



We are Child's Play, a game industry charity dedicated to improving the lives of children and teens in children's hospitals around the world. Child's Play currently has a network of over 180 children's hospitals worldwide as well as nearly 200 domestic violence shelters across the United States. Over the years, the community has answered the call and came together raising over 46 million dollars.

## **History**

Child's Play was born in 2003 after Mike Krahulik and Jerry Holkins of Penny Arcade, in response to how video games were portrayed negatively by the media, challenged their fans to help support Seattle Children's Hospital. An Amazon Wishlist was set up and in less than one month, the charity raised over \$250,000 in cash and toys for Seattle Children's hospital.

## **Network Hospitals**

Child's Play supports our Network Hospitals in two ways. Our Amazon Wishlist program allows them to have a wishlist on Amazon where donors can purchase items and they be sent directly to the hospital. With the help of hospital staff, we set up wishlists by adding video games, toys, books, and other items needed by the Child Life department for their patients. By clicking on a hospital location on [our map](#), you can view that hospital's wish list and send a gift.

Child's Play supports the needs of our network hospitals by providing an annual monetary gift. This gift is designed to meet the unique needs of our children's hospitals helping them purchase games, toys, and technology that will enhance the patient experience.

## **Grant Programs**

Child's Play has a grant program that is available to our network facilities as well as non-profit facilities outside our network. We have two grant categories, Capacity Building grants, and Equipment grants.

Capacity Building grants are grants which allow growth such as Child Life Game Tech Positions. When Child's Play first started visiting children's hospitals we saw a need for a position within the Child Life Department that could take over the maintenance of the gaming equipment and to even help research new ways gaming technology can help children during their stay. Child's Play has funded 18 positions in the last 4 years, with the goal that one day this position will be in every children's hospital.



Equipment grants are reserved for game equipment and technology. Any non-profit children's hospital can apply for funds to purchase consoles, VR equipment, games, or other enrichment technology for the Child Life department.

### **Domestic Violence Shelter Program**

Child's Play's Domestic Violence Shelter program was conceived in 2015. Child's Play supports DV shelters by sending the facility a GAEMS case with a Fully Loaded Xbox One pre-loaded with games appropriate for this environment. The game system helps shelters create an inviting environment for young survivors. It can also be used as a part of therapy allowing for co-op play that helps break down barriers that kids/teens may have when asked to talk about abuse. We have nearly 200 DV shelters in this program.

### **Staff**

Travis Eriksen: Executive Director

Erick Blandin: Program Director

Kirsten Carlile: Director of Philanthropy and Partner Experiences

Tabitha Sheehan: Community and Program Coordinator

Shawna Miller, CPA: Interim Controller

### **Logo**

[Download link](#)



## FAQ

### **Our Mission:**

Child's Play seeks to improve the lives of children and teens in pediatric hospitals and other child welfare facilities through the kindness and generosity of the gamer community and the power of play.

- We support 180 children's hospitals around the world in our network. (Amazon wishlists, Annual monetary gift)
- We have visited and spoken with the child life staff at over 100 hospitals in the past 4 years to learn how they use games and technology to help children during their stay.
- We have funded 17 Game Tech Positions who's job is to help the Child Life department manage the video game equipment, research different games for the children to play, and play games with the patients during their stay.
- We have supported nearly 200 Domestic Violence shelters.
- We have a grant program that any non-profit children's facility can apply to for support.

You can find testimonials about our charity [here](#).

For videos about our charity please visit our [YouTube](#).

For general queries please email us at [info@childsplaycharity.org](mailto:info@childsplaycharity.org)

For interviews and media questions: [media@childsplaycharity.org](mailto:media@childsplaycharity.org)