

# Kennedy Krieger Institute

*Pursuing Possible, One Child at a Time*





Since 1937, Kennedy Krieger Institute has been improving the lives of children of all ages, from Maryland, the U.S. and all over the world—especially those who think, learn, move, feel and experience the world differently. With **one in six children** in the U.S. living with a nervous system disorder, disease, condition or injury—more than 12 million kids—the work that Kennedy Krieger does through its **research, clinical trials, exceptional patient care and unmatched educational programming** is critical and life-changing. But that's not all. Kennedy Krieger surrounds its patients and students, and their families and communities, with a **unique blend of love, expertise and unbridled hope**. In short, we **help and empower** individuals to pursue all that's possible in their lives.



## PATIENT CARE

### Evaluation and Treatment

We're focused almost exclusively on **nervous system diseases and disorders of the brain and spinal cord**—everything “**neuro**”—and disorders of the musculoskeletal system.

Each child is matched with a specific care plan, which can include an **interdisciplinary care team** and **customized treatment**.

We have an **inpatient hospital** and **outpatient centers** that provide medical, psychological and neurorehabilitative care.

Our **16-bed Neurobehavioral Unit** is one of the only programs in the country treating children with severe behavioral disorders.

Our **Specialized Transition Program** operates as a **day hospital**, offering children the therapies and medical treatments they need, as well as **classroom instruction**.



## COMMUNITY

### Programs and Resources

Our **Specialized Health Needs Interagency Collaboration (SHNIC)** works with families and schools throughout Maryland to facilitate the **inclusion of children** with specialized health needs in school and community life.

We offer community and early childhood **development and education programs** for children with and without disabilities.

Through our **Resource Finder**, we help patients and their families learn about available resources to help with at-home care, transportation and other needs.

Several of our programs offer **therapeutic and educational services** for at-risk infants and toddlers.

The **Maryland Center for Developmental Disabilities** at Kennedy Krieger Institute focuses on professional training, community service, information dissemination and research.

All numbers are from fiscal year 2023, unless stated otherwise.

**27,000+**  
PATIENTS SERVED



**110,994** TELEHEALTH APPOINTMENTS

FROM **24** MD COUNTIES & BALTIMORE CITY

**50** STATES

**35** COUNTRIES

**896**

**CHILDREN** with special needs placed in **LOVING** foster or respite **CARE** since 1987



**593**

patients & families received legal help from **Project HEAL**



**75+** **COMMUNITY TRAINING SESSIONS**

conducted by the Maryland Center for Developmental Disabilities



**29**

**ADAPTIVE SPORTS PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN & ADULTS**



# 80+

## INTERDISCIPLINARY PROGRAMS



## OUR AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION INCLUDE:

- Autism spectrum disorder
- Behavioral disorders
- Bone disorders
- Brain injury and concussion
- Cerebral palsy
- Communication disorders
- Developmental disorders
- Down syndrome
- Epilepsy
- Feeding disorders
- Learning disorders
- Long COVID-19
- Muscular dystrophy
- Neurogenetics
- Rare diseases
- Rehabilitation
- Sleep disorders
- Spina bifida
- Spinal cord injury and paralysis
- Sturge-Weber syndrome



## RESEARCH AND TRAINING Programs and Studies

Our scientists are advancing the **understanding, treatment and prevention** of neurological disorders, diseases and injuries.

Over **500 active research studies** are ongoing at the Institute. Many are human trials, which can help patients who don't respond to commercially available treatments.

We are **one of only 20** Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Research Centers across the country.

In 2023, we educated **999 trainees in 34 disciplines**, including behavioral psychology, audiology, special education, public health, and physical and occupational therapy. Research trainees worked in a variety of fields, including neurology, neuroscience, engineering and rehabilitation.

Here's a look at what four of our **194 researchers** are doing today:



**Dr. Erika Fullwood Augustine**, associate chief science officer, has an interest in neurologic genetic disorders and directs the Institute's Clinical Trials Unit.

**Dr. Ali Fatemi**, chief medical officer, leads the Moser Center for Leukodystrophies and specializes in neurogenetic disorders.



**Dr. Carmen Lopez-Arvizu** trains pediatric psychiatry fellows and studies the intersection of developmental and mental health disorders.

**Dr. Constance L. Smith-Hicks** studies genetic disorders related to autism spectrum disorder, epilepsy and seizures.



## SPECIAL EDUCATION Schools and Programs

We educate children with **highly complex conditions**—in some cases, our students have been unable to receive services anywhere else.

