibly managing the cost of doing business and seeking in-kind contributions at every opportunity. Our focus is on growing relationships and celebrating the support we receive, especially at our three signature events—Golf Classic, Hops for Hope and Denim & Diamonds—all of which had record-setting years in 2019.

### Total Revenue

- **Flight Donations & In-Kind Contributions**: 50%
- **Individual Contributions**: 35%
- **Corporate & Foundation Support**: 15%

**Total Revenue**: $2,419,275

### Organizational Spending

- **Programs**: 75%
- **Fundraising**: 11%
- **Operations**: 14%

**Total Expenses**: $2,373,958
Hope is our commitment to serving more families by wisely stewarding our resources.

“Johnson Subaru of Cary is proud to support the vital work of Children’s Flight of Hope. When we decide which organizations to support, we look for those making a direct and daily impact in our community. Through our partnership, we’ve seen firsthand the tireless efforts of Children’s Flight of Hope and the impact they have on not only children and their families, but neighborhoods and communities, as their amazing sense of hope spreads!

—Katelyn Paul, Marketing Communications Manager, Johnson Automotive

Thank you to our most generous corporate sponsors!

The employees of Dude Solutions are passionate supporters of CFOH as part of our Good Dude Philanthropic Program. Each year, dozens of Dudes get involved with CFOH through sponsorship and participation in the annual Hops for Hope event. We believe in the organization’s mission of connecting children and families in need of flights for potentially life-saving procedures. We proudly support CFOH!

—Ed Roshitsh, CEO, Dude Solutions
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Duke Energy Foundation
Duke Neurosurgery
Durham Bulls
Enterprise Holdings Foundation
First Federal Bank
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WAKE Living Magazine
The May 2019 CFOH Golf Classic continued our 29-year mission impact and had a record year in support of mission delivery. Both the Wheels Up party and the Golf Classic were filled with comradery and a shared passion to deliver the mission of Children’s Flight of Hope.

The 2020 Wheels Up party and Golf Classic have been canceled due to COVID-19. We look forward to teeing off with you again in 2021. Date and venue TBD.

In 2019, 26 corporate teams and 24 breweries gathered at North Hills Midtown Park to raise more than $175,000 in our fifth annual event, an amazing increase of 95% over 2018! Attendance was also at a record high as 1,500 people gathered to sample specialty brews, enjoy live music, and browse local vendor booths. Visit TriangleHops4Hope.org to learn how to be part in this year’s exciting community-wide event!

SAVE THE DATE
Saturday, September 19, 2020
North Hills Midtown Park, Raleigh, NC
Our supporters sparkled in both dress and giving as we celebrated a mission impact of over $550,000 in 2019—an increase of nearly 35% over 2018. The gala included mission stories and live and silent auctions. Mark Ash and Noah Duncan awards were presented to Ben Farrell and Tomislav and Gordana Vujec, and incredibly generous and passionate donors made for a night to remember.

SAVE THE DATE
Friday, November 6, 2020
The Pavilion at the Angus Barn, Raleigh, NC

Experiencing a burn injury is physically and emotionally devastating...and the travel expenses become costly and many families struggle. CFOH has been instrumental in helping families who would otherwise not be able to afford airline travel to return for much needed surgery. It is one less worry for families to manage in what already seems like an unmanageable situation.

—Melissa Brown, LICSW, CCM
Social Work Case Manager, Shriners Hospitals for Children—Boston

To join the impact for 2020 and beyond, please contact:

Pat Nelli, Executive Director
pat@cfoh.org

Lori Smith, Senior Director of Development & Operations
lori@cfoh.org

Stephanie Thompson, Director of Mission Delivery
missions@cfoh.org

(919) 466-8593
Hope is knowing you can make a difference in the life of a child.

children’s flight of hope

WE FLY FOR THEIR LIVES

Thank you to all those who gave their time, treasure, and talent to Children’s Flight of Hope in 2019. You brought our mission to life.

We invite you and new friends to continue on our journey to provide hope and healing.

1005 Dresser Court, Raleigh, NC 27609
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