



# update and REVIEW



Jess Carson

Dear Friends of the Foundation,

As The Jess Carson Foundation reflects on the past 15 years since our founding, we are astounded—not only by the wonderful support you have offered us, but also by the ongoing love for Jess, and the children we help in his name, which continues to be the foundation for everything that we do in our community and beyond. The JCF Board of Directors would like to thank each and every person and business who made all of this possible. We know that Jess would be deeply touched by your kindness, your generosity, and your dedication to the programs we partner with in order to support critically ill and terminally ill children and their families.

In 2016 alone, hundreds of critically ill and terminally ill children benefitted from The Jess Carson Pediatric Critical Care Program in AAMC's Pediatric ER; the Chesapeake Kids Pediatric Hospice Program; and the Neo-natal Transitional Care room (P2-206) at Mount Washington Pediatric Hospital. Many have experienced miraculous, positive outcomes and life-saving treatments because of the programs we have set in place. These programs have offered many children and families the opportunity to create a future full of memories that provide the hope, strength, and fortitude needed to make all things possible for them.

To the doctors, nurses, and coordinators at the hospitals and at hospice who work side by side with us to implement and maintain the best possible care for all children facing critical illness and tragic emergencies, the JCF Board thanks you. Your direction to our Board, and your dedication to our mission, has enriched the lives of all of us and our community.

The loss of a child is beyond words. Our hope is that, through the services we provide, another family will never endure the devastating loss of a child. It is our goal to support programs that offer the highest impact for as many children and families as possible, and that will provide long-term results.

Last year, The JCF was able to reach our goal of \$25,000. In 2017, we would like to increase this amount. This will be possible only with your ongoing support of our mission. Your gifts are life-changing and make a difference every day.

We invite you to join us on Thursday, May 11th, for our 13th Jess Carson Memorial Golf Tournament at Queenstown Harbor Golf Courses in Queenstown, Maryland. As a golfer, a lunch guest, a sponsor, or a donor for our auction, your participation will have a profound impact on the health and future of the children who count on us to continue these programs for them.

If you cannot attend this year, please consider making a donation so that miracles can continue in 2017. You can go to [www.jesscarsonfoundation.com](http://www.jesscarsonfoundation.com) to help.

With our sincere appreciation,

Doug, Leslie and Emily Carson  
& the JCF Board of Directors



Photo by: Leslie Carson

I might just be one flower  
And not a mighty tree,  
But even one small blossom  
Can be beautiful to see.  
So if there's just one someone  
Whom I can help to bless,  
I'll be content with little ways  
Of spreading happiness.

# The Jess Carson Pediatric Critical Care Training Program Saves Lives



“Curtis”



“The JCPCCT program continues to be the center-point of our on-going training here in AAMC’s Pediatric ED. There is a tiny baby whose life was saved

in no small part because of the JCPCCT Program just last month.

The baby was only 10 days old when she arrived to our facility on death’s door. Our docs and nurses fought tooth and nail to save her and barely did. Every bit of the training received through the JCPCCT Program was put to use. Because of that training, this little girl is now recovering nicely, off of life support at Hopkins, and stands an excellent chance of living happily ever after.

There is little doubt that had the doctors and nurses not had the benefit of extensive critical care training, that the outcome may well have been different.

This is but a single example among many. Lives are being touched by the program you support every day. Your Foundation is making a difference—a *big* difference—and we at the Pediatric Emergency Department at Anne Arundel Medical Center are all very grateful.”

—Dr. Michael Clemmens,  
Medical Director, Pediatric Emergency  
Department & Inpatient Unit

## CELEBRATING LIFE

Life is full of moments worth celebrating. Think of us at those times when you are requesting “In Lieu of Gifts or Flowers” for those special birthday celebrations, anniversaries, retirement parties or at a memorial service. We are a 501(c)(3) charity. Remembering our children’s programs would be a wonderful way to honor those you love.

The Jess Carson Foundation has proudly partnered with Anne Arundel Medical Center’s Pediatric Department since 2010. To date, we have donated over \$118,000 to the following programs. Each of these programs provides crucial hands-on emergency simulation trauma training opportunities for AAMC’s pediatric Emergency Department’s doctors and nurses.

- *In 2010, the JCF donated a Pediatric ER Overnight Stay Room (Room 164). This room has served pediatric patients every day since opening.*
- *In 2011, we proudly partnered with Dr. Clemmens and his staff to launch The Jess Carson Pediatric Critical Care Training Program.*
- *Physicians have since been sent for training sessions offered by the Center for Emergency Medical Education and the Maryland Committee on Trauma.*
- *The JCF funded the Pediatric Physician Advanced Trauma Life Support Training Program for training in real-life scenarios for pediatric trauma patients.*
- *The JCF has continued funding for The Jess Carson Pediatric Critical Care Training Program since 2011 and now, through 2017.*

The Jess Carson Pediatric Critical Care Training program continues to take place monthly with at least 10 staff members attending each simulation session. Mannequins, like “Curtis,” still play an integral role in these programs that permit AAMC’s physicians, nurses, and staff to prepare in their own hospital room with their own equipment. When every second counts, familiarity plays a crucial roll in a successful outcome. Room 4—the Critical Care Training Room, and the training it has provided, is used daily at AAMC. Since 2011, thousands of children have received and/or benefitted from the trauma treatment or emergency care learned during these JCPCCT sessions.

Our continued funding of The Jess Carson Pediatric Critical Care Training Program is essential in sustaining these invaluable and impactful programs which now have reached out to other units at AAMC, including Teddy’s Place (AAMC’s Neonatal Intensive Care Unit) and the Pediatric Post Anesthesia Care Unit.

