

COVID-19 Operations, Innovations and Resources

A Continued Commitment to Critical Work

Today, operations at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital® look much different since the COVID-19 pandemic began. Nonessential staff are working from home to decrease the number of staff on campus, measures have been added for increased screening and testing, and physical spaces have been redesigned to accommodate social distancing. As the situation evolves, St. Jude continues to adapt to ensure the safety of patient families and staff while delivering the critical treatments needed and continuing its vital research.

TESTING DURING COVID-19

Since the pandemic was officially declared in March 2020, St. Jude added a weekly testing-isolation and quarantine regimen for all 5,000 employees on its campus as well as patients and families. St. Jude built its own testing program from the ground up, including a diagnostic lab and the testing of 6,000 people a week with results in less than 24 hours. The hospital's experience with other forms of coronavirus, along with the data from its testing during the pandemic, has become the basis for even more research. The hospital is also a participant in clinical trials on a possible vaccine for COVID-19.

RESOURCES AND INNOVATIONS

St. Jude has been committed to safeguarding children around the globe from the dangers of infectious diseases since opening its doors nearly 60 years ago. That commitment has been amplified in the time of COVID-19.

New Registries

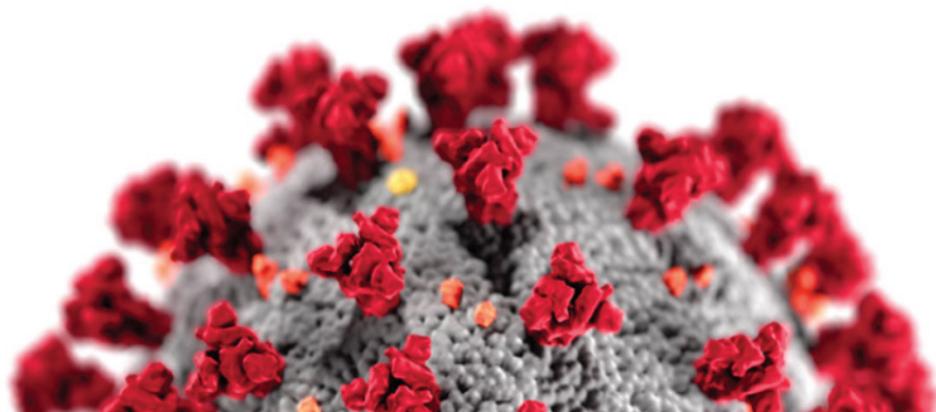
- **Tracking Children with Pediatric Cancer and COVID-19 Globally:** St. Jude launched the first Global COVID-19 Observatory and Resource Center for Childhood Cancer to serve as a dynamic platform that delivers resources for oncologists treating pediatric cancer patients diagnosed with or at-risk for the virus. Since its launch in early May 2020, the Resource Center has been accessed by health care professionals in more than 100 countries.
- **Tracking All Children with COVID-19 Nationally:** To better understand healthcare disruptions due to COVID-19 and develop solutions to manage them, St. Jude developed a registry for all U.S. pediatric

patients of COVID-19. The registry has created educational resources to share rapidly evolving information and has become a hub for caregivers to discuss new developments.

New Resources

- **3D Printing Face Shields:** As doctors and nurses continue to experience a delay in acquiring personal protective equipment, the St. Jude Cell and Image Tissue Imaging Center has stepped up to help. Staff repurposed 3D printers across campus to manufacture medical face shields in short supply. Each face shield takes about 45 minutes to print and costs less than \$1 a unit.
- **COVID-19 Coloring Book:** St. Jude recognizes the importance of talking to children and patients about COVID-19. "Learn about the Coronavirus" is an age-appropriate coloring book developed by St. Jude, in order to help children understand more about the virus and provide parents a tool for discussion.
- **Teen and Tween Resources:** St. Jude developed a [website](#) for teenagers and activity book for tweens to learn more about COVID-19 infection, symptoms and treatment.
- **Parent Resources:** In addition to age-specific tools for patients, St. Jude developed information specifically for parents. These resources help parents navigate difficult conversations with children around COVID-19.

Resource books for children, tweens and teens are also [available for download](#) in Arabic, Chinese, Filipino, French, German, Hindi, Italian, Malay, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Swahili and Urdu.





- **Pharmaceutical Sciences Filling a Need:** When the St. Jude Incident Command Center opened to address the COVID-19 pandemic, hand sanitizer was plentiful – but a recurring discussion topic was the risk of a shortage. To get ahead of any possible shortage, the team came up with a plan to produce their own formula in house.

KEEPING SPIRITS HIGH

- **Backyard Jams for Kids:** Although in-person music therapy classes are paused, the show goes on thanks to St. Jude music therapists Amy Love and Celeste Douglas. Amy [created a music studio in her backyard](#) to bring song and movement to patients virtually.
- **Tri Delta Place:** Tri Delta Place provides housing to patients and families on campus for seven days or less. During the pandemic, St. Jude created special programming for residents such as virtual bingo, ice cream cart visits and DIY crafts.
- **Target House:** Target House provides housing to patients and families on campus for longer than three months. St. Jude adapted to new safety measures by creating an on-site grocery delivery program. Families fill out grocery lists for staff shoppers and the groceries are safely delivered to their apartments.

SPOTLIGHTING HEALTHCARE HEROES

- **Making House Calls:** Armed in protective gear and carrying large packs of medical supplies, St. Jude nurses travel to patient housing facilities for routine appointments that would otherwise take place on campus. Nurses are finding that some children react better to treatment delivered in the comfort of their home, as opposed to a medical facility, and the visits eliminate the risk of infection that is associated with leaving home.
- **Use of Telemedicine:** Telehealth is being used as a method for interacting with After Completion of Therapy (ACT) Clinic patients to reduce the frequency a patient needs to travel to the hospital.
- **Environmental Services Team:** Newly implemented safety measures have affected every aspect of work for the Environmental Services Team, which oversees everything from emptying trash to sweeping floors to disinfecting surfaces. In addition to wearing protective gear and working from a socially safe distance, the team is using new tools to combat the virus, including ultraviolet light machines to sterilize and kill microbiological contaminants 24 hours a day.



As more resources around the world are focused on the COVID-19 pandemic, we are especially grateful to our dedicated supporters and partners who allow St. Jude to continue the critical research and care that make up our lifesaving mission. As one St. Jude family, our fight against childhood cancer won't stop, and together, we can make a difference.

Visit [COVID-19 Resources from St. Jude](#) for additional updates and information