We offer **five schools for students with autism spectrum disorder and/or other neurodevelopmental disorders**: in Baltimore, a lower/middle school, a high school and a school for students ages 5 to 21 with particularly complex disorders; in Prince George's County, a school for students ages 7 to 21; and in St. Mary's County, a school for students ages 5 to 21.

Our school interdisciplinary teams include **teaching staff members and licensed clinical specialists** from a variety of fields. This ensures a **collaborative approach to our students' success**.

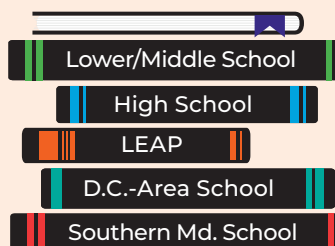
Our schools operate **11 months a year** and serve a **variety of student needs**. Some students prepare to return to their home schools, while others work toward a **diploma or certificate of completion**.

# 475

## STUDENTS

FROM MORE THAN  
15 SCHOOL DISTRICTS  
IN MARYLAND,  
VIRGINIA & D.C.

(in 2022–2023)



# 100

## TEACHERS AND MORE THAN

# 100

 CLINICAL SPECIALISTS

## STUDENT REFERRALS

FROM **10**

# COUNTRIES

**You likely know a family that's been helped by Kennedy Krieger Institute. With your support, we can help more patients and students, and their families.**

Each year, more than 27,000 patients and students benefit from our interdisciplinary care and schools. Here are four stories about children we've helped.



**“At Kennedy Krieger, one of our strengths is our continuum of care—from our inpatient hospital to our outpatient programs, clinics and follow-up care.”**

– Dr. Beth Slomine, co-director of the Center for Brain Injury Recovery

After experiencing a brain injury at age 10, Lydia, now 17, came to Kennedy Krieger for inpatient care, followed by therapies at the Institute's Specialized Transition Program and outpatient clinics. Her care team members—including occupational therapist Stacy Merenstein, pictured here with Lydia—worked together to ensure seamless transitions for Lydia between care settings.

To read more, visit: [KennedyKrieger.org/Lydia](https://KennedyKrieger.org/Lydia)

**“We don't want kids to have to keep coming to therapy every week—ultimately, we want them out doing activities with their peers.”**

– Teresa Garcia Reidy, occupational therapist

Landon (left of center) started doing physical and occupational therapies for cerebral palsy at Kennedy Krieger as a toddler. Now 14, he is a serious athlete on the Institute's Bennett Blazers adaptive sports team, led by Gerry (far right) and Gwena Herman. Also pictured are Dr. Bradley L. Schlaggar, Kennedy Krieger's president and CEO (far left), and Landon's dad, Chris Brown (right of center).

To read more, visit: [KennedyKrieger.org/Landon](https://KennedyKrieger.org/Landon)



**“When Quinnlyn turned 2 and still hadn't had any seizures, we knew she'd hit a milestone.”**

– Doug, father of Quinnlyn

Quinnlyn, 8, pictured here with her parents, Doug and Chrissy, has Sturge-Weber syndrome, which typically leads to seizures by 2 years old. Thanks to a new treatment co-developed by Dr. Anne Comi, director of the Institute's Hunter Nelson Sturge-Weber Syndrome Center, Quinnlyn remains seizure-free.

To read more, visit: [KennedyKrieger.org/Quinnlyn](https://KennedyKrieger.org/Quinnlyn)

**“It takes so many people from such a wide range of fields to make Daniel who he is. Lots of people have had such a great impact.”**

– Dr. Chani Simhi, Daniel's mom

Daniel, 9, pictured here with his mom, was born with a dense knot of blood vessels in his brain stem, putting pressure on his brain and causing seizures. He also has a rare disorder that affects systems and organs throughout his body. The seizures delayed his development, but through therapies and medication management at Kennedy Krieger, he has made incredible progress.

To read more, visit: [KennedyKrieger.org/Daniel](https://KennedyKrieger.org/Daniel)



Interested in more information about Kennedy Krieger?  
Visit [KennedyKrieger.org](https://KennedyKrieger.org) or use the QR code to learn more.

Want to learn how you can get involved to help kids and families?  
Visit [KennedyKrieger.org/Foundation](https://KennedyKrieger.org/Foundation) or call 443-923-7300.



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