We look forward to continuing our partnership with Dr. Clemmens and AAMC’s Pediatric Emergency Department staff. When the life of a child hangs in the balance, their family can rest assured that this team is prepared to make every minute count and to make every decision the right decision thanks to The Jess Carson Pediatric Critical Care Training Program.

Training Session



# P2-206 Continues “PRECIOUS” Patient Care

P2-206 (also known as “The Jess Carson Room”) was donated by The Jess Carson Foundation in 2012. As part of the Center for Neonatal Transitional Care Wing, this beautiful room continues to care for some of Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital’s most precious patients—neonatal intensive care infants.

As the largest patient room, it can treat as many as four infants at a time, and creates a wonderful setting for these precious bundles of joy to heal, grow, and bond with their families. Every day, experts, doctors, and nurses provide state of the art care aimed at helping families and their infant toward the road to a successful transition from neonatal intensive care to home.



“The room was perfect for Desmond’s recovery. The layout really aided in his care and it was nice to be able to talk with other parents who had little ones battling the same challenges”

— Danell Knox, Desmond’s mother



“As a smaller care facility, MWPH’s nurses are able to spend more one-on-one time providing advanced care to the most vulnerable patients”

## The Jess Carson Teen Rec Room

At MWPH, the Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation Program (PM&R) strives to help children and adolescents reach their maximum functional outcome in areas such as mobility, self-care, communication, cognition and psychosocial adjustment. Those in need of intensive post-surgical rehabilitation or following a traumatic injury can spend weeks, months or over a year at the hospital.

When The Jess Carson Foundation donated the teen recreation room, we felt it was especially important for teens to have a place to call their own. It is now 11 years old and still playing an important role in the healing processes for the teens using it today. The Teen Rec Room donated by The Jess Carson Foundation has given teen patients a place of comradery and to be with others facing the same challenges of long recoveries. It’s bright and cheery, offering a much needed respite from the rigors of the day to day recovery schedule for the teens at MWPH.



It also functions as the location for important group therapeutic sessions during the recovery process. The goal of both functions is always to create a positive inpatient environment for the teens as they work toward regaining the skills necessary for returning home and back into the community.

“We are so fortunate to have this room on the unit for our teens. Not only do we use this as a lounge for the kids to hang out, but we hold our cognitive group in this room. Patients who are here for brain injury recovery meet and play games to help with their problem solving and reasoning, memory and attention.”

— Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist

Congratulations to Jill Feinberg, MWPH’s new VP for Development and External Affairs. Jill has 20 years of communications, advancement and external affairs experience in both the public and private sectors, and was previously MWPH’s Director of Marketing and Communications. The JCF looks forward to working with you and continuing the wonderful commitment we have with MWPH.



Jess’ room plaque

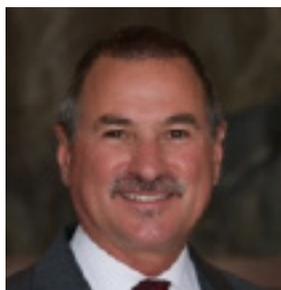
Jess’ Room P2-206





THE JESS CARSON FOUNDATION FUNDS

# The Stepping Stones Grief Support Program



Ben Marcantonio,  
President & CEO



Chesapeake Kids is now going into its 6th year. In 2011, The Jess Carson Foundation partnered with Hospice of the Chesapeake to bring this program to Anne Arundel County and beyond. It has been the only pediatric hospice program available, and now it continues to grow and serve beyond the Annapolis area.



Recognition Award from Hospice of The Chesapeake to The Jess Carson Foundation, Inc.

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[www.jesscarsonfoundation.com](http://www.jesscarsonfoundation.com)

1548 Shipsview Road  
Annapolis, MD 21409  
410-974-1915  
[jesscarsonfoundation@comcast.net](mailto:jesscarsonfoundation@comcast.net)

**“Precious moments are like a drop of dew, cherish them before they disappear with the morning sun.”**

It was in 2011 that The Jess Carson Foundation, partnering with Hospice of the Chesapeake, founded Chesapeake Kids. This year, Chesapeake Kids Pediatric Hospice program will be 6 years old! Each year, we are pleased to play an integral part in helping fund the important services that it now offers to Anne Arundel County and beyond.

In 2015, we proudly sponsored the Pediatric Telecare Project allowing secure face-to-face virtual collaboration between the hospice staff and pediatric patient families. This program included videos on medication and treatments and offered anxiety reduction help when most needed.

This year, The Jess Carson Foundation donated \$5,000 to The Chesapeake Kids, “Stepping Stones Grief Support Program.” As with all of these pediatric hospice programs, we feel this is a most important program for ensuring that grieving children receive the guidance needed to move forward with healthy coping mechanisms for dealing with their loss.

Grieving the death of a loved one can be difficult, complicated and frightening for anyone, but especially for a child. Children feel particularly alone when they are grieving. At a time in their lives when they have a need to belong, grieving can be especially difficult as they feel so different from their peers.

Chesapeake Kids seeks to serve all children and teens who are struggling with grief and loss. The Stepping Stones Grief Support Program helps to guide bereaved children, 6 to 18 years old, through their feelings and their emotions in a safe and caring environment.

Our 2016 donation from The Jess Carson Foundation will allow The Stepping Stones Program to offer bereavement services to groups at little or no cost to the families attending. At the Stepping Stones Program, children experience a compassionate and caring environment surrounded by other bereaved children. Through a variety of activities such as expressive art projects, purposeful learning through play therapy, and monthly support groups that feature “Mr. John’s Pancakes,” children will find the building blocks for healthy coping skills and live with the changes that loss often brings.

In addition to the children’s programs, parents are also encouraged to attend support groups where they are encouraged and help each other through these difficult times.

The support that The Jess Carson Foundation gives is guided toward making stronger families and healing environments for those who have experienced such a difficult loss so young.

