

DECEMBER 2017

We see the impact of ECHO's work when we meet our patients, now ECHO needs our support too.

Please, will you join us and support ECHO with a regular donation to help children with heart conditions and their families?



Connecting the Children's Heart Community

Dear friend and ECHO supporter,

As Consultant Paediatric Cardiologists at Evelina London Children's Hospital and as Patrons of ECHO, we know how valuable the charity is for families of children with heart conditions.

In 1983, ECHO was established by the first Paediatric Consultant at what was then known as Evelina Hospital together with parents of children with heart conditions. This partnership has grown to form the charity ECHO is today, providing a variety of different types of support for families of children with heart conditions.

ECHO is a valued supporter of Evelina London Children's Hospital. The charity is recognised by both of us as an important partner and we acknowledge that the help it provides to cardiac children and their families is special.

The last year has been a busy one for ECHO – the charity has strengthened its services, ensuring an improved delivery of support to children and their families experiencing the difficulties of the day-to-day when living with congenital and acquired heart disease.

Everything that ECHO does, all of the services and help it provides, is entirely dependent on donations. The charity receives no government or NHS funding.

The value of ECHO's work cannot be underestimated. At a time when the NHS is experiencing well publicised problems with funding, ECHO is able to step in and support families in ways that simply would not be afforded otherwise. In addition to that, ECHO provides support to thousands of families in their local communities in a variety of ways throughout the year.

An unfortunate reality of the last 2 years is that ECHO has seen its funding diminish – the charity has not received as much in donations as it has done in previous years.

If the funding landscape continues in the same way then ECHO have informed us that they will be forced to consider pausing or stopping some crucial services.

It is our hope this doesn't happen, which is why we're asking for your help today.

Can you help ECHO by giving a regular donation?

One of the best things we can all do to support ECHO is set up a monthly direct debit. Regular donations help the charity to plan & fund its services long-term.

One-off donations are crucial to the charity but having reliable income from regular donations (like direct debits) means ECHO can plan ahead and help more families effectively – which is all it's here to do.

To set up a direct debit online visit echo-uk.org/donate or return the enclosed donation form in the envelope provided.

For more information about ECHO services, including how much money the charity needs to operate each year and how donations are spent visit www.echo-uk.org

Thank you.



Dr. Owen Miller
FRACP FCSANZ FRC PCH
Consultant Paediatric
Cardiologist
Patron of ECHO



Prof. Shakeel Qureshi
MB ChB FRCP
Consultant Paediatric
Cardiologist
Patron of ECHO

Crucial services your donation will support:

- Vital 1:1 support to families in crisis
- Bespoke cardiac antenatal classes
- Bereavement support for parents who have lost a child
- Comfort packs for families arriving at hospital by ambulance
- Music therapy sessions in hospital
- Community gatherings for families



Keeping in touch with ECHO



The best way to keep up-to-date with ECHO is by signing up to receive our monthly enews: echo-uk.org/subscribe and following us on social media.

   @echoukcharity