

Gillette Children's Specialty Healthcare continues to work to improve the lives of kids who have complex, rare and traumatic conditions. In 2016 Dairy Queen joined Gillette to build a therapy pool that can accommodate more than 2,000 therapy sessions a year. This therapy pool certainly made a "splash" with our patients, and we're grateful.

As we look to the future, Gillette has identified three areas of need to expand the ways we can help our patients and families.

1. University Avenue Welcome Area for the St. Paul Campus

to provide better access to Gillette for patients who use vans, taxis or public transportation to get to our site. The City of St. Paul recently reconstructed the section of University Avenue that runs by the north side of Gillette. This street construction project provides Gillette with the opportunity to create an additional welcome area for visitors. Plans include; new lighting, places to sit, security cameras, heating and cooling areas, and a possible new welcome desk.

2. Advanced Surgical Devices and Instruments

 to support complex surgical procedures at Gillette. These tools and technology include:

- **New Microscopes** for the Gillette operating room to replace aging equipment.
- **A Centrifuge** to be used in "regenerative medicine" for craniofacial procedures.
- **The Shimmer**, a wireless device to track a patient's blood pressure, sweating, heart rate, muscle activity, facial expression and eye tracking. This is especially valuable when treating and testing patients who have limited speech.
- **3-D Printer** for 3-D models of spines and other body parts.
- **Equipment for ground breaking pain study research:** Pupilometer, Automated Facial Action Coding Platform, etc.
- **EOS low-dose X-ray imaging system** to provide a low-dose radiation option for patients who require multiple imaging as part of their treatment plan.
- **Interoperative MRI** near the operating room to help with issues of transporting patients during surgery.

3. Telemedicine support to reach more patients

 living outside of the Twin Cities metro area.

The funds will support telemedicine exam carts and equipment to enhance access for patients in greater Minnesota and surrounding states so they can see Gillette providers. Patients living outside of metro areas often have limited access to specialty care. Travel to a metropolitan health care center can be time-consuming, stressful and expensive.



"We're changing the lives of our patients. We need to stay on top of new technologies and, with the help of our doctors, nursing staff and therapists, determine what's beneficial to our patients. This offers hope."

—Karen Brill, vice president of patient care